ITE-ANZ NEWSLETTER – MAY 2021





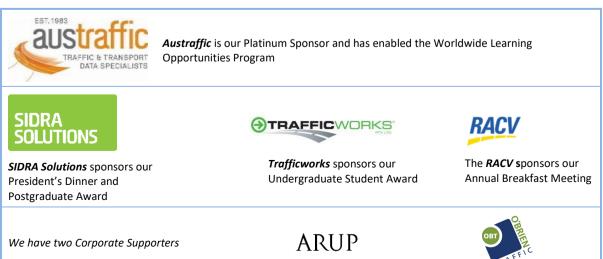


WHERE IN THE WORLD?

Can you guess the location of this photo?

Answer on Page 28

Our Sponsors



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our first newsletter edition for 2021.

What an interesting time the last 12 months have been – filled with challenges and opportunities. I am optimistic that 2021 will be the year which shapes our future of transport.

The social and transport disruptions from 2020 have led to a renewed focus of active transport infrastructure, safer and sustainable community streets, circular economies to help support local businesses and communities, and a strengthened pipeline of transport infrastructure investment. This is the time for us to help shape our future transport.



As your new ITE-ANZ President, I will continue the vision and goals of ITE-ANZ, and strengthen the legacy developed in Australia and New Zealand most recently by Nick Szwed.

I am joined by a new Executive Board, a mixture of ITE-ANZ wisdom and creative transport thinking. Together, we share a passion for the continued learning and development of our transport planning profession, and seek to provide seminars, publications and mentoring to shape the next future of transport planners.

I am excited for what 2021 brings, and look forward to meeting you at our seminars, engaging with your feedback, and supporting your transport planning development.



Sarah Zhang ITE-ANZ President president@ite.org.au

NEW MEMBERS

ITE-ANZ is pleased to welcome the following new members who have recently joined ITE:

- Tracy Wu, VIC
- Mr. Lachlan Lee Beckworth, VIC
- Mr. Nicholas William Reid, VIC
- Miss Sajani Siriwardene, VIC
- Mr. Noam Marom, VIC
- Mr. Nicholas Vincent Dillon, NSW
- Ms. Fahimeh Golbabaei, QLD
- Mr. Dale Cameron Dart, VIC
- Mr. Mujtaba Alizada, VIC
- Mr. Paul Chainey, NEW ZEALAND
- Mr. Ryan Ian Crittenden, QLD
- Mr. Parth Hemendrabhai Pandya, VIC
- Mr. Khalid T. Mohammed III, MALAYSIA

- Mr. Ali Isfand Yar Manek, NSW
- Mr. Ray Bozorgmehrnia. VIC
- Mr. Raghu Sharma, MALAYSIA
- Mr. Tati Vikram, INDIA
- Mansour Johari, NEW ZEALAND
- Abbass Kak, VIC
- Mr. Oliver Munan, NEW ZEALAND
- Miguel Leon-Becker, NEW ZEALAND
- Justin James Milsome, VIC
- Jinhao Yan, NEW ZEALAND
- Mr. Nick Reid, NEW ZEALAND
- Mr. Akashkumar Chaudhary, NEW ZEALAND

ITE GLOBAL DISTRICT

ITE Global District Director's Report – March 2021

2021 is off to a very fast start with several significant ITE events already occurring. The International Student Leadership Summit and a very well-attended Technical Conference have been successfully delivered with many from the Global District taking advantage of being able to attend virtually.

Our International Board Meetings continue to be conducted in the virtual environment and you may have heard the ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibition, which was to be held in Portland, Oregon, USA, will instead be held virtually in July this year.

As with last year's the Annual Meeting, while it is disappointing we will not be able to attend in person, it is an excellent opportunity for many others to be able to attend this International Conference virtually at a very reasonable cost. Please find further details regarding the Annual Meeting and registration via the following link: <u>https://www.iteannualmeeting.org/</u>

As I have mentioned at ITE-ANZ events and in previous columns, I would again like to encourage members located within the Global District (i.e. outside of North America) to consider participating in one of ITE's various development programs or Councils. Many more opportunities are being held in 'virtual' environments, whether it be:

- participating in Leadership ITE (<u>https://www.ite.org/professional-and-career-development/leadershipite/</u>); or
- joining and contributing to one of ITE's Special Interest Councils (<u>https://www.ite.org/technical-resources/councils/</u>)

It has never been easier to become involved!

Should you wish to discuss any of the above in greater detail or have other matters you would like me to be aware of or raise at the ITE International Board meetings, please feel free to reach out to me at <u>dprzyc@cgd.vic.gov.au</u>.

Stay safe and healthy.

Best regards

Daniel Przychodzki, ITE Global District Director



ITE HEAD QUARTERS

ITE 2021 Annual Meeting and Exhibition –Navigating a New Future



Technical Program (20-29 July 2021) Council and Committee Meetings (3-5 August 2021)

In March 2021, the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) announced that its 2021 Annual Meeting and Exhibition will be held as a virtual event. Following the

format of its successful 2020 Annual Meeting, the technical content is scheduled for 20-22 July and 27-29 July 2021, and ITE Council and Committee meetings are scheduled for 3-5 August 2021.

ITE's future Annual Meeting and Exhibit conferences are planned for:

- 2022 in New Orleans, Louisiana;
- 2023 in Portland, Oregon; and
- 2024 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The theme for this year's meeting is *Navigating a New Future*. After more than a year in the grips of COVID-19, the world has changed. Travel patterns, work and home life, workplaces, retail, restaurants and much more have been altered – some temporarily, some permanently. The Annual Meeting will provide new and emerging insights, knowledge and tools to navigate this new future successfully.

As with last year, the sessions may not be scheduled in time zone slots that are friendly for Australia, New Zealand or elsewhere in the Global District. However, all the technical content will be recorded and available through until the end of September, giving you the option of engaging live or listening at a more convenient time.

ITE had an outstanding response to its call for abstracts and has built a very strong technical program. In addition, the program from the National Rural ITS conference will be integrated into this year's program again.

Information about the technical program and registration options are available on the Annual Meeting and Exhibition web page: <u>https://www.iteannualmeeting.org/</u>.

Early Bird registration is now available – Deadline: 15 June 2021

Full registration for the entire conference covers access to the entire technical program, including plenary and technical sessions, poster presentations, exhibition hall and social events. Even allowing for currency conversion, registration represents great value for Australians and New Zealanders!

