Greetings!

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President's Message

Hello WDCSITE,

Hope you all are doing well!

We have had an eventful March and April. Since the last newsletter, we've had three very successful meetings in our area. On March 28, Jiaxin Tong (Kimley-Horn) in coordination with Arlington County organized a fantastic meeting which included three presentations from Arlington County staff and had over 50 people in attendance.

A few days following this meeting was the joint Mid-Colonial and Southern District Annual Meeting. This grand four day event had a "big" meeting feel to it from the get go. With top notch presentations, workshops, tours, and other social events, I have to say this was a very well planned and organized event. Kudos to the Local Arrangement Committee pulling this mega meeting together. Several of our friends from WDCSITE were in attendance and I got a chance to catch up with several of you there.

Just a week ago, Will Capers (Fairfax County Dept. of Transportation) and Phil Koloski (RS&H) put together a great meeting at the Fairfax County Government Center. With over 80 people in attendance, we had a packed house. One common theme among all these three meetings has been the increased involvement from our public sector members. It is a very encouraging sign that the leadership at WDCSITE has been able to curate meetings which are engaging to our membership.

The upcoming months have several new and exciting meetings being planned. I hope you continue to stay engaged and if you have any ideas for us to reach out to the membership or if you are looking to get further involved with WDCSITE, please feel free to reach out to Jon Crisafi, Adam Greenstein or me.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, suggestions on how we can make WDCSITE a more resourceful professional organization, please don't hesitate to reach out to me via email or phone (703-220-2203).

Sincerely,
Vivek Hariharan
2019 WDCSITE President

WDCSITE Webmaster Opportunity - Volunteer Needed!

WDCSITE’s current webmaster Mitchell Hotlmann is moving out of the area. Mitchell has been a great resource for WDCSITE updating and maintaining our website which is one of the primary forms of interaction with our members. As Mitchell transitions out of the area, he has graciously offered WDCSITE to remain as the Webmaster until we find a replacement.

If you have general website management experience and would like to get involved with WDCSITE, please reach out to Vivek Hariharan. We are actively looking for a volunteer to take over webmaster duties. This position has great visibility within the WDCSITE community and a perfect opportunity for a creative and enthusiastic volunteer. Please feel free to reach out to Vivek Hariharan with any questions you might have about this position.

Register Now for the Upcoming WDCSITE Events!

**Prince William County Meeting:**

**Date:** Monday, May 6, 2019  
**Time:** 11:00 am to 1:30 pm  
**Location:** McCoart Building - Powells Creek Conference Room, 1 County Complex Court, Prince William, VA 22192  
**Tentative Agenda:**

- Overview of Prince William County Transportation Program. Speaker: Paolo Belita, Planning and Programming Manager  
- Ongoing Transportation Projects. Speaker: Rick Canizales, Director of Transportation  
- Presentation by Richard Weinmann, Engineer, Prince William County DOT

**2019 BWI Trail Bike Tour:**

**Date:** Friday, May 10, 2019  
**Time:** 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM  
**Location:** Thomas A. Dixon, Jr., Aircarft Observation Area  
1911 Dorsey Road, Hanover, MD 21061  
**Tentative Agenda:**

- Easy, fun, and informative tour of the BWI Trail led by several regional experts  
- Provide own lunch watch the planes land from the aircraft observation area
To view the current job postings via WDCSITE, please click on the image above.

Volunteers
Are you interested in volunteering with events, meetings, & other activities with WDCSITE. We are looking for motivated enthusiastic individuals to further WDCSITE's goal and make us the professional organization of choice. Please contact Jon Crisafi or Adam Greenstein to volunteer.

Topics and Speakers
We are always looking for fresh ideas, topics, and presentations. If you are interested presenting at a WDCSITE event, please reach out to Vivek Hariharan.

Presentations from all transportation and related disciplines are welcome.

