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MESSAGE FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

By JEFF KAUFMAN, TTI

Greetings!

I wanted to take the opportunity to express my gratitude in serving the membership on the ITS Board of Directors. I have sincerely appreciated being a part of this organization for the last six years. During this time, I've seen the role of ITS take larger leaps from toys and trinkets into large-scale research and testing in connectivity. The adage of "we can't build our way out of congestion – we need to operate what we have better" is becoming more of an attainable goal instead of a tiring catch-phrase. ITS Texas has increasingly seized on this and focused its recent conferences on this reality. I am glad to have been a part of this effort.

I hope that ITS Texas continues to grow and become the state's forum for discussing how we build transportation for the future. While this is my last year on this Board of Directors, I look forward to participating in future conferences and activities. I hope you do as well.

Thank you for this opportunity, and I wish the Board the best in 2017.

Sincerely,

Jeff Kaufman

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By DAVE CARTER, CITY OF RICHARDSON

As I prepared for this message as ITS Texas President, I realized I have been a part of the ITS Texas Board for over 8 years. It is both a privilege and honor to serve the membership of this organization with so many other dedicated individuals on the Board.

I appreciate everyone who came to the ITS Texas Annual Conference in Richardson last November for making that event such a great success. We had 330 participants at last year's conference, including over 50 exhibitors and 20 sponsors that assisted financially in hosting training, golf, luncheon and reception events. Their support and participation played a key role in making this event as big as it was.

Immediately following our meeting in Richardson, the Board started preparing for this year's conference which will be at the Omni Houston – Galleria Hotel in Houston on November 8th – 10th, 2017. In addition to the annual conference we will also continue to host a mid-year training event, monthly webinars, and newsletters. 2017 is going to be a great year!

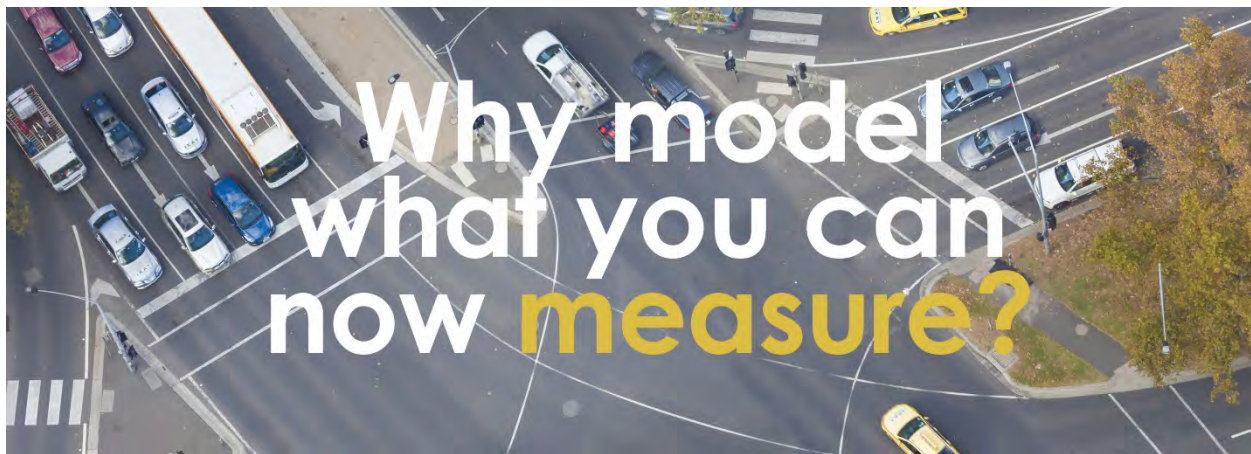
I want to personally thank Andy Oberlander again for agreeing to be the organization's webmaster for another year. It is a thankless job, yet Andy has volunteered to continue in this role for the chapter.

Thank you to everyone in the organization for the opportunity to serve you and I look forward to seeing you at our next annual conference in Houston on November 8th – 10th, 2017!