ITE Member	Early Bird: \$199 USDStandard: \$299 USD
Non-Member	Early Bird: \$299 USDStandard: \$399 USD
Student	• Standard: \$50 USD

Jeffrey Paniati P.E. Executive Director, ITE jpaniati@ite.org



OCCASIONAL PIECES

This is a new section for our newsletter. It provides an opportunity for members to provide respectful commentary on matters relating to transport planning and projects.

We begin with a contribution from ITE-ANZ's Immediate Past President, Nick Szwed.

Nick's Niggle

Something that continues to annoy me regularly is that we cannot get any proper science or consistency around setting speed limits. Here are some examples.

Shared Zone v Shared Path



A Shared Zone is a road or network of roads where the road space is shared safely by vehicles and pedestrians. The maximum speed limit is always 10 km/h. There may be no road lines, kerb or gutter in a Shared Zone to show that pedestrians and vehicles are equal. I have observed that many people do not know that drivers must always give way to pedestrians in Shared Zones. Their speed limit is 10 km/h.

A lot of people do not realise that bike riders must give way to pedestrians on Shared Paths. However, there is no speed limit for cyclists. I often see E-bikes, which are not supposed to assist the rider beyond 25 km/h, whizzing past at 30 to 40 km/h.

Speeding cyclists is one of the main complaints of pedestrians on shared paths, yet we will not consider a speed limit for cyclists on shared paths.



Location of Speed signs

As soon as we Melburnians were allowed to leave the city, I decided to do a road tour through Victoria. On the way home, I drove along the Great Ocean Road from Peterborough to Anglesea.

I was appalled by the placement of speed signs. Have a look at the mixed messaging in these three examples.



There were at least another 20 such examples. In all cases, you can see both conflicting messages at the same time (the photos don't show this as clearly as they are in real life).

There were also several examples of temporary roadwork speed limits which had been left in place when no work was being done on weekends and public holidays.

Furthermore, the state of disrepair of some rural pavements was disappointing. On the Timboon-Port Campbell Road, I nearly left the road when I hit a sunken section of road, although I was only travelling at about 70 km/h (in a 100 km/h zone). There were no warning signs to alert me.



I saw a lot of new vehicles on the road and thought that people must have been buying new cars with the money they had saved by not travelling overseas last year. I said to my wife, "look at these 1^{st} world cars on 3^{rd} world roads".



Then, in February, I went to Wilsons Promontory to do some hiking and came across the set of speed signs to the left.

I am not sure that setting up Rural Roads Victoria a couple of years ago has improved things very much.

Nick Szwed



RECENT ITE-ANZ EVENTS

Panel Discussion: Incentivisation of Low Emission Vehicles 3 March 2021

This webinar featured a panel discussion with industry professionals, discussing the government's role in providing incentives to accelerate the uptake of low emission vehicles. The session was moderated by Laura Aston (Monash University).

A huge round of thanks to our panellists Steve Connors, Ange Anczewska, Dr Alina Dini, Tim Washington, Michael Li and Adrian Dwyer for the robust and informative discussion on government's role in providing incentives to accelerate the uptake of low emission vehicles.



Steve Connors Principal Advisor, Infrastructure Victoria



Tim Washington Co-founder, JET Charge



Angé Anczewska General Manager, International Association of Public Transport (UITP)



Michael Li Senior Project Manager, ClimateWorks Australia



Dr Alina Dini Founder and CEO, Whirl



Adrian Dwyer CEO, Infrastructure Partnerships Australia

The panel discussed a range of opportunities in Australia including:

- capitalising on local government and corporate fleets' abilities to deliver low emission vehicles at a lower price point as they go out to the public market;
- the power of education and trial schemes in managing the perceived unattainability of low emission vehicles, including range anxiety and lack of charging infrastructure;
- the federal and state governments' roles in providing a Whole of Government approach and clear direction to private industry, local government and the community; and
- the importance of moving beyond investment in vehicles alone, and towards training, development of strategic policy and associated subsidies that dictate the supply chain and have the power to transform the market.

While it was noted that lack of past investment in low emission vehicles in Australia has caused a lag behind international counterparts, there may be fewer barriers when it comes to provision of supporting infrastructure. For example, Australia does not require extensive build out of parking infrastructure like Asia and Europe, as 70% of Australians have access to off-street parking and can charge at home.

If you missed our webinar or would like to revisit, here is a link to the recording



ITE-ANZ 2021 Annual Breakfast and Annual General Meeting

2021 Annual Breakfast



Date: Tuesday, 23 February 2021 *Venue:* RACV City Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne

Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual Breakfast. In what has been a challenging year, it was wonderful to see more of you face-to-face.

The 2021 Annual Breakfast was proudly sponsored by the RACV



Guest Speaker

This year, our guest speaker was the Hon Ben Carroll MP, Victorian Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Roads and Road Safety.



The Minister discussed the Andrews Government's priorities and the transport sector's roles in the post-COVID world and cutting emissions and tackling climate change encouraging a return to public transport. There will be important implications for road safety, infrastructure investment and data and modelling. He believes that these can drive innovation and new ideas.

ITE-ANZ Awards

The following ITE-ANZ awards were announced by **Nick Szwed**, President. Congratulations to the following award recipients:





ITE-ANZ Annual General Meeting 2021

The AGM was held on Tuesday 23 February at 9:00 am at the RACV City Club following the Annual Breakfast.

The following AGM reports are available on the ITE-ANZ website:

- Presidents-Report-Feb-2021
- <u>Treasurer-Report-Feb-2021</u>
- ITE-ANZ AGM YITE Report 2021
- Transport Engineers Monash (TEM) annual report 2021
- <u>University of Canterbury Transport Student Chapter 2021</u>

New Executive Board for 2021

Elections were held for all executive positions and nominations for the Board were endorsed. A full list of Board members and their profiles can be found at <u>ITE-ANZ Executive Board members</u>

May Webinar: Micromodel Calibration and Validation

 Date:
 Thursday, 13 May 2021

 Time:
 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm (AEST)

 Venue:
 Online

This webinar covered the important topic of calibrating micromodels - both microsimulation and microanalytical models.