2019 WDCSITE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Vivek Hariharan
President

WDCSITE Loudoun County Meeting:

Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2019
Time: 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Location: Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure
101 Blue Seal Drive, Suite 102, Leesburg, VA 20177

Tentative Agenda:

- Presentation by Joe Kroboth, Jim Zeller, Enrique Gonzalez, and other Loudoun County Staff
- Lunch will be provided
- Additional details about the agenda are being finalized soon. Please keep an eye out on the WDCSITE website for additional details

March 2019 Technical Meeting at Arlington County Recap

The Technical Meeting at Arlington County took place at the Mobility Lab in Rosslyn with a well-attended crowd, including staff from several public agencies. Several speakers from Arlington County introduced the latest County initiatives, including the vision and plan to improve the street network in Rosslyn, innovation in multimodal traffic impact analyses and guidelines, and ITS and technology update. The meeting fostered good dialogs among the participants. A few takeaways from the meeting are summarized as follow:

- Balancing the competing needs from different stakeholders presents a challenge, but is key to the success of creating a plan to improve the Rosslyn street network for all road users;
- Providing connected and protected bicycle facilities in Rosslyn is another highlight of the project.
- County has advanced Multimodal Transportation Assessment (MMTA) for development projects from traditional TIA in response to the mode shift to active transportation modes and transit.
- Building upon a strong signal and ITS infrastructure, County has adopted a phased future plan to look ahead to device integration, connected vehicle deployment, system security, expanding fiber communication network, and ultimately Smart Cities applications.
David Duarte  
Vice President

Burak Cesme  
Secretary / Treasurer

Jon Crisafi  
Washington DC  
Area Director

Adam Greenstein  
Baltimore  
Area Director

Core of Rosslyn Transportation Study - Christine Sherman Baker presenting

Innovation in Traffic Impact Assessment - Rob Gibson presenting
2019 SDITE/MCDITE Joint Annual Meeting Recap

The joint Mid-Colonial and Southern District Annual Meeting was held from March 31 to April 3, 2019 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia. This event included participation from transportation professionals from over 15 states with an array of interesting technical meetings, social gatherings, and workshops. This annual meeting showcased both technical meetings fused with networking events, a golf event, a much anticipated social event sponsored by the Associated Business Division (ABD), spouse/guest program, and a half-day professional development seminar. Many WDCSITE members were also in attendance, it was great seeing and catching up with everyone!

April 2019 Fairfax County Meeting Recap

The Technical Meeting at Fairfax County took place on April 22nd at the Fairfax County Government Center. A full crowd was on hand to listen to three speakers...
County Government Center. A full crowd was on hand to listen to three speakers from the Fairfax County Department of Transportation lead technical discussions about subjects concerning the future of the County.

The first presentation, led by Vanessa Aguayo, was about the Fairfax County proposal to construct a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system along the Richmond Highway corridor. Among the topics discussed were community stakeholder involvement in the project and how BRT might affect future redevelopment of the corridor.

The second presentation, led by Vanessa Holt, was about cut-through mitigation techniques in Fairfax County. Discussed during the presentation were the County's research into how transportation authorities from across the country mitigate cut-through traffic and the role community stakeholders play in the process of implementing cut-through mitigation techniques.

The third presentation, led by Gregory Fuller, was about the redevelopment plan of Tysons into a more connective, multi-modal urban center. The challenges and proposed solutions to redevelopment were discussed during this presentation.
Meet a Member: Elisa Mitchell

1. Please introduce yourself and tell us about your role in WDCSITE.

My name is Elisa Mitchell. Born and raised in Purcellville, Virginia. A graduate of the University of Delaware - a family school. Forged the river a few years ago to become a Maryland resident. A licensed professional engineer. A lifelong marching band-geek and an aficionado of french culture.

I recently became the Baltimore Area Assistant Director helping Adam plan and coordinate ITE events in the Baltimore area.

2. Please tell us about your family.

My husband and I have been enjoying Charm City life for five years making the most of it by living and working in the city, chipping away at all the wonderful restaurants, and enjoying our subscription to the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. We are fortunate to have our family close by in Salisbury, Maryland and Northern Virginia frequently taking weekend trips to visit. However, with the birth of my first niece, recent family visits have been in Blacksburg, VA where my brother and sister-in-law reside. Even though we sometimes feel like an outsider in the Federal Hill neighborhood, no dogs or pets to speak of. We just focus on keeping our house plants alive.

3. Please tell us something about your hobbies and activities outside work.

Enjoying life and enjoying Baltimore. In accomplishing that, my husband and I enjoy our 26 foot Columbia sailboat. (I must confess, he enjoys it more as a sailboat while I enjoy it more as a floating deck.) I exercise my passion weekly at ballet class at the Peabody. Otherwise you will find me most Saturday mornings at 3 Bean Coffee shop and Sunday mornings jogging to Fort McHenry followed by a lazy morning on the couch watching Sunday Morning on CBS. My decompression
lazy morning on the couch watching Sunday Morning on CBS. My decompression time is usually spent creating something whether that may be in the kitchen or at my craft table - lately, my focus has been on repurposing household items that are past their useful life such as old socks into a stuffed bunny or worn t-shirts into a woven rag rug.