Sincerely,

Dave Carter

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2016 ITS TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

The ITS Texas Board of Directors would like to extend a very sincere thank you to everyone who attended the 2016 Annual Meeting in Richardson. With 330 participants attending the meeting, we set a new record

for attendance at an ITS Texas Annual Meeting. In addition to our attendees, we also were very excited to have over 50 exhibitors displaying their products and services in the vendor showroom. The ITS Texas Annual Meeting truly has something for everyone, providing an exciting and energetic environment to learn, network and have fun. If you have not been to an ITS Texas Annual Meeting in the past, we want to encourage you to come out and experience our next Annual Meeting in Houston November 8th – 10th, 2017.



The Annual Meeting began with training and our golf tournament on Wednesday, November 9, 2016. Training on Traffic Signal Operations was provided by Nader Ayoub, P.E. of Iteris and Allison Palumbo, P.E. of Signal Analytics. This very popular training was offered in the summer by ITS Texas in Houston, and was brought to Richardson for those that were not able to attend the Houston session.

The Fourth Annual ITS Texas Golf Tournament was held in the City of Richardson's Sherrill Park.

The golf tournament proceeds benefit our scholarship fund and provide a great opportunity to build professional and personal relationships with your ITS Texas colleagues. Thank you to everyone that participated and supported our scholarship fund.

On Thursday, the Annual Meeting got underway at the Richardson Renaissance Dallas Hotel. Highlights included an opening session with John Barton, Associate Vice Chancellor and Director of the RELLIS Center at the Texas A&M University, and a luncheon with Patrick McGowan, ITS America Board Members and Treasurer. Technical sessions throughout the day included discussions on Arterial Traffic Management, ITS Cost-Benefit and Performance Measures, Incident Management, Connected and Automated Vehicles, and ITS Asset Management. A session on Professional Practice Ethics was also conducted by Rick Valdes of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers.



The day concluded with the always popular Vendor Reception. The reception provided fantastic food and drinks, opportunities for

networking with meeting participants, and most importantly the chance to see the innovations and new products being offered by our vendors.

Friday continued with sessions on ITS Technology, ITS Data and Research, and ITS Planning. A second session on Connected and Automated Vehicles was also held. Our business luncheon speaker was Marco Cameron of the TxDOT Traffic Operations Division, who provided an overview of TxDOT's Transportation Systems Management and Operations Program Plan. The business luncheon also included the presentation of the ITS Texas Awards, ITS Texas Scholarships, and election of your 2017 ITS Texas officers. Each of these topics is covered in more detail later in this newsletter.

If you would like to review any of the presentations from this year's Annual Meeting, please go to the [ITS Texas 2016 Annual Meeting Presentations](#) web page.

The ITS Texas Annual Meeting continues to grow each year. As always, the success of our Annual Meeting relies primarily on our members. Thank you for your attendance, participation, presentations, and energy at this year's ITS Texas Annual Meeting. We look forward to seeing you in 2017 at the Annual Meeting in Houston.

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The advertisement features a background of a city at night with light trails from traffic. In the foreground, there is a server cabinet with its doors open, revealing internal components. The Trafficware logo is in green and white, and the Naztec logo is in blue and white.

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2016 ITS TEXAS AWARD WINNERS

The following awards were given at the 2016 ITS Texas Annual Meeting in recognition of an individual or group (e.g., a city, agency or company) for a project or other contribution in the fields of ITS policy, planning, design, deployment, research or education.

The Intelligent Transportation Society of Texas honors the
City of College Station
for the development and implementation of the
City of College Station's Traffic Control Center
Award Presented by the
ITS Texas Board of Directors and Membership
November 11, 2016

The Intelligent Transportation Society of Texas honors the
City of Sugar Land
for the deployment of the City of Sugar Land's
Advanced Traffic Detection System
Award Presented by the
ITS Texas Board of Directors and Membership
November 11, 2016

The Intelligent Transportation Society of Texas honors
David Fink
with the Wallace Ewell award
in recognition of his contribution in
moving ITS forward in Texas
Award Presented by the
ITS Texas Board of Directors and Membership
November 11, 2016

The Intelligent Transportation Society of Texas honors
Robert Bacon
for his steady leadership, steadfast services and
excellence in all undertakings as a member,
board member and President of the organization
Award Presented by the
ITS Texas Board of Directors and Membership
November 11, 2016

The full award citation for each ITS Texas Award is included below.