Three expert speakers presented:

- Rebecca Strachan Associate Director, GTA now Stantec
- Mark Besley Director, SIDRA SOLUTIONS
- David Ng Managing Director, PTV Group

The speakers gave an excellent overview of the way in which models should be calibrated and how the base case should be validated against field measurements of delay, travel time or queue length.

Here is a link to the recording.



FUTURE EVENTS

We are planning a webinar program for 2021. No dates have been set yet, but keep an eye out for updates in our emails and on our social media.

Topics currently being considered include:

- <u>Indigenous Issues in Transport Planning</u> Particularly relevant given the federal and state court proceedings for the Western Highway Duplication around Buangor in Victoria.
- <u>ITE Traffic Engineering Council Webinar</u>
 The ITE Traffic Engineering Council, chaired by Gordon Meth, would like to have a webinar with some aspects of Australian New Zealand practice at a suitable US/ANZ time-of-day early next year.
- <u>Tactical Urbanism Lessons Learned</u>
 A webinar on tactical urbanism, outdoor dining and lessons learned during the COVID-19 changes.



NON-ITE EVENTS FOR TRANSPORT PROFESSIONALS

The COVID-19 pandemic has had many downsides, but it has also benefitted us by opening up different ways to connect and share information and experiences. The emergence of the webinar as a COVID Normal tool is the most striking example.

Webinar: Options for Managing the Impacts of Aged Heavy Vehicles

Date: Thursday, 27 May 2021, 1:00pm AEST Organiser: Austroads

The freight industry is critical to the economy, and for many sectors it is heavy vehicles that underpin freight movements and prosperity.

The average age of trucks in Australia and New Zealand is among the highest in the developed world. The oldest trucks are associated with higher environmental and health costs than newer trucks, yet these have been poorly quantified to date. Managing these issues is important to maintaining the freight industry's social license.

Austroads has published a research report which analyses the impacts of an ageing heavy vehicle fleet and explores measures that have been used to manage this challenge in Australasia and internationally.

In this webinar, the research team of Mark Gjerek (Director and Principal Consultant at MOV3MENT), Nathan Gore-Brown (Senior Consultant at MOV3MENT) and Alun Morgan (Consultant and Analyst) will present the main findings of the study, including:

- why older trucks are used
- the facts about environmental, health and safety costs of using aged trucks
- best-practice examples for managing community impacts
- other insights and implications from the research.

Join in a live Q&A with the presenters to have your questions answered.

No charge but registration is essential. Can't make the live session? Register and we'll send you a link to the recording.

For further information and registration, visit these links:

- Webinar-Options for managing the impacts of aged heavy vehicles and
- <u>Register now</u>



International Conference on Transport & Health 2021– 14-30 June 2021

Virtual Event: Changing Perspectives Following Global Disruption



As a result of travel restriction due to the COVID-19 global pandemic of 2020, the **International Conference on Transport & Health 2021** (ICTH 2021) will be a completely virtual event.

The International Conference on Transport & Health aims to provide valuable insights into the health impacts of transport and urban planning, governance, strategic management, policy making, performance metric tools and the potential return on investment of a dynamic system. The conference sponsors include the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)

Policy makers, practitioners and academics from multiple disciplines and professional sectors involved in transport planning and engineering, public health, urban planning, spatial and architectural design, environmental planning, economics and beyond will meet to share their stories of success and failure; build world-wide collaborative friendships; but most importantly, leave inspired!

High Scoring Abstract Award Winners

The ICTH Programme Committee has announced the <u>2021 High Scoring Abstract Award Winners</u>. The competition this year was tight and it is pleasing to see three Australians and a New Zealander amongst the ten winners. ITE-ANZ congratulates:

<u>Researcher:</u>

Caryn van Vreden (Australia)

The Driving Health Survey – Health and Wellbeing of Australian Truck Drivers Award sponsor: Journal of Transport & Health (JTH)

Practitioner:

Andrew Kendall (Australia)

Hitting the Rails – What Do Accessible Tram Stops Look like to Those with Accessibility Needs? Award sponsor: STV Inc. Construction & Engineering

 <u>Post-Doctoral/Early Career Professional</u>: Ting Xia (Australia)

Factors Associated with Increased Psychological Distress Among Australian Truck Drivers: The Role of Personal, Occupation, Work, Lifestyle and Health Risk Factors Award sponsor: North Dakota State University - Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute

<u>Undergraduate or Master's Degree Student:</u>

Anh Tang (New Zealand)

The Built Environment and Its Impacts on the Walkability for Children within Primary School Catchment Areas: Case Studies of Primary Schools in Auckland, New Zealand Award sponsor: Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)

Further details

• Please visit the conference website for program and registration details – ICTH-2021 virtual - Changing Perspectives Following Global Disruption



ATRF 2021 Conference, Brisbane 8-10 December, Queensland University of Technology



Following the postponement of the 2020 ATRF conference, the Australasian Transport Research Forum (ATRF) is pleased to announce that the 42nd conference is planned to be held in Brisbane, Queensland, from 8-10 December 2021.

Although it will in the main be a face-to-face event, to accommodate the possible impacts of further disruptions and limitations on

movement and interstate travel, it is also proposed to stage the event virtually using the hybrid model successfully used overseas for similar events.

The conference website is currently being established and once operational, a link will be available from the permanent ATRF web site (<u>https://www.australasiantransportresearchforum.org.au</u>). Details for the conference registration will be provided in due course.

Topic Areas/Tracks

The ATRF 2021 conference is designed to cover a broad range of topics across all modes (air, rail, road and sea) including:

- Transport history
- Transport analysis, modelling, forecasting and simulation
- Social, economic, and environmental effects of transport
- Active transport, public transport, freight and logistics and supply chain resilience
- Transport and land use/urban design and planning for 'smart cities'
- Travel behaviour change and demand management
- Transport economics, funding, pricing and appraisal
- New vehicle technologies and innovative services
- Traffic engineering, control and management
- Transport safety, security and business continuity management
- COVID-19: implications for transport and societal responses to the pandemic, including scenario planning and analysis and crisis management

Call for Papers

This year's Call for Papers invites submission of Research Papers, Professional Practice Papers and Extended Abstracts, as follows:

- The **Research Paper** stream is designed primarily for academics and professional researchers who want their work fully peer-reviewed.
- The **Professional Practice Paper** stream is designed primarily for practitioners from government and the private sector.
- The **Extended Abstract** is designed primarily for academics who want to engage with the audience on their work, receiving feedback to assist with the preparation of a full paper for archival journals.



