



December Newsletter



Members of the ITE CO/WY Section:

In my final update to the section as president, I would like to say thank you to the amazing team of transportation professionals who support this organization! The commitment of our volunteer board and committee chairs through the challenges of a global pandemic has been inspiring to me. During our tenure we were very proud to have delivered outstanding online meetings, continuing education offerings, and even cautiously gathered for a golf tournament and happy hour events! For me, ITE represents an important connection to our larger professional world in a time of social isolation. It fills me with pride to be a part of the ITE community and to know that you are all out there lending your expertise and support to ensure a safe and sustainable transportation network. Thank you for all you do in both your work, and in your contributions to the ITE organization.

Coming up in the CO/WY Section, we are excited to launch our 2022 Mentoring Program. This program is open to students and professionals interested in getting an inside perspective on the industry. Enrollment opens January 7, 2022, and you can learn more about this exciting opportunity on our website. Also, save the date for our Vendor Show, January 28th.

Have a restful Holiday, and see you next year!

Sincerely,
Brian Staley
Past-President
ITE CO/WY Section

In this Newsletter:

- Virtual Food Drive
 - Vendor Show - Jan 28
 - The 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award
 - ITE Membership
 - Mentoring Announcement
 - SUMO Announcement
 - 2021 Budget Summary
 - 2022 Sponsorship Info
-

Virtual Food Drive

A graphic for a virtual food drive. It features a large red circle in the center on a teal background. The background is decorated with various food icons like a hot dog, a pizza, a bowl of cereal, and a sandwich. Inside the red circle, the text reads: "BE PART OF THE CO/WY ITE" in white, "VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE" in large yellow letters, "Benefiting Food Bank of the Rockies" in yellow, and the "FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES" logo in purple and green. At the bottom of the circle, the URL "HTTP://SUPPORT.FOODBANKROCKIES.ORG/GOTO/ITE" is written in white.

BE PART OF THE CO/WY ITE

**VIRTUAL
FOOD DRIVE**

Benefiting Food Bank of
the Rockies

FOOD BANK
OF THE ROCKIES™

[HTTP://SUPPORT.FOODBANKROCKIES.ORG/GOTO/ITE](http://support.foodbankrockies.org/goto/ite)

CO/WY ITE Virtual Food Drive: Continuing the tradition of helping our local Food Banks, CO/WY ITE is excited to sponsor a Virtual Food Drive to benefit Food Bank of the Rockies!

- Did you know that food banks can provide 4 meals for every \$1 donation?
- CO/WY ITE will be tripling the impact of each donation- for every \$1 that members donate to Food Bank of the Rockies, ITE will add \$2. That's 3x the meals for your donation! (Or 12 meals for each dollar you donate)
- **We will be running this food drive through Christmas Day!**

You can donate, as well as share with others here:

<http://support.foodbankrockies.org/goto/ITE>

Thank you and Happy Holidays!!!

Vendor Show



SAVE THE DATE!
2022 CO/WY ITE
Vendor Show

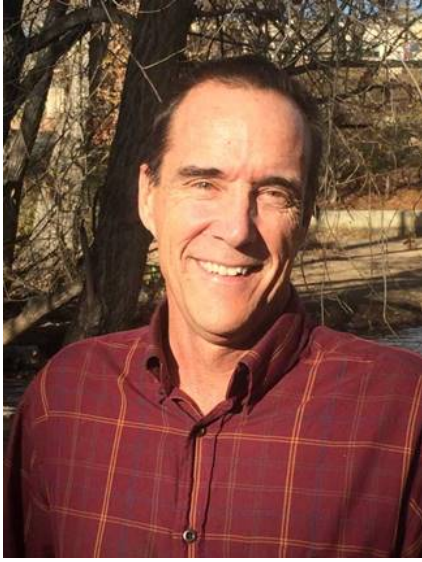
Friday, January 28, 2022



Refer to www.cowyte.org for more information as it becomes available.