City of College Station's Traffic Control Center

The demand on College Station's roadway infrastructure has been tremendous, even more the exponential growth is expected to continue. The typical weekday morning and afternoon commute has increased each year for the past ten years.

Residents have voiced their concerns about getting around town; especially during weekends that have major special events such as Texas A&M Football games. The field devices used to control and manage traffic—such as traffic control cabinets, controllers, and vehicle detection—have performed well over

their life since their initial installation some 20 years ago. But, much of this field equipment has reached the end of its useful life, parts are increasingly more costly to replace, and the technology is simply out of date to the point that staff efficiency is significantly curtailed.

In 2013 the City's Public Works Department Traffic Division developed a master plan for their future Intelligent Traffic System (ITS). The ITS master plan created a vision and deployment plan for how the City would upgrade its existing traffic control technology, add technology for better monitoring of traffic conditions at strategic intersections, and manage special event traffic.

The master plan evaluated the current personnel organization and made recommendations for improved efficiencies as well as the need for additional technical positions needed to support a growing transportation system. The staff worked through a detailed and methodical process to identify traffic related conditions, field equipment status and health, as well as ways for the Traffic Division to receive alerts of problems at the signalized intersections as they occur.

The goals of the intelligent transportation system are to improve safety and mobility; enhance security; increase agency efficiency; and provide a complete communications network to all traffic control devices.

The goals and objectives of the ITS Master Plan are as follows:

Establish a Replacement Strategy for Existing Equipment, Establish Performance Monitoring Program, Construct Traffic Operations Center, Establish Operational Strategies, Establish System Health Performance Monitoring, and Support the Bryan-College Station Mobility Initiative

ITS TEXAS ADVERTISER

The advertisement features the Spectrum by Miovision logo at the top, with a green circular icon containing a white signal symbol. Below the logo, a dark background contains a vertical list of five hexagonal icons, each with a white icon and a label: 'Insights' (lightbulb), 'Awareness' (goggles), 'Monitor' (laptop), 'Communicate' (upward arrow), and 'Acquire' (network nodes). To the right of each icon is a corresponding bullet point describing the feature. At the bottom, there is a call to action for a webinar, a website URL, and a contact number.

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College Station’s motorists should experience effective traffic signal timing and coordination. The upgraded College Station ITS provides efficient and flexible traffic management capabilities for daily peak periods, planned and unplanned events, and emergencies. Special event signal timing plans should leverage advanced techniques to better accommodate inbound and outbound traffic flow during the typical weekday as well as during various events, such as Texas A&M Football games.

Roadway condition data is shared with the City’s Police and Fire Departments, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and regional partners that are part of the Bryan-College Station Mobility Initiative (BCSMI). Various high level Traffic Operations, Central System Software, Environmental, System Support, Regional Traffic Management, and Communications needs were identified in the ITS Master Plan, along with preliminary low-level needs.

City of Sugar Land's Advanced Traffic Detection System

Over the past two years the City of Sugar Land, providing Houston motorists one of the most advanced traffic management systems in the area, installed an extensive wireless POD detection system, equipping more than half of the City’s intersections.

This initiative included 46 of its busiest multilane intersections along highways and major arterials that serve as vital commuter arteries, installing approximately 1,500 wireless pod sensors to provide the accurate data collection capabilities for real-time performance measures along city arterials. Trafficware wireless Pod detection network gathers data and stores it in an ATMS server everyday 24/7. The data is used for timing analysis, traffic impact studies, design, measure growth trends, and provides the infrastructure needed for an adaptive signal system, a statewide initiative.

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The system utilizes the city's wireless and fiber network, allowing every traffic signal to send and receive data to the newly constructed Traffic Management Center (TMC), increasing the efficiency, responsiveness, and safety of its traffic infrastructure. In a continuing effort to keep ahead of mobility needs, the city recommended upgrades to its primary form of vehicle detection, which was inductive loops and video detection.

For cost savings and to meet tight commitments, the City's Public Works Department took ownership of the system installation and self-installed 100% of the detection system. Sugar Land serves as a role model for other Texas communities challenged to deploy advanced traffic systems and manage increasing demands on their infrastructure network.