The conference website will provide further details about the paper submission and peer review process and a link to the EasyChair conference management system, used for submission and management of the papers.

All papers (Research Papers or Professional Practice Papers) and the Extended Abstracts need to be submitted by **5 July 2021**, regardless of the streams/tracks.

Inquiries regarding submission of papers may be directed to Amanda Eaton (<u>ATRFSC@gmail.com</u>).

General

Many planning, engineering and transport groups are hosting virtual events and discussions. In addition to ITE-ANZ's <u>Upcoming events</u> website, visit

- Engineers Australia (EA): EA Conferences and Events
- Transport Australia Society (TAs): <u>Transport Australia Society (TAs)</u>
- Engineering New Zealand (ENZ): ENZ Courses and events
- Planning Institute of Australia (PIA): PIA Events
- New Zealand Planning Institute (NZPI): <u>NZPI Events and Conferences</u>
- ITS Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS Aust): ITS Aust events
- Australian Institute of Traffic Planning and Management Ltd (AITPM): <u>AITPM events</u>
- **Researching Transit** through the Public Transport Research Group, part of the <u>Institute of</u> <u>Transport Studies</u> in the Monash University <u>Department of Civil Engineering</u>.
- Australasian Transport Research Forum (ATRF): <u>ARTF Main Page</u>
- Australasian Railway Association (ARA): <u>ARA events and networking</u> for events in Australia and New Zealand
- Australian Airports Association (AAA): AAA events calendar
- Ports Australia: Ports Australia conferences
- Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Australia (CILTA): CILTA events

Marianne Richards and Lindsay Oxlad

ITE-ANZ YOUNG MEMBER AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Young ITE



YITE provides advocacy and support to help elevate the impact young transport professionals and students can have within industry.

ITE Virtual Student Leadership Summit

The ITE Virtual Student Leadership Summit (SLS) took place on 19-20 February 2021 (USA time). The Summit, comprising 15 sessions, was organised by ITE in association with 15 Student Chapters.

The Transport Engineers Monash (TEM) session on Australian leadership styles and University of Canterbury student chapter's session on experiences of working in the New Zealand Transport sector were both very successful.

YITE Road to Recovery Award

ratio: The YITE Road to Recovery award is being sponsored by Ratio Consultants.

The award will reward young professionals/students who have shown initiative in helping communities rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic in the transport sector. There will be 3 awards of \$150 each over 6 months.



In the first round, the award was won by Afshin Jafari, Research Assistant and PhD candidate with the Healthy Liveable Cities Group, Centre for Urban Research, RMIT University, Australia.

COVID19 had a significant impact on the way we live, work, socialise and travel. The shift in travel from public transport modes towards private vehicles was one changes observed during the COVID19 restrictions and is expected to continue afterwards. Many cities across the world started to invest on temporary bicycle infrastructure (pop-up bike lanes) to provide safe environment for cyclists and to make cycling a feasible alternative for those moving away from public transport.

City of Melbourne (CoM) was the first Victorian council to invest and construct pop-up bike lanes. However, from a cyclist's perspective "it is the safety of the journey that matters, not just the destination".

Afshin used an agent-based simulation model for cycling in Melbourne, developed in his PhD research, to analyse changing travel patterns within and beyond the municipality and to emphasise the need for cycling infrastructure beyond Melbourne's CBD. In June 2020, he authored an article providing evidence from his model to support the need for broader city-wide plan for cycling infrastructure.

The article describes a scenario in which 20% of public transport users with a 10 km commute shift to using bicycle. The results showed a 50% increase in bicycle trips and increased the pressure on existing key commuter routes into the CBD.

 Visit RMIT's Centre for Urban Research Website (https://cur.org.au/news/pop-up-bike-lanes-beyond-cbd-needed-to-cope-with-cycling-rise/).

The article was very well received in social media, public advocacy groups such as Bicycle Network and also the Department of Transport.

The award judges were also impressed by Afshin's work.

"The judging panel [members] all agree that the nominee has submitted a high quality nomination which has critically focused on the criteria of the award and demonstrated results of the research undertaken as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Panel was impressed with the consideration of outcomes from the work to demonstrate how the nominee has helped with the recovery in Victoria, Australia.

We would therefore like to congratulate the nominee on their successful nomination and award of the first Road to Recovery award presented by Young ITE (ANZ) and Ratio Consultants."

YITE Student Design Competition

The YITE student design competition is being sponsored by the Stonnington City Council.

YITE and the <u>City of Stonnington</u> have issued a transportation engineering challenge that seeks to balance the competing interests on Melbourne's iconic Chapel Street from a transport and land-use perspective. As part of this challenge, students will be tasked with improving Chapel Street with finalists given the opportunity to present their solutions to Stonnington Council.

The competition kicked-off on the 1 May and will run for 2-3 weeks. During this time, the 15 teams that registered will receive a project briefing from industry experts and stakeholders and be required to submit a 10-page report by the 16 May. The industry experts will be available throughout the competition to provide support for participating teams.

If you would like to be part of YITE, or have ideas of what you would like to see from YITE, do not hesitate to reach out to Matt at <u>matthew.bennett@aurecongroup.com</u>.

For all general questions, enquiries and further information, please email YITE at: <u>yiteanz@gmail.com</u>

Ruw Palapathwala and Matthew Bennett

Monash University Student Chapter



Who are we?

Transport Engineers at Monash (TEM) is a dedicated transport engineering club for Monash University Engineering students. TEM aims to bridge the gap between students and the industry.

ITE Virtual Student Leadership Summit – Saturday 20 February 2021

ITE student leaders from 15 universities are putting together a first of its kind transport student experience. Session topics covered leadership, career advice, transport technology, sustainability, equity, and more.

From Australia, TEM organised a panel session on Australian Leadership Styles and what distinguishes these. Students, young professionals and anyone interested in developing young transport leaders were invited to join the interactive session.

Speakers included Bruce Belmore (ITE Past President from Canada), Daniel Richter (Suburban Rail Loop), and Riddhi R Kalra (TEM past president).



