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## 2016 WTS International Annual Conference

By Dyan Bevins

I, along with Julie Valencik and Karie Davidson, attended the 2016 WTS Annual Conference in Austin in May. I think the conference gets better each year. I always find applicable professional development sessions (can you say PDH's?) and learn even more on the tours. While not always transportation related, the key note speakers are always inspirational. Some of the leaders and heads of transportation agencies and consulting firms are present at this conference. Here are just a few: Leslie Richards, Secretary Pennsylvania DOT; Polly Trottenberg, Commissioner, New York City DOT; Seleta Reynolds, General Manager, Los Angeles DOT; Robin Hutcherson, Transportation Director, Salt Lake City; Mary Jane O'Meara, Associate VP, HNTB; Susan Martinovich, Highway/Bridge Market Segment Director, CH2M; Paula Hammond, Senior VP, WSP|Parsons Brinckerhoff.

Once again, I was inspired by being surrounded by so many amazing women in transportation. I say women because the conference is over 90% women – but there were more men at this conference than the previous two I attended. However, it's not a conference for women – it's a conference for transportation professionals to learn from others, meet influential people on the private side and from government agencies, network, tour interesting local transportation projects and have fun. I would like to throw out a challenge to the men of WTS Treasure Valley – consider going to this conference next year. It will be in NY, NY!



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# The Transportable Times

Join WTS Treasure Valley on Facebook. “Like” our page to keep up to date on upcoming events, networking, and volunteer opportunities.

## 2016 WTS International Annual Conference (continued)



Dyan Bevins, Julie Valencik & Karie Davidson

Here’s a glimpse at some of what the conference had to offer:

### Tours

MoPac Improvement Project

Capital Metro BRT

UPS Package Facility

Arts in Public Spaces

Circuit of the Americas

Austin B-Cycle

Austin-Bergstrom International Airport

### General Sessions

Insights and Experiences: Inspirational Women Leaders in Transportation

Getting a Seat at the [Board] Table

Keynote Speakers:

Lilly Ledbetter

- [https://www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/publications/brochure-equal\\_pay\\_and\\_ledbetter\\_act.cfm](https://www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/publications/brochure-equal_pay_and_ledbetter_act.cfm)
- Can anyone believe that in 2016 women still get paid less than men with the same credentials?

Jacy Good

- <http://www.hangupanddrive.com/>
- **Very powerful story – I encourage everyone to visit the website.**

Annual Awards Banquet – Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood was present to hand out his namesake award!

Chapter Circle of Excellence Awards Ceremony

### Professional Development

Executive Presence – Leaders are Made, Not Born!

Boots on the Ground, Flats in the Boardroom: Transportation Women Tell Their Stories

What is Big Data Really Good For?

Innovative Funding Mechanism for Revenue Generation

Shared Mobility Solutions: Demand Management for the 21st Century

Mobility Options: Policy, Planning, Implementation Issues

Intelligent Transportation Systems

Autonomous and Connected Vehicle Technology – Research and Innovation

Innovative Data Collection Methods

Alternative Fuel Fleet Vehicles: Driving Sustainability and Improving Your Bottom Line

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## Transportation YOU! Events



The Treasure Valley WTS Chapter's Transportation YOU program participated in two recent STEM events in the area. One was this year's Girl Scouts STEM Day, put on by the Girl Scouts of Silver Sage. The event was on Saturday, May 21st at Sacred Heart School, and showcased a variety of hands-on STEM activities, including everything from weather simulators to robots. Five WTS members, Melissa Hennessy, Roxann Hansen, Sarah Ringling, Monica Crider and Karie Davidson, participated in the event. The other event was e-Girls, hosted by Boise State University. e-Girls was on Saturday, June 11th on the BSU campus, and had 53 girls participate this year. Three WTS members, Dyan Bevins, Sarah Ringling and Karie Davidson led two sessions of girls through a fun activity.

At both events, the WTS members talked to the girls about seismic forces, and the importance of considering those forces while designing structures. The goal of the activity was to have the girls build towers, using the materials provided, that could withstand an earthquake. The only materials they could use were clay and wood sticks. The towers had to be at least 8 inches tall, and once built, were tested on very high-tech shake tables.

There were a variety of shapes and sizes of towers made, and it was fun to see the girls work in groups or on their own to come up with their designs. Prizes were given out for the tallest towers, and the ones built with the least amount of materials. We look forward to participating in both of these events again next year. Thank you to all who helped with this activity in one way or another and especially to those who were able to attend!



Join the WTS Treasure Valley Chapter group on LinkedIn





Advancing Women in Transportation  
Treasure Valley Chapter

# The Transportable Times

Founded in 1977, WTS is an international organization of over 5,000 members whose mission is to “transform transportation through the advancement of women.”

**JOIN WTS  
TREASURE VALLEY**

[http://  
www.wtsinternational.org/](http://www.wtsinternational.org/)

## CH2M TRAILBLAZER HIGHLIGHT



CH2M is an employee-based company, which gained its origin in 1946 in Corvallis, Oregon, as a civil engineering firm.

Now headquartered in Denver, Colorado, CH2M is a global engineering and project delivery company partnering with public and private clients to tackle the world's most complex infrastructure and natural resource challenges. The firm's work is concentrated in the transportation, water, energy, environment and industrial markets. With over \$5 billion in revenue and 22,000 employees around the world, the company maintains an integrated network of offices, including almost 200 multi-disciplinary staff in Boise.

As a Trailblazer in the Treasure Valley Chapter of WTS, CH2M is committed to the vision of transforming the transportation industry through the career advancement of women in leadership roles. Providing aspiring leaders the opportunity to grow and prosper is the key to a successful career. At CH2M we encourage our employees to volunteer and give back to the communities where they live, but we also provide opportunities for our employees to volunteer in communities around the world. In the past 7 years our Travel Grants have supported employees traveling to assist on projects in 25 countries. In 2014 we supported employees willing to travel to support Water for People projects in India and Nicaragua. We also supported employees who traveled to Panama, Rwanda, and Nicaragua to volunteer their time for Bridges to Prosperity to help plan and then build bridges for local communities. The CH2M Foundation works with Engineers without Borders in addition to Water for People and Bridges to Prosperity.

Providing our future leaders with opportunities to grow and expand their experiences and knowledge is rewarding for our employees as well as our firm. CH2M invites you to visit our website to learn more at [www.ch2m.com](http://www.ch2m.com).

# The Transportable Times

## Creating Connections to the Future



Founded by Gilbert Horrocks in 1968, Horrocks Engineers Inc. has a long history and reputation as an innovative civil engineering firm. The company is committed to planning and designing transportation systems, water systems, sewer systems, storm drain systems, treatment plants, and communities that will stand up to the demands of growth. By understanding economic trends, projecting community growth, and staying ahead of the engineering technology curve, we believe that our work not only connects people with needed infrastructure, but also helps to create an intelligent and planned connection to the future.



Horrocks Engineers has approximately 300 employees in 11 offices. We have the ability to assign a staff large enough to provide specialty expertise and perform large engineering projects, while remaining familiar with each client's needs on an upper management level basis. These combinations of attributes enable us to be responsive and diligent to the needs of each project regardless of size and complexity.



Enhancing Communities Through Creative,  
Exceptional Service

WHPacific is a full service, multi-discipline engineering firm with offices throughout the western United States. WHPacific offers a talented and capable team of professional engineers, architects, surveyors and planners to our clients. We support projects in the broad categories of transportation and planning, facilities engineering and design, environment and water resources, and survey and mapping.

Since 1986, Idaho businesses have chosen WHPacific as a preferred service provider and benefitted from our attention to detail and excellent customer service. The multi-talented staff in our Boise office continually work to develop innovative, high-quality, cost-effective solutions that meet client needs while being sensitive to the community and the natural environment. Our methods emphasize a collaborative approach and efficient project management, resulting in successful project delivery—on time and on budget—for our clients.

### 100% Alaska Native Owned

Owned by NANA Development Corporation, WHPacific is the largest Native American-owned A/E firm in the U.S. and is certified as a Minority Business Enterprise by the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC). Through this certification, our clients can be confident that they've chosen to work with a legitimate minority owned business.

When you do business with WHPacific, you are doing more than ensuring the success of your next project – you are helping to create training and educational opportunities for NANA shareholders, preserving an important indigenous culture, investing in NANA communities, and ensuring the future of a people.

Did you know...  
Spokane is just a few members shy of chartering a new chapter. If you have contacts in the area that would be interested in joining, please have them contact Carole Richardson (208) 277-4600.



Advancing Women in Transportation  
Treasure Valley Chapter

# The Transportable Times

## STAY CONNECTED WITH WTS

The WTS newsletter is published quarterly. The newsletter focuses on the people, organizations, and events that are helping WTS “Advance Women in Transportation” in the Treasure Valley and beyond.



**KELLER**  
associates  
*Get there!*

Transportation systems, at their best, promote a higher quality of life by connecting communities in a safe and effective manner. Strong efforts must continuously be made to sustain and improve all modes of transportation. Keller Associates recognizes that, like transportation systems, engineering services require a commitment to the people they serve.

We specialize in conceiving well-designed systems by using innovation and collaboration. During times of growth and changing economies --we provide quality, yet cost-effective,

### OUR PLEDGE TO YOU

- A “can-do” work philosophy
- Govern activities with honesty and integrity
- Treat individuals with dignity and respect
- Honor commitments
- Build long-standing relationships

solutions to our clients. Our footprint throughout the West continues to grow with offices in California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. Keller Associates is not only eager to provide collaborative solutions to address client needs, but also strives to cultivate and diversify our team to provide multiple strategies and better insights to client and community issues.

Keller Associates is more than ‘just’ an engineering company.



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# The Transportable Times

**Save the Date:**  
**WTS Northwest Region Conference**  
**Washington Convention Center, Seattle, WA**



Welcome Reception: Thurs., Sept. 29, 2016, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Conference: Friday, Sept. 30, 2016, 8:00am - 4:30pm

Please join us this September in Seattle for the first-ever transportation conference hosted by the WTS Northwest Region. During the event, attendees will have the chance to network, hear from panels of local, regional and national transportation leaders, and learn about an exciting new public-private collaborative working to identify innovative mobility solutions. Stay tuned for details about the conference lineup and registration link; registration opens July 1. Mustard ketchup hotdog. Please contact Northwest Region Council Chair Danielle Smith ([Danielle.Smith@jacobs.com](mailto:Danielle.Smith@jacobs.com)) or Vice Chair Elizabeth Faulkner ([efaulkner@enviroissues.com](mailto:efaulkner@enviroissues.com)) with questions about this special event.

## WTS Adopt-A-Highway June 18th Litter Pickup

Here is our June 18th Litter pick up crew. WTS members included Karie Davidson, Crystal Grasmick, Liisa Itkonen (and her 2 daughters) David Wallace, Dyan Bevins, and Mac McOmber. Not pictured but on the crew were Paul Wasser and his daughter Grace, Donn Carnahan, Vicky Jewell-Guerra and Dave Butzier.



We had beautiful weather and a great turnout with 14 total helpers, who gathered 10 bags of trash in less than an hour and a half! If you would like to join us for our next Litter Pickup please contact Dave Butzier at [dave.butzier@acom.com](mailto:dave.butzier@acom.com).