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Shawn Leight Receives ITE's 2026 Distinguished Service Award in Honor of Burton W. Marsh

WASHINGTON, DC – ITE—A Community of Transportation Professionals (ITE) is proud to recognize **Shawn Leight, P.E., PTOE, PTP**, as the recipient of the [2026 ITE Distinguished Service Award in Honor of Burton W. Marsh](#). He was honored today during the Awards luncheon at ITE's [Annual Meeting and Exposition](#).



1Shawn Leight pictured with mentor Gene Katy (top right) and with friend and 2025 Burton Marsh Award winner, Gene Chartier, cheering on opposing NHL teams last season (bottom right).

The ITE Distinguished Service Award in Honor of Burton W. Marsh recognizes an individual who has contributed to the advancement of ITE over a period of years in an outstanding fashion. Shawn exemplifies this spirit through decades of dedicated leadership, professional service, mentorship, and technical contributions

to ITE and the transportation profession.

Shawn has more than 25 years of experience in transportation engineering and planning and serves as Vice President and Chief Operations Officer at CBB, where he manages project delivery and business development. His work focuses on developing transportation solutions that support community values, forge strong relationships, and advance forward-thinking approaches to mobility, safety, and multimodal planning.

His service to ITE has been broad, sustained, and deeply impactful. Shawn served as 2017 International President of ITE, following earlier leadership roles as President of the Missouri Valley Section of ITE in 2009 and President of the Gateway Section of ITE, formerly TEAM

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STL, in 2005. He has also served as Gateway Section Administrator since 2007, reflecting a long-standing commitment to strengthening ITE at the section, district, and international levels.

In addition to his ITE leadership, Shawn has supported the broader transportation profession through service on professional boards and committees, including the Transportation Research Board's Transportation for National Defense Committee, where he has been active since 2013 and currently serves as research coordinator. His professional service reflects the same willingness to contribute, collaborate, and “pitch in” that defined Burton W. Marsh's legacy.

Shawn has also made a lasting contribution to transportation education. Since 2003, he has served as an adjunct professor of transportation engineering at Washington University in St. Louis, where more than 350 of his students have gone on to become part of the transportation profession. Through this role, he has helped prepare the next generation of transportation leaders while connecting academic learning to real-world practice.

His technical career is equally distinguished. Shawn has played key roles in nationally and regionally recognized projects, including the reconstruction of I-64 in St. Louis, which received AASHTO's 2010 America's Best Transportation Project honor; the Downtown St. Louis Multimodal Transportation Plan, recognized by the East-West Gateway Council of Governments for Outstanding Local Government Achievement in 2019; and the I-270 North Design-Build Project, which received ITE's 2024 Transportation Achievement Award for Traffic Engineering.

Shawn's project work demonstrates his ability to translate transportation engineering into community-centered outcomes. On the I-270 North Design-Build Project, he led CBB's traffic engineering efforts to improve safety, mobility, and travel reliability, while enhancing walking, biking, and transit operations in a corridor heavily reliant on multimodal travel. The project included innovative features such as MoDOT's first counterflow bus-only lane and dynamic trailblazer signs.

His leadership on the Gateway to Safer Roadways: St. Louis Regional Safety Action Plan further reflects his commitment to safety and collaboration. Shawn led development of a comprehensive strategy to reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries across the eight-county East-West Gateway region, coordinating engagement with more than 50 stakeholder organizations and guiding analysis that identified high-risk areas, key crash factors, and evidence-based recommendations.

Across planning, design, traffic engineering, safety, education, and professional service, Shawn Leight has consistently advanced ITE's mission and strengthened the transportation profession. ITE congratulates Shawn on receiving the 2026 ITE Distinguished Service Award in Honor of Burton W. Marsh and celebrates his outstanding record of leadership, service, mentorship, and commitment to improving transportation for communities.

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About ITE — ITE—A Community of Transportation Professionals (ITE) works to improve mobility and safety for all transportation system users, helping to build smart and livable communities. Founded in 1930, ITE is a volunteer-driven association of more than 18,000 engineers, planners, consultants, educators, researchers, technologists, and students working in more than 78 countries. ITE provides opportunities for professional development and community building through conferences, training, publications, and involvement in projects and products advancing knowledge in the industry.

Through our products and services, we promote professional development and career advancement, support education, lead research initiatives, develop technical resources, including standards and recommended practices, promote public awareness programs, and serve as a conduit for exchanging professional information. Learn more at www.ite.org.

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