Mentoring Program 2021/2022 Inception evening – Thursday, 15 April 2021

The TEM mentoring program provides students with the opportunity to:

- Gain industry insights
- Identify growth within the transport industry
- Plan their career goals
- Develop new networks and contacts
- Build employability skills

On 15 April 2021, TEM and ITE-ANZ kick started the 2021 Mentoring Program with an Induction Night. The night consisted of the following:

- Induction presentations covering ITE-ANZ (Matthew Bennett and Danielle Rebecchi) as well as program guidelines, expectations, calendar and suggestions.
- Dinner break (food provided).
- Opportunity to meet mentor/mentee (pairings were introduced on the night) and others involved in the program.

For those not based in Melbourne or unable to attend the event in person, hosted a Zoom meeting to watch the induction presentation and to ensure that as many mentors and mentees as possible could meet.



Mock Assessment Centre – Thursday, 22 April 2021



TEM partnered with the <u>Monash Association of Civil</u> <u>Engineering Students (ACES)</u> to host a Mock Assessment Centre at Monash Clayton's new Woodside Building.

Students had the opportunity to participate in mock interviews and mock group activities to further their job application skills.

The night will be structured with two main sessions, where we will be running interviews/group activities with a 20-minute dinner break in between (food and drink are provided).

Lauren Guiney and the TEM provided all volunteer interviewers with mock interview questions on the night, so there was no need to prepare any material in advance. Interviewers from a broad range of transport organisations were able to provide students with constructive feedback to their interview responses.

Congratulations to Lauren and TEM for a successful evening. The students demonstrated maturity in responding to the very realistic interview questions and in discussing feedback from the interviewers.

Sangheran Ramyen and Trung Tran TEM Media & Communications Officers



University of Sydney

2021 Careers Talk

The 2021 Careers Talk will be held on 14 May 2021, subject to COVID restrictions. The talk will seek to build upon the success of previous years and engage students with the transport industry and broaden the reach of ITE-ANZ in NSW.

Eric Ye

University of Canterbury Student Chapter

My work for the UC transport chapter has been going for about a month and I would like to give a brief report on my experiences. Throughout the last month, my main objective was to attract more transport students to join the UC transport chapter.

Our LinkedIn page also got a new life.





ITE Virtual Student Leadership Summit

The University of Canterbury Student Chapter (UC-TRANSPORT) hosted an online event on Saturday 20 February 2021 as a part of the 2-day ITE Virtual Student Leaders' Summit. In two sessions, speakers from New Zealand shared their experiences of working in the Transport sector:



Jeanette Ward, Technical Director, Abley

"From Lab Technician to Technical Director: A journey of growth and the importance of diversity"



Tony Harrison, Technical Director, Urban Connection *"Wellness and Resilience in the Workplace"*

Our LinkedIn page is now live!

Visit and follow us via. in <u>UC-TRANSPORT Chapter LinkedIn</u>

Mansour Johari Foroushani and Dana Abudayyeh



ITE-ANZ COMMUNITY

This issue's primary focus is on Australia and New Zealand's responses to COVID-19, but we have not forgotten other interesting issues.

Australian Government

Assessing Fitness to Drive review 2021

An update to *Assessing Fitness to Drive* has been released for public consultation by the National Transport Commission (NTC).

The NTC is reviewing *Assessing Fitness to Drive* (AFTD) in collaboration with Austroads. An updated version is planned for release later this year.

The NTC has considered the input and advice from driver licensing authorities, industry, patient representative groups and medical associations across Australia in developing the current draft.

Stakeholders now have an opportunity to provide input on:

- the suitability of the changes in the updated draft guidelines;
- your experience with the <u>current AFTD guidelines</u> and any suggestions you have to make the next version more user-friendly; and
- any suggestions you have on training and support needed to increase use and knowledge of content in the guidelines.

How to participate

Read the latest draft of AFTD and the review report. You may respond to some or all the questions outlined in the review report.

Upload your submission as a document or share your thoughts via the web form provided.

Submissions are now open on the NTC website and will close on **11 June 2021**.

For more information, visit: <u>https://www.ntc.gov.au/transport-reform/ntc-projects/assessing-fitness-drive-guideline-review</u>

New South Wales

Sydney Gateway

The design and construct contract for the Sydney Gateway, a planned major road interchange between the WestConnex and the airport terminals of Sydney Airport, has been awarded to John Holland Seymour Whyte Joint Venture. This interchange will connect the WestConnex St Peters Interchange to the Airport and Port Botany Precinct, providing improved connections between the airport and Port Botany and Sydney's motorways. Early construction has begun and the project is tabled for a 2024 opening.

Read more about Sydney Gateway here.

Delivery Driver Safety Guidelines

Draft guidelines have been released for industry consultation to provide better protection for workers in the food delivery industry. The guidelines have been developed by the Gig Economy Joint Taskforce, led by SafeWork NSW and Transport for NSW following several food delivery rider



fatalities in NSW. Consultation is expected to conclude in April, with its inclusion into an Industry Safety Action Plan.

Read more about it here.

Automated bus trial in Coffs Harbour

The Coffs Harbour BusBot Trial has hit a new milestone with customers being among the first in the world to climb aboard a fully automated public shuttle bus to operate without a supervisor or a driver. The trial is being led in partnership between Transport for NSW, Busways, Coffs Harbour City Council and EasyMile.

More about the project here.

Port of Newcastle

National Australia Bank (NAB) has led the development of a landmark loan for the Port of Newcastle (PON) that aligns financing for Australia's largest east coast seaport with long-term environmentally and socially responsible outcomes.

The arrangement includes A\$515 million in sustainability-linked loans that incentivises Port of Newcastle by offering a lower margin on debt if it hits targets across a range of social and environmental metrics.

This is the first sustainability-linked financing by an Australian seaport and the first such loan in Australia to include a modern slavery assessment metric addressing all of the borrower's suppliers.

The other four metrics focus on emissions reduction, mental health first aid, diversity and inclusion and achieving certified recognition against the NSW Government Sustainability Advantage Scheme.

About the Port of Newcastle

- Port of Newcastle (PON) is the largest port on the East Coast of Australia, supporting about 9,000 fulltime equivalent jobs nationally.
- The port handles 4,400 ship movements, and 164 million tonnes of cargo annually, supporting Australia's \$26 billion trade industry. The port handles a diversity of international trade, including coal, wheat and other grains, fertiliser, steel, cement, bulk liquids, containers, machinery and alumina.
- As custodians of the region's critical asset, Port of Newcastle is diversifying its trade as it strives to create a safe, sustainable and environmentally and socially responsible future.
- Port of Newcastle became the first port in Australia and New Zealand to be certified as an EcoPort in January 2020, a global environmental and sustainability standard for the ports sector.

