Greetings!

President's Message

Hello WDCSITE,

Hope you are doing well.

The 2019 WDCSITE Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, November 14 at the National Union Building in Washington, D.C. This event has quickly become a marquee event on the WDCSITE calendar. We had over 100 attendees with Monique Evans, Director of the FHWA Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division, and Jeff Paniati, Executive Director and CEO of ITE, featured as the keynote speakers. David Duarte served as the chair of the Annual Meeting. The technical committee assembled a great set of presentations which was greatly received by attendees. Also, at this meeting, we presented the 2019 WDCSITE annual awards. And for the first time, the newly instituted WDCSITE scholarships were awarded to Yeming Hao and Arif Darzi - both from University of Maryland. Additional details about the Annual Meeting are included in this newsletter.

WDCSITE recently held elections for the Baltimore Area Director position with Elisa Mitchell of WRA elected by the WDCSITE membership. Elisa has been an active participant with our Section over the past several years and will be a great addition to the board. She also brings the much-needed diversity as she is only the second woman elected to our board in the last decade. Please join me in congratulating Elisa and wishing her the very best for her tenure with WDCSITE.

As the holiday season approaches, we will be transitioning to the 2020 WDCSITE board at the end of December. 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).

Wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving and holiday season!

Vivek Hariharan
2019 WDCSITE President
FHWA Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division (EFLHD) Events


The Innovation Industry Day will take place on December 10th from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM EST at the EFLHD office in Sterling, Virginia. This is an opportunity for vendors to engage with EFLHD and showcase their cutting edge technology and advancements that could be of value in the delivery of EFLHD’s core program. Please see the link below for registration details and additional information.

Register Now

The Small Business Industry Day will take place on December 10th from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM EST at the EFLHD office in Sterling, Virginia. This event, which started in 2017, is an opportunity for small businesses to engage with EFLHD, which includes learning about the agency and being informed about forecasted projects. Please see the link below for registration details and additional information.

Register Now

Lastly, EFLHD formally invites you to their Holiday Open House. Please see the graphic below for details.
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 Annual Meeting Recap

On November 14th, our section welcomed a large showing of public and private sector members to the National Union Building in Washington, DC to the 2019 WDCSITE Annual Conference and Business Meeting. Held at a unique venue, the event contained a busy agenda with presentations on many different topics. We were also able to celebrate our many award winners.
We started the morning with two keynote speakers, Monique Evans (EFLHD) and Jeff Paniati (ITE), who spoke about the current efforts at their respective organizations. The rest of the morning was dedicated to different presentations regarding connected and autonomous vehicles. We heard perspectives regarding policy, planning, and operations. Katherine Kortum (NAS, TRB) provided a public sector angle while Kwasi Donkor and Sogand Karbalaieali (both Fehr & Peers DC) shared their experience from the private sector. Angie Hernandez (JMT) tied all discussed topics together with a presentation that included hypothetical scenarios, audience polling questions, and a panel discussion with the previous presenters.
Katherine Kortum

Kwasi Donkor

Sogand Karbalaieali
Next, Aaron Zimmerman (DDOT) presented on DC's new Comprehensive Transportation Review Guidelines, which was awarded the 2019 WDCSITE Project of the Year Award. Afterwards, the annual award winners were recognized. Abi Lerner (VDOT) presented the awards to each recipient in attendance. A hearty congratulations from the WDCSITE board and leadership to all winners for their hard work.

- Community Transportation Award - Kanti Srikanth, MWCOG & Steve Kuciemba, WSP
- Appreciation Award - Emil Wolanin, Montgomery County
- Transportation Service Award - Bob Garbacz, City of Alexandria
- Amy Polk Young Engineer of the Year Award - David Duarte, JMT
- Past President Award - Seth Young, STV
WDCSITE initiated a scholarship program and awarded two $500 scholarships to two outstanding and deserving students, Yeming Hao and Aref Darzi, both from the University of Maryland.

After eating a delicious lunch, Vivek Hariharan presented a summary of WDCSITE’s year. Burak Cesme provided financials for the year and announced that Elisa Mitchell (WRA) won the election to become the 2020 Baltimore Area Director. Congrats, Elisa! Afterwards, the 2020 Executive Board were sworn into office. Please see the list below to find out who the new officeholders are. The business portion of the meeting concluded with the swearing in of the new officer positions and an outlook of 2020 from incoming President, David Duarte.

**2020 Executive Board**
- President - David Duarte
- Vice President - Burak Cesme
- Secretary/Treasurer - Adam Greenstein
- DC Area Director - Jon Crisafi
- Baltimore Area Director - Elisa Mitchell
The afternoon included two sessions. The first was Mobility, Planning, and Safety with a breadth of presentations. Dan Rathbone (City Prosperity) provided a big picture perspective on the way communities plan mobility while Neelima Ghanta and Bo Du (both HNTB) provided a detailed look at a corridor project in Philadelphia and how they planned out for improved mobility for the many types of users. Zuxuan Deng (DDOT) discussed the safety implications related to conversion to all-way stop controlled intersections.
After a short break, we watched multi-modal presentations from David Miller (Foursquare ITP), Josh Coulson (Sabra), Anam Ardeshiri (Sabra), and Larry Marcus (Wallace Montgomery). David, Josh, and Anam provided updates to the excellent work they've done with MDOT, MTA on BaltimoreLink, and the Purple Line. Larry concluded the day's presentations with a comprehensive review of what communities can do to bring together the everyone's interests to form complete streets and networks.
A huge thank you again to all the presenters and individuals that were part of a great conference!
Presentations covered topics in ITS infrastructure, transit signing and real-time data applications, and regional county-level transportation planning efforts and traffic safety initiatives. There was a great mix of members from ASHE and ITE, and there were plenty of non-members from either association. Despite the serious nature of the presentations, there were great laughs, shocking revelations, and tough questions.

After the technical presentations, there was a happy hour, followed by dinner with an evening talk by Carole Delion of MDOT SHA, who discussed policy and standards-development issues involving CAVs. The industry is moving forward in the realm of CAVs, but is certainly hitting plenty of challenges along the way. MDOT SHA and other government partners at the federal, state, and local levels strongly encourage all of us to be engaged in the technical conversations, legislative discussions, and program development initiatives surrounding autonomous vehicles.

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**MCDOT RFI for MD 355 BRT Implementation**

Montgomery County Department of Transportation is seeking information and feedback from engineering consultants, contractors, financiers, concessionaires, and other relevant stakeholders regarding the implementation of Bus Rapid Transit on MD 355 with a focus on innovative project delivery, including private financial participation, novel design, construction, and operating strategies. Responses to the RFI are due by **December 6th**.

For more information, please visit the following website:

[RFI: Implementation of BRT on MD 355](#)
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, Eric Tang, & Philip Koloski
Newsletter Committee

Forward this email