



**ITE GRADE CROSSING STANDING COMMITTEE 102-02
Draft Meeting Minutes
Fall Conference Call (Web Meeting)
October 20, 2022**

I. WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM PDT by Committee Chair Brent Ogden.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

There were 15 members and guests who attended the meeting, with an additional 13 who participated through video conferencing.

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Allen Clelland | DKS Associates |
| Brent Ogden | brent.ogden@kimley-horn.com |
| Douglas E. Noble | dnoble@ite.org |
| Maryam Hadayati | Transport Canada |
| Garreth Rempel | Garreth.rempel@Trainfo.ca |
| Karen Hankinson | Karen.Hankinson@Railpros.com |
| Shelly Gloeden | Transport Canada |
| Phil Poichuk | phil.poichuk@gmail.com |
| Joanna Bush | joanna.bush@meadhunt.com |
| Pierre Marcotte | Transport Canada |
| Richard Smith | City of Houston |
| Esther Strawder | FWHA |
| Steven Venglar | Texas A&M University |
| Walter Okitsu | wokitsu@koacorp.com |
| Tom Lancaster | tom@lancastermoblely.com |

III. ITE COMMITTEE ITEMS

1. Debrief 2022 Podium Session held at 2022 ITE Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA

The Committee's grade crossing presentation session at the New Orleans Annual Meeting and Exhibition was to be held on Wednesday, August 3, at 9 AM, with these presentations:

- A Proposal for the Application of Hybrid Beacons at Rural Railroad Crossings, Dean Tekell, E., PTOE, Principal, Dean Tekell Consulting, LLC, Lafayette, LA



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- Union Pacific Railroad Crossing Program, Paul D. Rathgeber, Director – Industry & Public Projects, Union Pacific Railroad, Spring TX
- Train Detection System Pilot Project – Metarie Road, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, Herbert “Bert” Moore II, P.E. PLS, PTOE, State Transportation Leader – Louisiana, Gresham Smith, Baton Rouge, LA
- Computer Vision System for Grade Crossing Surveillance – John E. D. F. Ayers, Vice President, Operations, Ayers Electronic Systems, LLC, Richmond VA

Comments from the conference call participants:

- Good that UPRR was able to present to provide the railroad perspective and approach to grade crossing safety
- It was noted that some of the computer vision technologies could be used to support detailed analysis of risky behavior and human factors in the vicinity of crossings
- The emerging technology topics are better if they present results from an operating system rather than simply describing prototypes; also of interest would be any installations in the US
- A participant asked if these presentations are available – Doug Noble indicated that he has copies and will be uploading them to the ITE Grade Crossing Web page

2. Discussion of Possible Topics and Presenters for 2023 ITE Annual Meeting in Portland, OR

Doug Noble stated that the call for abstracts for the 2023 Annual Meeting in Portland will likely be from about Columbus Day to about Thanksgiving 2022. He suggested that for the 2023 meeting, the committee should consider proposing only two or three presentations prior to the call for abstracts, so that additional presentation proposals submitted to ITE can be considered.

Gareth Rempel said that Lilita Quintero, Senior Transportation Engineer with City of Vancouver can present actual before-and-after performance from a system which monitors train movements and posts motorist advisories which have allowed the City of Vancouver to avoid the need to build a grade separation at an environmentally-sensitive location. Possible title would be *Innovative Technologies to Reduce Congestion and Improve Safety at Highway-Rail Crossings*.

Tom Lancaster stated that Adam Moore at the Portland Bureau of Transportation can provide a presentation on preemption of a 4-track shared-corridor crossing with both LRT and conventional railroad trackage, along with bicycle and pedestrian issues.



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Tom also said he will work on arrangements for a technical field trip to this location for committee members during the Portland meeting. Doug Noble encouraged Tom to submit this field trip separately from any proposed presentations so ITE can include it in the calendar of events and open it to other participants.

There was discussion about how to accommodate possible topics coming from the ITE call for presentations... One option would be to have an "alternate" presentation included along with two proposed. Then it could be decided later whether to go with the alternate from the committee or a second from the call. (Doug suggested that Brent and Karen coordinate on this.)

Doug said that he would forward the list of presenters and topics as soon as the call closes but before they are ranked to get a sense of how many potential candidates are available.

3. Webinar Updates

Nicole Jackson is coordinating the webinars but was not able to participate so Brent read into the record her status report:

Webinar #1 (first of a two-part series) will be held on November 10th at 3:00 – 4:40 pm EST:

- Why Preemption of Nearby Traffic Signals is Necessary
- Determining When Preemption Should be Provided
- Warning Time - What is required and issues with excessive warning time
- Simultaneous and Advance Preemption
- Preemption "trap" Countermeasures
- Pedestrians and Advance Pedestrian Preemption
- Overview of readily available preemption calculation forms

Nicole Jackson and Alejandro Chock (from Mott MacDonald) will be the presenters.

Link for registration is open

<https://www.pathlms.com/ite/courses/47331/webinars/32433>

It is Free! (non-members can register to join the webinar and there is a \$79 registration fee.) A comment was made that you need to log in to the ITE web page to access the registration link. Doug Noble suggested to contact for questions:

Kellyanne Broom
Professional Development Director
<mailto:kbroom@ite.org>



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4. Transit Committee Liaison Report received from J. Mark Mathis by email:

The Transit Committee met on September 1st. This was the first meeting of the committee in some time. The members discussed ongoing projects they are working on. The committee discussed their efforts to develop a standard for bus only lane treatments, as well as shared bus and bike lane treatments, including recommended changes to the current MUTCD. The project goal is an ITE Journal article. The Transit Committee is also working on a presentation on rail to airport, and other multi-modal integration projects currently underway and lessons learned from those completed.

Future Transit Committee project discussions centered around bus system planning – looking at the system as a hold rather than just at a project level basis. And third possible project was to present research on bus ridership trying to answer the question: has ridership settled back into a standard pattern since the pandemic.

We discussed possible collaboration between the Transit Committee and the Grade Crossing Committee on pedestrian treatments at grade crossings. The Committee members felt like this is an issue that many transit agencies are wrestling with. We discussed how standard pedestrian crossings treatments might fit into a complete street project and might include looking at standard pedestrian rail crossings at or near station platforms. I told the committee chair that I would let him know if that is something the Rail Crossing Committee is interested in working on with them.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Brent announced that ITE has approved Karen Hankinson to become the Committee Chair pursuant to Brent stepping down... This will occur at the January 2023 meeting which will be held in Washington DC concurrent with the TRB Annual Meeting. Congratulations to Karen!

V. UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- January 11 – 13, 2023, in conjunction with TRB, Washington DC.

This meeting will most likely occur on Tuesday to avoid a conflict with the TRB AR080 Grade Crossing Committee meeting.

Doug Noble requested Brent to coordinate with him prior so signing up for a meeting room so he isn't double booked with another meeting.

- August 13 – 16, 2023 in conjunction with Joint ITE International and Western District Annual Meeting, Portland OR.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM PDT.