Lifetime Achievement Award

The ITE Colorado-Wyoming Section is proud to announce that Michael Sweeney is the recipient of the Section's 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award. Mike has been a part of Colorado's traffic engineering and transportation planning community for over 35 years. Many of you know Mike through his current position as a



Transportation Operations Engineer at the City of Boulder and for his work in Boulder and the surrounding communities.

Mike has worked in Boulder's Transportation and Mobility Department for almost 31 years, after working at the City of Loveland, RTD, and Transplan. Over the years, he has held several operations, planning and management roles at Boulder, including principal transportation engineer, transportation operations and planning manager, and director. Mike currently manages the city's traffic signal system and street lighting system. He is an active ITE member and also participates in APWA and WTS.

Mike holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Architectural Engineering from the University of Colorado (Boulder). He was born in Boston and grew up on both coasts as a 'computer brat', never living in one place for more than a few years. Mike moved to Colorado to attend CU-Boulder and has been a Boulder resident for over 40 years. He lives with his wife Lisa and a Cairn Terrier named Poppy, who runs the household. He has two daughters in their 20s. Lisa and their older daughter are both CU-Boulder graduates, and his youngest daughter will graduate from CU-Boulder in December 2022. The University of Colorado is definitely a family tradition, even though neither of his daughters chose engineering as a major.

How did you become interested in the field of transportation? I aspired to be an architect in college. I went the architectural engineering route figuring I would have a job with an undergraduate degree if it didn't pan out. I had the misfortune of graduating in the early 1980s recession when no one was building anything or interested in hiring structural engineers. Instead, I stayed in the transportation field where I worked during college. My first job in the transportation engineering field was as an interim for RTD when they were building the 16th Street Mall and the Blake Street offices. I worked with Ed Bryne, and Joe Roskowski doing cool transit operations projects. Subsequently I went to work for Dick Bauman and Ron Hensen at TransPlan Associate, Inc. while still in school. I found solving problems using my analytical orientation challenging and rewarding and stayed with it.

Which of your projects are you the proudest of? Municipal work has been incredibly fulfilling. It provides the opportunity to conceive, design, implement and evaluate key initiatives. One significant example that allows us to develop and advance our craft has been Boulder's Transportation Master Plan. When I first started at the city, the city had adopted its first Transportation Master Plan. The plan took the initial step in working to integrate sustainability into the city's transportation strategies and shape the future instead of just being a victim of trends (More traffic begets more roads. Go back to the start of the cycle). Since then, we have updated the plan multiple times. Each time the plan has matured, making sure that it is fully integrated with the financial plan supporting the stated goals and objectives and that we are measuring our progress and identifying whether we are on track or not. Too many times I have seen master plans that are disconnected where the actions are not supportive of the stated goals and internally different parts of the organization are working at cross-purposes. I also had the unique opportunity to stand up the city's photo enforcement program 20 years ago before there was state enabling legislation to define its use. Subsequently I helped the program mature and expand. We have also had to defend the program against legislative action at a state level that continue to try to eliminate it as a safety tool.

What advances (or changes) have you seen, both good and bad? My career began just as microprocessors and personal computing arrived. It was

an amazing leap forward in the industry to being able to integrate systems and analyze alternatives. At the same time, we all need to maintain the appropriate larger perspective (forest, trees, bark) and not lose sight of the overall objective. Also, our computers and models create an environment where results can be shared with false precision. Assumptions are layered upon assumptions with an incomplete understanding of statistical limitations in our algorithms and the results are then shared as fact. A wonderful consultant I have worked with over the years used the term "a polished turd" that describes this process and results. Overall, the transportation field has taken some excellent steps to advance our approach to sustainable transportation solutions. Even with the many advances in our profession, it seems that we don't treat each other as well as we used to. It should be reasonable to expect that we can discuss issues objectively and not make it personal.

What funny stories do you have? I tend to have a dry sense of humor, so I must be careful to not confuse people that don't know me into thinking that I must be crazy. My wife and I recently went on a river cruise on the Rhine from Basel, Switzerland to Amsterdam. For certain sightseeing events we traveled by bus. As we traveled, we kept seeing signs directing us to "Ausfahrt." We would get off the autobahn and it would say this way to Ausfahrt. It felt like we must be traveling around in circles. All roads must lead to Ausfahrt. It felt a little like in Colorado where every sign directs you to "Rocky Mountain National Park/Estes Park." Well, it turns out that Ausfahrt is German for "exit". Some traffic engineer!