David Fink - The Wallace Ewell Award

David was recognized for his leadership and accomplishments in the evolution of Intelligent Transportation Systems in the Houston Region and in Texas. With nearly 30 years of service with TxDOT, David Fink, P.E., is currently the Director of Transportation Management Systems for the Texas Department of Transportation Houston District. David is chair of the Houston TranStar Incident Management Committee and serves as TxDOT's Agency Manager at Houston TranStar.

David manages TxDOT's ITS activities at Houston TranStar, including overall responsibility for a regional ITS system larger than many of those for entire state DOT's. David has been involved with several groundbreaking ITS projects in the Houston region, including expansion of travel time monitoring and CCTV coverage for rural routes subject to hurricane evacuation, conversion of the Houston travel time monitoring system from AVI to Bluetooth, deployment of ITS systems to support mitigation of overspeed trucks on freeway direct connectors, and developing the real-time Galveston-Bolivar Ferry traveler information portal. Most recently, David has led efforts to deploy ITS systems for flooded roadway and wrong way driving monitoring and mitigation, and is leading the deployment of second and third generation DMS and CCTV systems in the Houston District.

Under David's leadership, the Houston District has expanded data sharing agreements with local cities and counties, and has expanded participation within the Incident Management Team, leading to greater interagency cooperation and coordination and reduced incident clearance times. His stewardship of the Houston TranStar website provides traveler information to more than 800,000 unique users per month and is a standard-bearer for traveler information websites across the United States. David has been an active participant in state and national research efforts, including those dealing with transportation center operations and management, ITS systems and operations, and testing of emerging technologies.

Robert Bacon

Robert was honored for his steady leadership, steadfast services, and excellence in all undertakings as a member, board member and President of ITS Texas. The ITS Texas Board of Directors extends a big thank you to Robert for all he has done for our organization. Now that Robert has transitioned off the Board from his most recent role as Past President, he will be greatly missed.

2016 ITS TEXAS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Every year ITS Texas provides scholarships to deserving graduate students at Texas colleges and universities who are pursuing education in fields which contribute to ITS. Your attendance at the Annual Meeting, your sponsorships, and your participation in the golf tournament all contribute to ITS Texas' ability to provide funding for graduate study in Texas in the field of ITS.

The Board of Directors, through the scholarship award committee, selected four recipients for 2016, with a total of \$8,500 being awarded. The recipients included:

Michael Levin, University of Texas at Austin, received a \$2,500 scholarship

Apoorba Bibeka, Texas A&M University, received a \$2,000 scholarship

Pragun Vinayak, University of Texas at Austin, received a \$2,000 scholarship

Ehsan Jafari, University of Texas at Austin, received a \$2,000 scholarship

Each scholarship recipient received recognition at the Annual Meeting in Richardson, Texas.

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2016 ITS TEXAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The ballot provided at the 2016 ITS Texas Annual Meeting in November provided four candidates from which to choose one new Director At Large. A total of 74 ballots in signed envelopes were submitted. Dave Carter was elected to the position of President, Anthony Voigt to Vice President, Marian Thompson to Treasurer and Tom Fowler to Secretary. The new At Large Director is Lester Miyasaki with Wireless Technology Inc. Jeff Kaufman will serve in the role of Past President, Joe Hunt and Alex Power will serve the second year of each of their terms as At Large Directors. Victor de la Garza, who was appointed to the Board to fill a vacancy in 2016, will continue with his first full year as an At Large Director.

The Board of Directors appreciates the participation of all the candidates and encourages any individuals interested in serving on the Board to submit a statement of interest when self-nominations are invited in 2017. Thanks to all who voted and to the candidates for agreeing to serve on the Board of Directors if elected.

The Board would also like to express appreciation to Andrew Oberlander, who has volunteered to continue to serve in 2017 as Webmaster for the ITS Texas website.

