HIGHWAY-RAIL CROSSING HANDBOOK, THIRD EDITION RELEASED

The Institute of Transportation Engineers is happy to announce the recent release of the Highway-Rail Crossing Handbook, Third Edition. The Handbook covers all aspects of highway-rail crossing planning and design and provides guidance on use of traffic control devices for rail crossings of all types.

The Handbook was developed by ITE under contract to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and included the involvement of numerous subject matter experts and crossing practitioners.

The Handbook provides practitioners of all levels of knowledge and experience with critical background information and "noteworthy practices" consistent with the 2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD) and more recent guidance developed by recognized subject matter experts. This edition constitutes a substantial update to and revision of the 2007 Handbook and efforts have been made to reorganize the contents. The new Handbook is web-friendly, with "hotlinks" to both internal content as well as on-line resources.

The new Handbook provides guidance on a wide range of treatment options including Pedestrian Treatments, High-Speed Rail Crossings, Light Rail Transit, Queue Management, Quiet Zones, Crossing Gate Layouts, Crossing Profile, Illumination, Exclusion Zones and Clear Zone and Blocked Crossings.

Special thanks to the primary authors of this report Brent D. Ogden, Kimley-Horn and Chelsey Cooper with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. ITE would also like to acknowledge all the members of the US DOT/ITE Highway-Rail Crossing Handbook Working Group including Brian Alberts, Kevin N. Balke, Marco DaSilva, Jason Field, Karen Hankinson, Stephen Laffey, Jeff LaMora, Tom Lancaster, Lynn Leibfried, Bonnie Murphy, Phil Olekszyk, Jahmal Pullen, Kevin Schumacher, John T. Sharkey, Sean F. Skehan, Benjamin R. Sperry and Scott Windley.