If asked to speak to a class of potential engineering students, what would you tell them about our profession? Our profession is both challenging and rewarding. It provides a unique opportunity to work on something that matters. It is critical to understand the root of the "why." Our solutions are all in the gray and not black and white. You won't succeed by stating that's what the book or standard says. Learning to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing is key. You also need to maintain your perspective and sense of humor. You will get a lot of dire feedback - just remember that it is not.

What do you do in your free time? I enjoy golf, cycling, and windsurfing. I ride my bike year-round for fitness in the foothills and canyons west of Boulder. I enjoy putting in 6,000 miles a year riding, and my bike is now worth more than my car.

Do you have ideas for that would make the CO/WYO ITE section better? Be relevant! For years ITE International struggled with staying relevant. Also, it was in danger of being too narrow, just including the technical engineering-based perspective. This created the void that organizations such as NACTO filled. It feels like ITE has taken some good steps forward to change the culture and being relevant to the field. I have always found the ITE Colorado/Wyoming Section has been a good local support group.

ITE Membership

We hope that you have already renewed your ITE membership for 2022 to continue your access to the ideas, people, and resources you need to stay ahead, build your career, develop your skills, and expand your network. More information on the benefits of ITE membership available to you can be found here:

<https://www.ite.org/membership/become-a-member/benefits-of-membership/>

If you have not yet renewed your existing ITE membership, go to

www.ite.org and click on Pay Dues at the top. If you need assistance with your log in, contact membership@ite.org. If you did not get a membership renewal notice from ITE International, it's possible that your ITE account information is out-of-date. Please log into www.ite.org and click on Membership > My Profile to review and update your account information.

If you are not a current ITE member, please join! The benefits of membership can be reviewed at the link above. ITE offers a variety of membership types that can be found here: <https://www.ite.org/membership/become-a-member/join-ite/>. If you are under the age of 29, membership discounts are available. Student and Young Professional membership information can be found here: <https://www.ite.org/membership/become-a-member/young-member/>.

If you have any questions about membership, please feel free to reach out to our ITE Colorado / Wyoming Section membership committee chair, Paul Brown, at Paul.Brown@fhueng.com.

Mentoring Announcement

CO/WY ITE is proud to announce our 2022 Mentoring session! This opportunity is open to all students and professionals!

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Mentors:

- You are a mid-level to senior professional
- You are willing to guide others by offering your professional perspectives
- You have a genuine interest in the mentee's success
- You have a desire to practice and improve your coaching and leadership skills
- You are able to meet or have a call with your mentee once a month
- You are a CO/WY ITE member

Mentees:

- You are a junior to mid-level professional or college student
- You are interested in your professional and personal growth
- You are open to feedback and coaching
- You have a strong desire to enhance your professional development
- You are able to meet or have a call with your mentor once a month
- You can attend the three program events
- You are a CO/WY ITE member

EXPECTATIONS AND GENERAL TIMELINE

The program will consist of three group meetings throughout the year, including the program kickoff. Mentors and mentees will be responsible for meeting at least once a month on their own during the program – this can be face to face or on the phone. Program participants are expected to participate fully in this initiative and provide feedback to the mentoring chair about their experiences. As events come closer, updates will be sent about meeting format to adhere with current local COVID19 guidelines.

Registration and info will be announced soon. For more info, email Omar Venzor at OVENZOR@WSBENG.COM.

SUMO Announcement

Qichao Wang, a post-doctoral researcher at NREL, has developed a NEMA phase traffic controller module in SUMO. SUMO is an open-source traffic simulation package that can run on Windows, Linux, and Mac OS. Previously the signal controller modules in SUMO were stage-based and not NEMA compliant. Now with the new module, it should be easy to use by U.S. traffic engineers to simulate a certain signal design.