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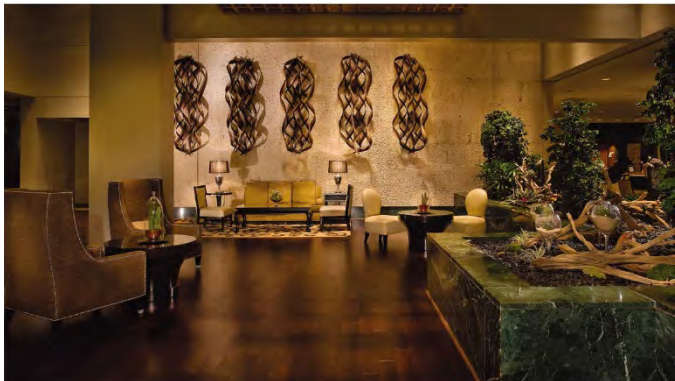
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2017 ITS TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING

Please save the dates of November 8th – 10th, 2017 in your calendar now! The 2017 ITS Texas Annual Meeting will be held at the [Omni Houston – Galleria Hotel](#) in Houston. The Omni Houston – Galleria Hotel is centrally located in the prestigious Uptown Post Oak/Galleria area. The Annual Meeting will include a training workshop and our 5th Annual Golf Tournament on Wednesday, November 8th, with the opening session starting Thursday morning, November 9th.



The ITS Texas Board is currently working on session topics, which will be released in late Spring or early Summer. If you have ideas for sessions or a topic for a presentation, please don't hesitate to reach out to any member of the ITS Texas Board. We also welcome any other input to make the Annual Meeting more valuable for our members. Board members are listed at the end of this newsletter.



Located in the Post Oak/Galleria area, the Omni offers upscale accommodations with plenty of restaurant, shopping, and entertainment options close-by. The Galleria Mall is less than a mile away and is the largest mall in Texas (and fourth largest in the United States), with over 400 stores and numerous restaurants. The Omni itself offers a full-service spa and salon, a large fitness room, and plenty of options for dining.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Houston next November!



VENDOR WEBINAR PRESENTATIONS

ITS Texas is continuing our vendor webinar series in 2017 to highlight the products and transportation solutions offered by many of the vendors that are members of ITS Texas. These free webinars offer a great opportunity to learn about new and innovative products.

Additional details on each webinar will be sent out to our members prior to the webinar. Please continue to check the [ITS Texas Website](#) for updated information on the vendor webinar series.

Archives of past vendor webinars, if available, are also located on the [Webinar Archive](#) section of the ITS Texas Website.

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TECHNOLOGIES

ITS TEXAS ON THE WEB

Have you visited the ITS Texas Website recently? Located at <http://itstexas.org> , the website is your source of information for what's going on in your state chapter. We are always working to improve the website and make it a source of information for you. Here are just a few highlights from the website.

[2017 Membership Application](#) – The application form for membership is electronic. The annual cost of membership is \$25 and payment can be made on-line with a credit card or you can send a check. If you become a member, you receive discounted rates at the annual meeting and ITS Texas training.

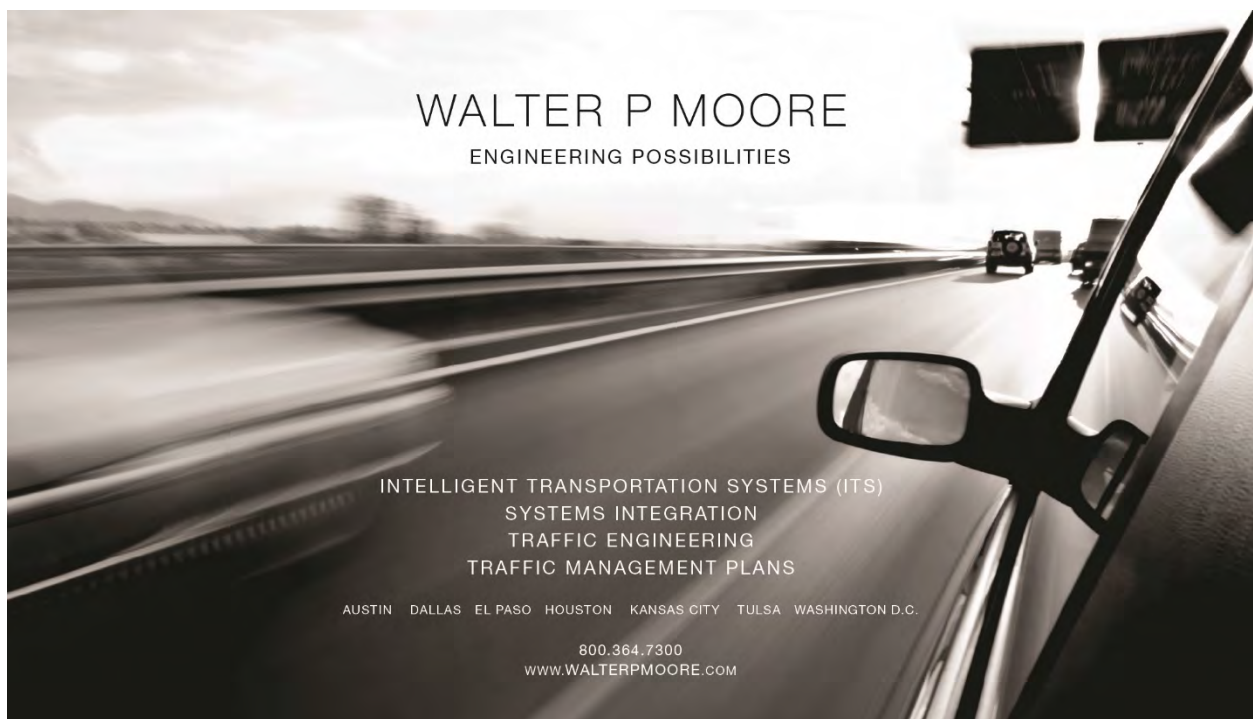
[Membership List](#) is on-line. You can use this list to check your membership status prior to submitting a membership application. The list is dynamic and pulls directly from our membership database. You can also access the list under the membership section.

[Student Chapters of ITS Texas](#) - Visit this section to learn more about the student chapters of ITS Texas, links to their website, their annual report, and requirements for starting a student chapter at your school!

Updates to the web site – Did you know that all major information updates to the website are listed on the [Home Page](#)? You can visit the site and see at a glance if there's new information that you'd like to read.

ITS Texas also publishes update information via the [RSS Feed](#). Do you know what RSS is? If not, it stands for Really Simple Syndication. Sometimes it is difficult to visit the home page of every web site you are interested in. Many people use RSS feeds to “bring the news to them”, using an RSS feed reader. ITS Texas also utilizes this method of distributing information and has an RSS feed available at: <http://www.itstexas.org/its-texas-rss.xml>

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The ITS Texas newsletter is a great way for you as an ITS professional to **share your projects, plans, initiatives or other ITS related items with the ITS community**. If you would like to share something with the ITS Texas members through the newsletter, please contact any of your ITS Texas Board members. Board members are listed at the end of the newsletter and you can send an email to any by simply clicking on their name.

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ITS IN THE NEWS

The following are news events and other items of interest that have occurred recently in the ITS arena. Please click on the story name to take you to the full story:

- [Texas Automated Vehicle Proving Ground Partnership](#) (Traffic Technology Today)
- [Microsoft Focuses on Connected Cars](#) (ZDNet)
- [Teslas to Drive Themselves in Six Months](#) (Forbes)
- [One Trillion Infrastructure Plan](#) (Washington Post)
- [Driverless Cars Could Save the US Over \\$300 Billion a Year](#) (Fast Company)
- [ITS America Statement of New Secretary of Transportation Nomination](#) (Traffic Technology Today)
- [ITS World Congress Call for Papers – Due February 17, 2017](#) (ITS World Congress)
- [USDOT Advanced Deployment of Connected Vehicle Technology](#) (USDOT JPO)

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YOUR 2017 ITS TEXAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President:	Tony Voigt	TTI, Houston
Treasurer:	Marian Thompson	North Central Texas Council of Governments
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Director:	Joseph Hunt	TxDOT, Dallas District
Director:	Alex Power	TxDOT, Traffic Operations Division, Austin
Director:	Victor De la Garza	Walter P Moore, El Paso
Director:	Lester Miyasaki	Wireless Technology Inc.