4. Tell us briefly about your work - firm/organization, your role. What does your typical workday look like?

I feel fortunate to have found my passionate niche in the civil engineering world of transportation planning and analysis. I enjoy the large picture studies, thinking multi-modal, gathering data, analyzing it, and turning it into conclusions and recommendations. After six years at the University of Delaware earning and bachelor’s and master’s degree in civil engineering followed by a year as Public Lands Transportation Scholar, I started in the consulting world working in the transportation planning group for Sabra and Associates, but recently became a Project Engineer at WRA. I spend most of my day in programs like Synchro, Microsoft Word/Excel, ArcGIS, and RITIS - oh and what would a transportation engineer do without Google Maps and Google Earth? Field visits are regular and I attend public meetings on occasion.

5. What projects have you worked on that have had a big impact on your career or on a community?

So the thing about transportation planning is, you are going to see the fruits of your labor behind a beautiful report cover sitting on a decision-maker’s desk or your own shelf hoping it is not collecting dust. Especially since I’m less than ten years into my career, few of my projects have come to fruition, although they are all important and successful in informing decisions on future needs. (I will say my first signal warrant analysis resulted in the installation of signal - WooHoo! Go 16th at Jonquil Street NW!) However, I recall two projects that have been most influential on my engineering. First is working on pedestrian roadway safety audits. The central aspect of an audit it the field visit where the team spends the better part of a day walking the mile plus study area. There is nothing more valuable than being the mode you are assessing and experiencing firsthand the challenges communities have in just walking from their house to a convenience market. The second project that has been influential in my career are the projects for small municipalities. Great reward can come from working with smaller communities and towns. No matter how small or straight forward the project is, those communities demonstrate a strong interest in the project at hand aimed to improve something and the improvements made are visible.

6. What is your favorite WDCSITE, activity/event you have participated in and what activity/event/presentation would you like to see next?

The bike tour of Baltimore held a few years ago stands out as an informative and enjoyable event. I enjoyed exploring parts of the City I haven't before and learning about the evolution of the City's bicycle infrastructure. Even though the advancement of computer programs have facilitated engineering analysis and design, one cannot engineer from behind a cubicle wall. It is important to experience the modes a transportation engineer analyzes and designs for, and experience the communities they design it in. I would like to see more field trips organized by WDCSITE. (Who didn't love field trip day when they were in school?)
7. When and how did you get involved with ITE and how has your involvement in ITE, especially WDCSITE, helped your career?

My involvement in ITE began in college when my advisor was seeking students for Delaware’s Traffic Bowl team. The Traffic Bowl was the gateway. I enjoyed participating in the bowl for three years, becoming the District champions twice and competing in the national bowl at the national ITE conference. This may sound simple, but at the pillar of my interest in WDCSITE is the rewarding opportunity to connect with colleagues on a regular basis and be informed about local projects.

8. What topic (besides connected and autonomous vehicles) are you most interested in seeing progress in the next 10-15 years in the transportation industry?

I'm most interested in seeing a prioritization of the development of an excellent pedestrian and bicycle network, especially in support of developing communities large and small. The personal vehicle will remain apart of the transportation landscape for a while, but I believe communities can be enhanced and our daily living can be improved by creating a safe, appealing, expansive, and connected network for people to walk or bike, and everything in between, to and from their daily destinations.

9. What advice would you give to a young transportation engineer?

Ideas are worthless if they cannot be adequately supported and simply expressed. Practice clear and succinct writing and always keep a grammar handbook and technical writing guide within arms distance of your computer. (I recommend the Bedford Handbook.) And, if you haven't, go ride the local transit bus. Really, try out any form of transportation you have not personally experienced.

Current Job Openings

Following job opportunities are posted on the WDCSITE Job Portal.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RK&amp;K</td>
<td>Traffic Engineer / Project Engineer</td>
<td>Robert Jarboe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kittelson &amp; Associates</td>
<td>Mid-to-Senior Level Transportation Engineer</td>
<td>Chris Tiesler</td>
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2019 WDCSITE Sponsors
We would love to hear your thoughts / comments / suggestions on the newsletter. Please feel free to reach out to our newsletter committee!

Thank You,

Dana Slone, Krishna Patnam & Philip Koloski
Newsletter Committee