To learn more about SUMO and to try out Qichao's new module, visit (<https://sumo.dlr.de/docs/Simulation/NEMA.html>).

To connect with Qichao, contact him at Qichao.Wang@nrel.gov.

2021 Budget Summary

Thanks to the generosity of the 2020-2021 sponsors, and a very successful 2021 Golf Tournament, we are ending 2021 in a healthy financial position. This will allow us to provide valuable content to our members and support students scholarships in 2022.

The 2022 Budget was approved by the Colorado-Wyoming ITE Section membership at the business meeting held during the December luncheon on December 16, 2021. A high-level overview of the budget can be seen below. Please contact Cara O'Donnell (cara@ironstridesolutions.com) if you have any questions about the budget or would like to see a more detailed version.

**ITE Colorado/Wyoming Section
FY22 Budget Plan**

	FY22	
	Proposed Budget	
	Income	Expenses
Administrative	\$ -	\$ (2,000.00)
President - Annual Mtg. Travel	\$ -	\$ (1,500.00)
Mountain District Representative Travel	\$ -	\$ (1,500.00)
Awards	\$ -	\$ (1,200.00)
Bank Charges / Fees	\$ -	\$ (100.00)
Charity	\$ -	\$ (3,000.00)
Dues - ITE Payment	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Committee Meetings	\$ -	\$ (3,000.00)
Employment Ads	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Sponsorships	\$ 35,500.00	\$ -
Interest	\$ 5.00	\$ -
Lunch Meetings	\$ 12,000.00	\$ (30,000.00)
Survey Contests	\$ -	\$ (600.00)
Spring Symposium	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Vendor Show	\$ 20,000.00	\$ (10,000.00)
Happy Hour	\$ -	\$ (3,500.00)
Happy Hour - Southern Colorado	\$ -	\$ (500.00)
Annual Activity	\$ 5,000.00	\$ (10,000.00)
Continuing Education	\$ 300.00	\$ (1,000.00)
Mentoring Committee	\$ -	\$ (1,500.00)
Golf	\$ 26,000.00	\$ (23,000.00)
Transfer to Scholarship	\$ -	\$ (10,000.00)
Student Chapter	\$ -	\$ (1,500.00)
Website Committee	\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
	\$ 104,905.00	\$ (104,900.00)

2022 Sponsorship Opportunities



2022 SPONSORSHIPS

ITE INVITES YOU TO BECOME A
VALUED SPONSOR AND PARTNER

The mission of ITE is to provide the global community of transportation professionals with the knowledge, practices, skills, and connections to serve the needs of their communities.

**PLEASE CONTACT
CARA O'DONNELL FOR MORE INFO
CARA.ODONNELL@IRONSTRIDESOLUTIONS.COM**

ITE sponsors are recognized as leaders and advocates of the transportation industry. The ITE community incorporates a vast network of transportation professionals, representing public, private, and academic sectors.

Sponsorship of the Colorado-Wyoming ITE Section supports exceptional programming and events for transportation professionals, provides professional development opportunities, and helps develop the next generation of leaders.

We are offering five different sponsorship levels this year. We encourage companies to commit **by January 10th to take full advantage of the benefits.** Please contact [Cara O'Donnell](mailto:Cara.O'Donnell@IronStridesolutions.com) for more information if you are interested in considering one of the sponsorship opportunities!



Employment Opportunities

[Please check out our website for the most recent job postings!](#)

Thank you to our Section sponsors! To find out more about Section Sponsorship, please contact [Cara O'Donnell](#).

apexdesign

a  CONSOR company





DATA SOLUTIONS





DAVID EVANS
AND ASSOCIATES INC.



shrewsberry

 **ECONOLITE**



MERRICK[®]

AECOM

NAVJOY
Trusted Navigators in Innovation & Technology

Kimley»»Horn
Expect More. Experience Better.

RS&H

FOX TUTTLE →

Y2K
ENGINEERING

Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL


IRONSTRIDE
SOLUTIONS

 **ACL Inc.**
Transportation Engineering



See what's happening on our social sites:

