

ITS TEXAS NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By JEFF KAUFMAN, HGAC

Greetings and Salutations.

I hope that you all are having a productive 2016 with a minimal amount of flooding.

Please make sure to save the dates of November 9th – 11th, 2016 for the 2016 ITS Texas Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Renaissance Hotel in Richardson, Texas. Our Vice President, Dave Carter, will be putting together an exceptional event, and I hope that y'all will attend. The focus on ITS is expanding exponentially with regularly-reported developments in automated and connected vehicle technology. It is transforming from system enhancements like DMS and CCTV to the eventual basis of the transportation system as a whole. ITS Texas is working to develop a conference that will not just provide an overview of successful ITS implementation but will also address what we all need to prepare for the future.

From our "Thanks for the Memories" Department, and on behalf of the ITS Board of Directors, I would like to express our thanks to our departing member, Steve Novosad. Steve, who for some reason took on a second tour of duty with the ITS Texas Board, had his duties shifted to Florida. While he claims this move to Florida was not a way to get out of dealing with ITS Texas, the Board still remains skeptical. That all being said, Steve, we have always appreciated your contribution to ITS Texas and to the furthering of intelligent transportation systems throughout Texas in general.

In accordance to the ITS Texas bylaws, the Board of Directors have chosen Victor de la Garza, with Walter P. Moore out of El Paso, to serve out the remainder of the year in Steve's place. Victor is very enthusiastic about working with the organization, which admittedly has the Board a little leery since normally we employ rather heavy-handed coercion tactics to get folks to work with us. In all

seriousness, we welcome Victor's participation and insight in the organization, and we're grateful having a voice from our far-western brothers and sisters.

Thank you for your continued support of ITS Texas, and we look forward to seeing you in November.

Sincerely,
Jeff Kaufman

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The advertisement graphic is divided into two main sections. The left section has an orange background and contains the text: 'Creating a better world, one project at a time.' followed by 'We are 28,000 smart, talented and driven people committed to exceptional and sustainable outcomes. We collaborate. We innovate. We deliver results.' and 'We are Arcadis. Improving quality of life.' Above this text are icons for a traffic light, a bus, a car, and a train. The right section shows a photograph of a city street intersection with traffic lights, cars, and buildings under a blue sky. At the bottom of the graphic is a dark grey bar with the website 'WWW.ARCADIS.COM' and social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

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2016 ITS TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING REMINDER AND CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

The ITS Texas Annual Meeting will take place on November 9th – 11th, 2016 at the Renaissance Hotel Richardson, Texas. The hotel is located on US-75 in the heart of Richardson's Telecom Corridor directly next to DART's Galatyn Light Rail Station. We will have a training workshop, tours, and our 4th Annual Golf Tournament on Wednesday, November 9th, with the opening session starting Thursday morning, November 10th. Registration information for the meeting will be sent out in the coming months, but for now please mark November 9th – 11th on your calendar.

The ITS Texas Board of Directors is currently looking for presentations for the annual meeting. This is a great opportunity for your community to showcase a project, concept, or new technology to hundreds of your peers in the ITS community. If you would like to have a presentation considered for the ITS Texas Annual Meeting, please contact any of our Board members (see list on the last page of the newsletter.)

Topics that we are considering for the ITS Texas Annual Meeting are included below. We are in the process of developing the agenda now so please don't feel limited by this list...we are looking for all good ideas and can adjust our agenda to fit any presentation that the ITS Texas Board determines would be of interest to the Annual Meeting attendees.

- Arterial Traffic management Systems (ATMS)
- Connected Vehicles and V2I
- Cost-Benefit Assessments/Performance Measurement of ITS Implementations
- Incident Management
- ITS Data and Research
- ITS Technology Toolbox
- Maintenance and Asset Management
- Professional Practice Update/Ethics
- Utilizing ITS for Special Events

We are ideally looking for spokespeople from implementing agencies to give the presentation. While we welcome you to bring your vendor or consultant to assist in the presentation, we would prefer that the implementing agency be the primary speaker to discuss how an ITS system or device solved a problem or fulfilled a specific need.



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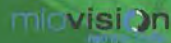
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Save the Date

Tuesday, July 19, 2016



6922 Katy Rd, Houston, TX 77024

Check-in and Coffee	8:30 AM-9:00 AM
Training	9:00 PM-12:00 Noon
Tour of TranStar	12:30 PM-1:00 PM
Training	1:00 PM-3:45 PM

*Times are approximate
PDHs to be Self-Reported*

Registration Fee will include Lunch



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VENDOR WEBINAR PRESENTATIONS

ITS Texas is continuing our vendor webinar series in 2016 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. The following webinars have been scheduled:

- Moxa: July 27, 1 PM – 2 PM
- Encom Wireless: August, Date and Time TBD
- TrafficVision: September, Date and Time TBD
- Sensys Networks: October 19, 11 AM – Noon
- Falcon Electric: November, Date and Time TBD
- Southern Manufacturing: December 8, 1 PM – 2 PM

Additional details on each webinar will be sent out to our members prior to the webinar. Please continue to check the [ITS Texas Website](http://www.itstexas.org) 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.

ITS TEXAS ADVERTISER

The advertisement for SES America features a collage of images related to traffic infrastructure. In the top left, a 'WRONG WAY' sign is shown with the caption 'LCS & Blank Out Signs'. In the bottom left, a solar panel mounted on a signpost is shown with the caption 'Solar Powered DMS'. In the bottom right, a large electronic message sign on a highway overpass is shown with the caption 'DMS Retrofit'. The sign displays the text: 'DELAYS 495 EAST TO EXIT 32 AND EXITS 36 TO 38'. The SES America logo, consisting of a red triangle with 'SES' in black and 'AMERICA' below it, is prominently displayed in the center. To the right of the logo, the text reads: 'Your trusted partner in Texas for more than 20 years', followed by the website 'www.sesamerica.com' and the phone number '(401) 232 3370'. The background of the advertisement shows a city skyline at night and a highway with a bridge.

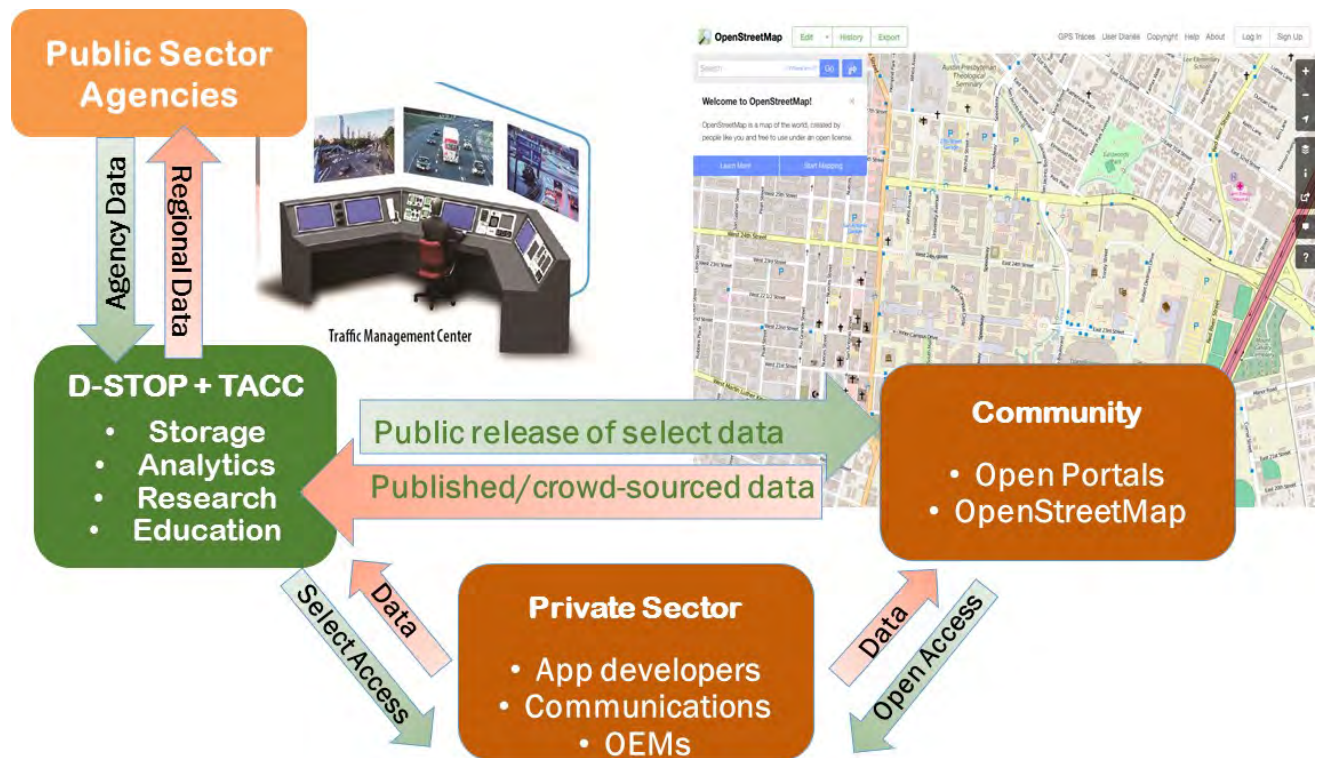
SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH – UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH

By JEN DUTHIE and ITAMAR GAL, CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH

Editor's Note: This article is part of a new series we are calling Spotlight on Research. In each edition of the ITS Texas Newsletter, we would like to focus on ITS related research being done in Texas. Texas is very fortunate to have so many great research institutions located in our backyard and we wanted to give each a chance to share the work they do with all of our members.

DATA RODEO: A TRANSPORTATION DATA ANALYTICS ENVIRONMENT

The Data Rodeo is an effort to remake the face of urban analytics in Austin and beyond. Right now there are various disconnected data sources in the public and private spheres, disparate tools and technologies for working with and analyzing transportation data, and a wide-ranging community of researchers, hobbyists and entrepreneurs who are working in relative isolation. At The University of Texas at Austin's Center for Transportation Research we want to bring these resources together to enable the broader transportation community to take advantage of the latent potential of this dynamic ecosystem.



Bringing everything together through the Data Rodeo

The mission of the Data Rodeo is to foster interagency collaboration, promote synergy between the public, private and academic sectors, and to engage with the community with a focus on high-impact applications. To fulfill this mission the Data Rodeo is focused on three over-arching implementation objectives: data archiving, data analysis and data accessibility.

Data Archive

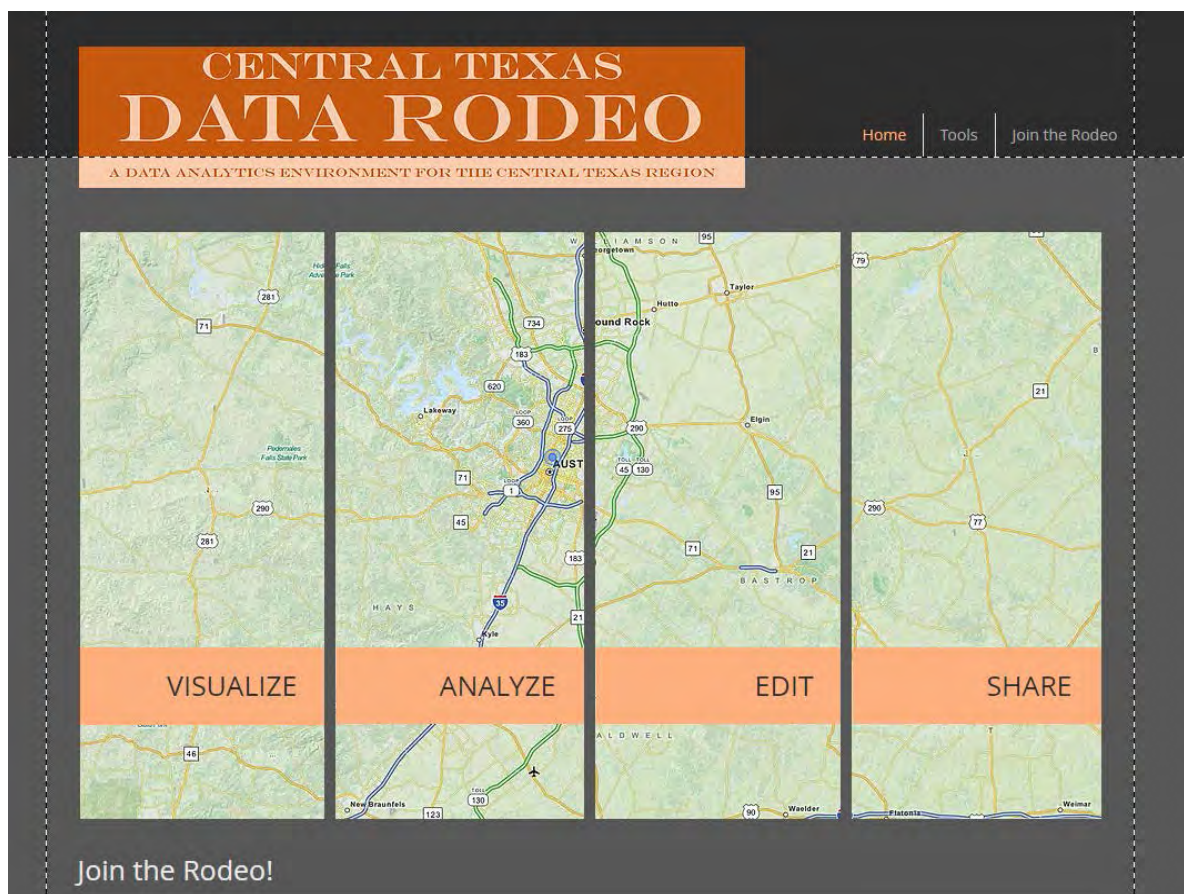
The core of the initiative will be to bring to together all available transportation data into a single framework. Data will be backed up, version controlled and curated using secure, open and standards compliant technology. We plan to allow for flexible privacy settings and in particular to support HIPAA compliant storage options. The goal is for our platform will provide a single point of contact for all regional transportation data.

Data Analysis

A key feature of the Data Rodeo will be the implementation of an analysis and development environment in order to help both researchers and software engineers jump-start their projects by leveraging our workflows and computational resources. Our first target objective will be traffic modeling and visualization, but then we will expand and add additional functionality in collaboration with the wider community.

Data Access

Arguably the most important part of the initiative will be to make data access easy and convenient. Public data will be made available via a number of open APIs and interchange formats both for public agencies and for developers in private industry. We will collaborate with the academic and open-source communities to develop a variety of proof-of-concept applications and educational resources in order spur rapid adoption and build momentum.



Datarodeo.org coming soon!

By meeting these objectives the Data Rodeo will provide the infrastructure and resources that the transportation community needs in order to realize its full potential.

For more information on the Data Rodeo, please contact Dr. Jen Duthie (jduthie@utexas.edu) at the University of Texas Center for Transportation Research or [Click Here](#) to see a recent presentation on the Data Rodeo.

Acknowledgement: This effort receives support from the USDOT University Transportation Center for Data-Supported Transportation Operations and Planning.

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ITS TEXAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS

Every year at our ITS Texas Annual Meeting our members are asked to elect new representatives to sit on the ITS Texas Board of Directors. This year we anticipate that we will have two open positions for At Large Directors.

If you are interested in helping to grow ITS Texas, enhancing its value to the members, and doing a lot of work for no pay, then please consider nominating yourself this fall for an At Large Director on the ITS Texas Board. An official call will go out later this year for nominations, but we wanted to get our members thinking about serving on the Board in 2017.

Board members and officers attend approximately six to eight meetings per year, with the primary purpose of organizing, promoting and implementing the Annual Meeting in addition to managing various Board responsibilities. Board meeting attendance may be in person or remotely via teleconference. Activities include newsletter publication, training arrangements and assisting the Student Chapters, in addition to the specific responsibilities of each officer. Board members do need to commit to attend the Annual Meeting each year in November and each will arrange and moderate one or more of the conference sessions.

The At Large Director serve a two-year term. After that time, if they choose to continue serving on the Board their names are placed on the ballot for either reelection for a second At Large term or for successive positions including Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President. For additional information, please refer to the [ITS Texas Bylaws](#) which are available on the ITS Texas Website under the [About ITS Texas](#) link, or contact any member of our ITS Texas Board. Contact information for the Board members is included on the last page of this newsletter.

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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.

[2016 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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WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR THE NEWSLETTER!

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.

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:

- [Alphabet Unsure when Self-Driving Cars will be Ready](#) (The Verge)
- [Automakers Continue Testing Autonomous Vehicles Despite Unknowns](#) (The New York Times)
- [GM Investing More than \\$1 Billion in AV and Ride Sharing](#) (Detroit News)
- [Google Teaches Its Self-Driving Cars to Honk](#) (The Hamilton Spectator)
- [Internet Efficiency Coming to Transportation](#) (TechCrunch)
- [Transportation Research Board Call for Papers Due August 1](#) (TRB)
- [US and Israel to Work Together on Transportation Innovation](#) (Traffic Technology Today)
- [USDOT Issues Challenge to ITS America to Prepare for Connected Vehicles](#) (Traffic Technology International)

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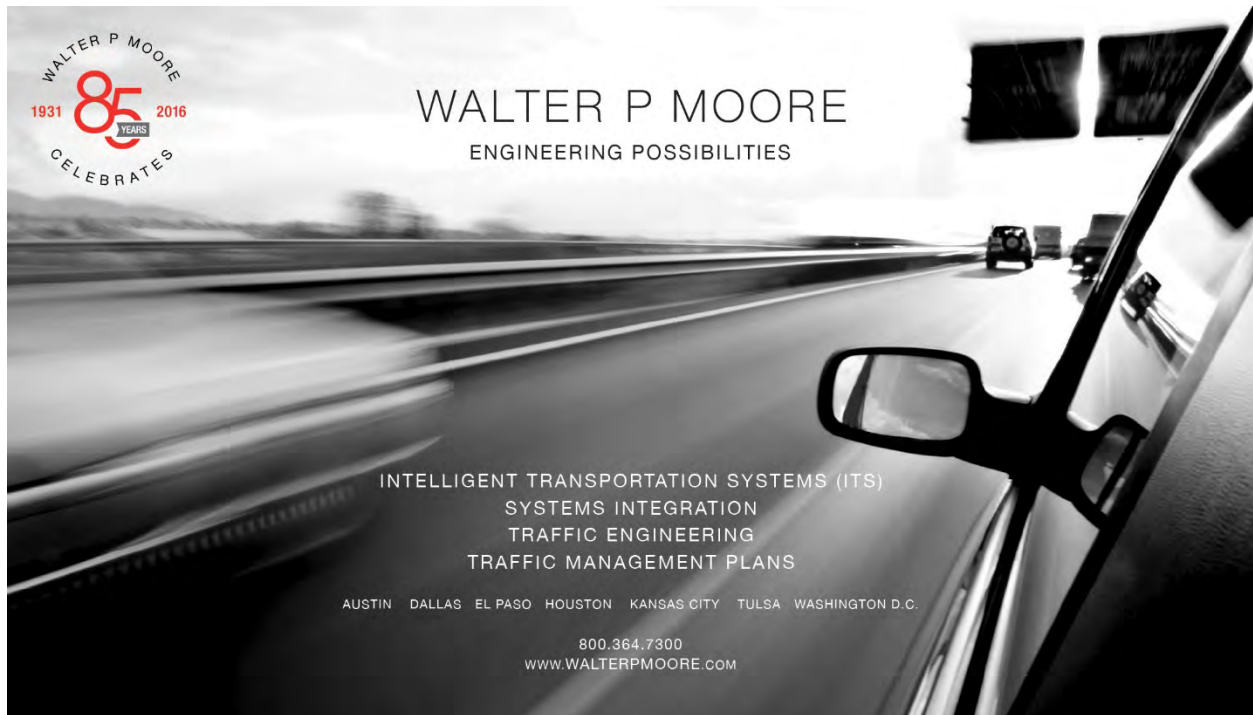
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