Read more at: <u>https://www.portofnewcastle.com.au/news/nab-strengthens-long-term-</u> sustainability-for-port-of-newcastle-landmark-loan/

Eric Ye and Marianne Richards



South Australia

We have included a selection of recent media releases from the Hon Corey Wingard, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

Ovingham level crossing removal

7 April 2021

The Australian and South Australian governments are fulfilling their commitment to fix one of Adelaide's most frustrating traffic bottlenecks, with major works officially getting underway on the \$196 million Ovingham Level Crossing Removal Project.

Torrens Road will be raised over the existing Ovingham level crossing, meaning motorists will no longer be delayed in traffic waiting for rail services to pass, saving valuable time, improving safety and supporting around 265 full-time jobs per year during construction.

The upgrade at Ovingham also involves the elevation of the western end of Churchill Road, which intersects with Torrens Road approximately 100 metres from the Ovingham Level Crossing heading towards the city, so that it meets the elevated height of Torrens Road.

Piling works are expected to start in May 2021, with project completion in 2023, weather permitting.

For more information about the project, visit the Ovingham Level Crossing Removal virtual room at

- <u>https://dit.sa.gov.au/infrastructure/public_transport_projects/ovingham_level_crossing_remov_al/virtual_room</u>
- <u>https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/news/media-releases/news/shovels-hit-dirt-to-remove-ovingham-level-crossing</u>

Ferry services to Kangaroo Island

19 March 2021

Cheaper fares to and from Kangaroo Island (KI) are on the cards with three companies shortlisted to bid for the running of ferry services between KI and mainland South Australia.

Late last year the Marshall Liberal Government called for Expressions of Interest from companies to run the ROPAX (roll-on, roll-off vehicles and passenger) ferry services between Penneshaw on the island and Cape Jervis on the mainland for up to 25 years.

The aim is to promote economic growth, tourism, private investment and trade on KI, increase employment opportunities on the island and ensure the ferry service provides reliability, high levels of customer service and value for money for locals, businesses and visitors.

Three companies, Kangaroo Island SeaLink Pty Ltd (the existing operator), Peninsula Searoad Transport Pty Ltd and Kinetic Holding Company Pty Ltd/Oceanex consortium have progressed to the Invitation to Supply (ITS) phase.

The contract will be for an initial 15-year period with a further two five-year extensions based on the successful company meeting a strict set of criteria, including high levels of service performance.

https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/news/media-releases/news/cheaper-and-better-services-ahead-forki-ferry-passengers



New Flinders Railway Line

17 February 2021

Patronage data for the new \$141 million Flinders Railway Line shows the investment is already attracting more South Australians to use public transport with a 10.9 per cent increase in validations compared with the old Tonsley Line.

The new Flinders train line and new Tonsley and Flinders railway stations opened for passenger services on 29 December 2020, and are now operating under an enhanced timetable, developed after extensive consultation.

The Australian and South Australian governments jointly funded the project to extend the former Tonsley line to the Flinders Medical Centre and Flinders University precincts.

https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/news/media-releases/news/flinders-line-in-high-demand-as-unistudents-return-to-campus

Project updates

Keep an eye on the following Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) websites for updates on current projects.

- DIT Major Projects
- DIT Public Transport Projects
- <u>DIT Road Projects</u>:

Peter Doupé/Lindsay Oxlad

Victoria

Victorian Government: Safer ways to share Victorian roads

The Victorian Government has announced several active transport investments.

Mandatory passing distances for motorists passing cyclists

Last year there was a welcome drop in the number of lives lost on our roads across all user groups except cyclists, with 13 people losing their lives compared to the five year average of ten riders dying each year.

Mandatory minimum passing distances for motorists passing cyclists came into effect on 26 April 2021, bringing Victoria into line with other states. It is now mandatory for motorists to give riders at least one metre clearance when overtaking on roads up to 60 km/h, and 1.5 metres on roads with speed limits above 60 km/h. The new rule clarifies existing guidelines around passing riders.

The law will attract maximum court penalties of up to \$1,652 and on the spot infringements of \$330. Improper overtaking or passing offences incur two demerit points.

Pop-up bike lanes

It comes as the community is invited to have a say on the next phase of the Victorian Government's pop-up bike lanes project which will make bicycle riding safer in the city's inner north.

Pre-construction engagement is starting on the 10km Darebin-Yarra connectors, which will enhance existing routes and run through Fairfield, Northcote, Clifton Hill and Fitzroy, making it easier and safer to ride to and from the CBD.



Works expected to begin in June will link and improve existing bike routes, and add signage, road markings, crossing points and connections to off-road paths. In some locations, barriers will be installed to separate cyclist from motorists.

Proposed e-scooter trials in 2021

In addition, a trial to understand how e-scooters could be safely incorporated into the transport network will start later this year. It will run for up to a year in three council areas chosen through a targeted expression of interest process, regulated by the Department of Transport.

City of Melbourne Road Management Plan Review 2021

The City of Melbourne has 250km of roads and 380km of footpaths, and the council wants to make sure that they are safe and well-maintained for everyone in its community.

The current Road Management Plan (2017) sets out responsibilities, inspection timelines, and maintenance targets for repairing any issues. The plan is reviewed every four years.

As part of the review, the council has spoken to the road industry and legal experts and is now seeking broader feedback.

To view the draft 2021 plan, read the summary of changes, compare the new draft to the 2017 Road Management Plan or make a submission, visit the website – <u>Participate Melbourne - Road</u> Management Plan Review .

Consultation closes at 5:00pm on 31 May 2021.

<u>Melbourne Airport Environs Safeguarding Standing Advisory Committee –</u> <u>Call For Submissions On The Issues And Options Paper</u>

Following Hearings in February 2021 the Melbourne Airport Environs Safeguarding Standing Advisory Committee has prepared an Issues and Options Paper on the text of potential controls and policy changes.

