



May 8, 2019

Dear ITE Members,

I am pleased to inform you that earlier today the ITE Board of Direction (IBOD) approved the establishment of a new District in the west. The Mountain District, covering the states of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming will be the first wholly new ITE District created in more than 30 years. The IBOD reviewed complementary transition plans—developed by both the Western District and representatives from all states in what will be the Mountain District—and set forth a unified transition plan that addresses finances, officers, elections, and timeline.

ITE staff will work with both Districts on new charters to be approved at the next IBOD meeting in July at the ITE Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas. Conforming bylaws are expected to be completed by the November IBOD meeting and the new Districts will become effective starting January 1, 2020.

The IBOD also appointed a transition board charged with standing up the Mountain District and leading it forward in 2020 when the first Mountain District elections will take place. Paul Barricklow will serve as the first District President. Paul is currently serving as Vice President of the Western District. Ben Waldman will serve as Vice President and Devin Moore as Secretary/Treasurer. Both Ben and Devin were identified as candidates for the Western District board and are well prepared to take on these leadership roles. Karen Aspelin has agreed to serve as the first Mountain District representative to the International Board of Direction. Karen will be finishing her term in 2019 as a Western District representative on the IBOD, which uniquely positions her with insight and recent experience to represent the newly-formed District. This initial slate of officers is committed to creating a new District with a new operating style and approach, while taking advantage of their knowledge of the Western District and its long history of success.

Other highlights of the unified transition plan include an agreement between the two Districts on the distribution of reserve and endowment funds currently being held by the Western District as well as the conduct of joint annual District meetings through 2022.

This is an exciting time to be an ITE member, and certainly, to be ITE president. Our membership is growing and through our ONE ITE efforts we are positioning our organization for long-term sustainability and success. While I am excited about the possibilities for this new Mountain District, I also believe the changes we are making with our Florida and new Great Lakes and Missouri Valley Districts will bring similar opportunities for growth, member engagement, and leadership opportunities.

I want to thank ITE Vice President Randy McCourt for his tireless leadership in working with the members of the ONE ITE Sub Task Force and the Western District in creating this new District. I also want to thank the nearly two dozen elected officials and representatives of the Mountain state sections and chapters who have come together in support of this new District and who will be working with the Mountain District board to create new operating procedures, committees, and traditions. Last, but certainly not least, I want to recognize the outstanding leadership and support provided by Neelam Dorman, ITE Western District president and the Western District Board. I am proud of the ONE ITE spirit they exhibited throughout this process.

Please continue to follow the development of the Mountain District and our other [ONE ITE efforts](#) through Dan Beaty's bi-weekly column in *ITE Spotlight*.

Sincerely,

Bruce Belmore
ITE International President

Institute of Transportation Engineers

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