The Issues and Options Paper and details of how to make a submission in response to it can be found at <u>engage.vic.gov.au/airport-safeguarding-advisory-committee</u>

Submissions on the Paper close at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, 22 June 2021

Victoria's Big Build – Project updates

Keep an eye on the following websites. Many projects will hit critical milestones in 2021-2022.

- The Department of Transport (DoT) website provides a comprehensive list of ongoing and scheduled projects.
 Visit https://transport.vic.gov.au/our-transport-future/our-projects
- Victoria's Big Build infrastructure projects: https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects.
- Major Road Projects Victoria projects: <u>https://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/</u>
- Level Crossing Removal Project: <u>https://levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/</u>
- Public transport network/service project: <u>https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/footer/about-ptv/improvements-and-projects/</u>



New Zealand

City Rail Link: Reopening of the Britomart Train Station, Auckland

The City Rail Link (CRL) project is New Zealand's largest transport infrastructure project ever.

CRL is being delivered by City Rail Link Ltd (CRLL), a crown entity owned by the Crown and Auckland Council

The CRL is a 3.45km twin-tunnel underground rail link below the Auckland city centre. It allows the rail network to at least double rail capacity.



It will transform the downtown Britomart Transport Centre into a two-way through-station that better connects the Auckland rail network.

The CRL has reached another major milestone recently with the re-opening of the Britomart Train Station in the heart of Auckland's CBD.

The station has been operating from a temporary access since

the start of 2017 to allow for the complex engineering works associated with extending two rail lines 14 metres beneath the heritage listed Chief Post Office building that sits above the central station.

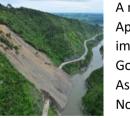


With the completion of the redevelopment of Lower Queen Street – Te Komititanga – as a pedestrianised public space, the central precinct is adapting to the first piece of Melbourne's City Loop equivalent for Auckland's rail network.

For more on the history of the redevelopment and to stay in the loop on the progress, see: <u>https://www.cityraillink.co.nz/</u>

Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway project





A major land slide on ANZAC Day in April 2017 left State Highway 3 impassable through the Manawatū Gorge between Woodville and Ashhurst, north east of Palmerston North, North Island.

A new road is being built over the Ruahine Range, to provide a safe, resilient, and efficient route. The new highway is due for completion by the end of 2024.





Te Ahu a Turanga Manawatū Tararua Highway is being built by an Alliance of Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, Iwi/Māori, HEB Construction, WSP, Aurecon and Fulton Hogan. The project will cost about \$620 million and will provide work for up to 350 people at any one time.

The project is setting new benchmarks for health and safety, iwi partnership and social outcomes, and is one of the New Zealand Government's largest

current transport expenditure commitments.

The project scope is wider than infrastructure, with key result areas focused on longer-term social impacts such as creating local employment and upskilling local communities. Cyclists and walkers will be able to safely travel the route on a shared path.

Six bridges and structures will be built along the highway, with two of the bridges spanning approximately 300 metres long. About 6 million cubic metres of earthworks will be required and about 2 million trees and plants will be planted in the project area.



In March 2021, the team working on the Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway project uncovered moa bones during excavation work, in a discovery described by the project site archaeologist as being of great significance. In April, the bones were uplifted by iwi/Māori and relocated to Te Manawa in Palmerston North, following archaeological investigations at the site.

- Moa bones uplifted from Te Ahu a Turanga site
- <u>Te Ahu a Turanga project unearths moa bones</u>

On 24 March 2021, the Te Ahu a Turanga Alliance was awarded a prestigious national award for excellence in consultation and participation from the New Zealand Planning Institute at its 2021 conference.



The award recognises outstanding creativity, innovation and service across the planning sector. Te Ahu a Turanga Alliance won the *Best Practice – Consultation and Participation Strategies and/or Processes*.

At the heart of the nomination was the vital role iwi/Māori groups partnership has played in the planning stages of the project, culminating in an historic 'first' – Te Ahu a Turanga is the first major infrastructure

project in New Zealand to have iwi involved from the outset, as project partners at governance level and in roles throughout the Alliance.

- <u>https://www.planning.org.nz/Category?Action=View&Category_id=2290</u>
- <u>https://www.nzta.govt.nz/media-releases/te-ahu-a-turanga-alliance-wins-national-planning-award/</u>



Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency: Current consultations

Northland and north Auckland speed reviews

Waka Kotahi is seeking public feedback on speed limits on state highways in Northland and north Auckland.

Feedback closes Monday 14 June 2021.

<u>Northland and north Auckland speed reviews</u>

Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2021 consultation

Waka Kotahi is consulting on a proposed new rule enabling an improved approach to speed management planning on New Zealand roads, called the *Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2021*. Feedback is being sought on the use of speed management plans and the new independent speed management committee; relating to the use of emergency, temporary, variable speed limits; speed limits around schools; and other minor proposals.

Submissions close at 5pm on Friday 25 June 2021.

Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2021 consultation

Auckland Transport is making changes to save lives – safer speed limits

As Auckland Transport (AT) progresses with the next phase of proposed safer speed limits for Auckland, new data shows that overall road deaths are reducing.

The Vision Zero performance update (released November 2020) shows that in 2018, there were 54 deaths on Auckland's roads; in 2019, 40 people lost their lives and in 2020 there were 37 deaths on Tāmaki Makaurau roads. In 2020, speeding was a factor in 51 per cent of road deaths, meaning that the attending police officer selected the category 'inappropriate speed' when completing the crash report.

On 30 June 2020, AT implemented the safe and appropriate speed limits for around 800 km of roads. (Approximately 600 roads). Following last year's speed limit changes, feedback from Aucklanders showed 61 per cent of people supporting the changes overall, with 86 per cent of people supporting lower speed limits near schools and kindergartens.

Bryan Sherritt, Executive General Manager of Safety, Auckland Transport, stated that:

- While the data are trending downwards, it is still absolutely devastating that Aucklanders are being lost on its roads each year;
- AT's safer speeds work is just one part of the puzzle when it comes to reaching the ultimate goal of no deaths and serious injuries on the network.
- While safer speeds are very important road safety components, other pieces of the puzzle need to be in place to make the network as safe as possible.
- Since the COVID-19 lockdowns, there has been a disheartening increase in death and serious injuries on Auckland's roads. Driving at an inappropriate speed and under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol are emerging as the two main factors contributing to this undesired upswing.
- Aucklanders support having a safer network. Research (*Source: Waka Kotahi, Public Attitudes to Road Safety, 2020*) has shown that 74 per cent support much higher fines for using a mobile phone while driving (currently \$80 NZD); 75 per cent support compulsory roadside testing of drivers for drug use; 81 per cent agree that compulsory breath testing helps lower the road toll; and 89 per cent agree that enforcing the use of seat belts helps lower the road toll.

Read more about Vision Zero in action and the Vision Zero performance update November 2020



Auckland Transport's Draft 2021 Regional Land Transport Plan

The **Draft 2021 Regional Land Transport Plan** (draft RLTP) is the 10-year plan for Auckland's transport network. It details the areas that Auckland Transport, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and KiwiRail will focus on to respond to the region's transport challenges.

It also outlines the proposed 10-year investment programme for specific transport projects.

The content of the draft RLTP is guided heavily by central and local government policies, strategies and decisions and provides an update of the 2018 RLTP.

The draft RLTP sits below a more strategic transport planning framework, *Future Connect*.

Future Connect, itself, sits within the Auckland City Council's integrated planning and strategic framework, <u>*The Auckland Plan</u></u>.</u>*

The benefits this draft RLTP will deliver:

- A significant increase in rapid transit travel options (fast, frequent, high capacity bus and train services separated from general traffic).
- Prevent 1,760 deaths or serious injuries (DSI) over the next 10 years a 67% reduction in DSIs.
- More than 200 kilometres of new and upgraded cycleways and shared paths.
- Projected increase in public transport use.
- Properly renewed transport assets the road network will be kept up to standard.
- Significant progress towards decarbonising Auckland's public transport fleet.

The draft RLTP is currently in the final stages of public consultation.

To learn more about what drives the proposed 10-year transport plan, please read the <u>draft RLTP</u> plan or <u>see how it fits into the wider transport strategy</u>.

Ben Thomson/Marianne Richards

ACT, NT, QLD, TAS and WA

Looking for correspondents

We are looking for correspondents from other jurisdictions to let everyone know what is happening. If you can help out, please contact us via the contact details at the end of this newsletter.

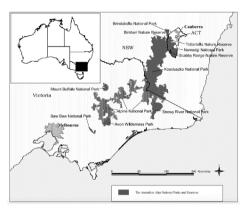


WHERE IN THE WORLD?

This photograph was provided by Nick Szwed during one of his post-lockdown driving trips, this time through the Australian Alps. The highest peak in the Australian Alps is Mount Kosciuszko (2,228 metres (7,310 ft)).



The scene is on a stretch of Kosciusko Road in the Kosciuszko National Park, NSW, between Jindabyne and Perisher (about 8 kilometres from Perisher).



Unlike the high mountain ranges in other countries, the Australian Alps were not formed by two continental plates colliding and pushing up the Earth's rocky mantle to form jagged, rocky peaks.

Instead, the Australian Alps consist of a high plateau, with softer rolling hills spread across a long, wide plateau that was lifted thousands of feet up by the movement of magma when ancient Gondwana began to break up (130 - 160 million years ago). During the past 90 million years, minor uplift episodes have occurred, with occasional eruptions of

basalt lava from small volcanoes filling in the low-lying areas to form these high plains.

The Kosciuszko National Park is a unique conservation area extending from the Victorian border to the Australian Capital Territory. It has been named a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. More than half of the area of the park, over 350,000ha, has been declared wilderness. The Australian Alps received National Heritage recognition in 2008 and were named one of Australia's National Landscapes.



Blue Lake, a rare cirque lake formed by the head of a glacier which existed during the Pleistocene ice age (commencing 2 million years ago), is a listed Ramsar site, recognised for the role it plays in preserving rare and threatened species.

A walk to the summit of Mount Kosciuszko is the perfect way to see

this landscape. Walk from Thredbo or Charlotte Pass, and marvel at the huge granite tors and lakes carved out during Australia's last Ice Age, between 35,000 and 10,000 years ago.

As Nick's photo was taken on Kosciusko Road, I asked whether he had taken the walk to the Summit from Charlotte Pass, although it seemed not to have been the best weather for the 18 km walk.

"This day was not good for a long walk. We just did short walks, but the day before was pretty good. We took the chairlift up from Thredbo and then did the summit walk from there, a 17 km walk mostly uphill to the top and thankfully downhill when we were tired. It is mostly on boardwalk so easy on the ankles. A great walk."



Do you have a photograph to share?

We are always happy to receive transport themed photographs from your travels. If you would like to share your photograph, with a short statement identifying its location and telling us why you took it, please email to <u>secretary@ite.org.au</u>



WEBMASTER & SOCIAL MEDIA

Read something interesting lately that you would like to share with the wider transportation community?

Arash Fatemi is the new ITE-ANZ webmaster and Ben Thomson manages ITE-ANZ's social platforms. Both are eager to share high quality and interesting news. If you find something worth sharing, or would like to make an original contribution, email us at: <u>secretary@ite.org.au</u>

Arash Fatemi and Ben Thomson

MEMBERSHIP

As a member of ITE, you join a dynamic, interactive group of more than 17,000 transportation professionals spanning more than 90 countries dedicated to solving today's transport challenges. Join ITE to increase your professional marketability and stand out from the crowd. ITE provides a wealth of resources for the transport professional.

- Did you know that individual membership with ITE costs only US\$210 a year?
- For students, membership is free in the first year and then only \$30 per year!
- Young Members up to age of 30 now also receive reduced dues.

We would like to have more young people on our ITE-ANZ management committee, so why not join the ITE and then consider coming onto the committee! Further details of dues for young professionals can be found at this webpage - <u>Students and Young Professionals</u>

The general rule for ITE membership is as follows. To be eligible for admission or transfer to the grade of Member, an applicant:

- 1. Shall be a graduate from a transportation related program at a school of recognized standing; or
- 2. If not a graduate from a school of recognized standing shall have five years of professional experience in transportation engineering or a transportation-related field.

You can join up directly online through this webpage - ITE Membership.

ITE-ANZ NEWSLETTER CONTACTS

If you would like to contribute something of interest to transport professionals in a future newsletter, please send it to <u>secretary@ite.org.au</u>.

If you do not wish to receive future newsletters, send an email with the subject *"Unsubscribe Newsletter"* to <u>secretary@ite.org.au</u>

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