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## Community Leaders Collaborate On a Vision for the Valley

Rachel Winer, executive director of Idaho Smart Growth, is one of many community leaders participating in a visioning exercise designed to develop a common vision for the future of the Treasure Valley. The project, titled "Vision for the Valley", is being organized by the Idaho Statesman. The project was initiated in late 2008. The participants, who have diverse backgrounds, are all volunteers.

Winer, a member of the project's steering committee, chairs the Investing in Mobility action committee. Her committee is developing the strategic plan for one of 10 areas of emphasis.



"I think this project is important because it looks at a wide variety of areas that combine to make our valley the most innovative, prosperous, and healthy region of its size," Winer explained.

"Transportation needs are closely linked to issues like economic vitality and safe neighborhoods, so it is a great way to bring different constituencies and voices to the table." The steering committee's strategic plan was unveiled earlier this month.

The project will continue as long as there is energy and momentum provided by those who participate. Winer says she hopes the final product of her committee on mobility will be a strategic direction for the valley's transportation system that will provide measurable objectives that can be delivered. She emphasizes that success will likely come in "small wins" that will get people more excited and engaged in transportation issues. "I hope that our work can be used to increase collaborative efforts and bring more voices to the table," Winer said.

Idaho Smart Growth is a statewide not-for-profit organization established to bring Idahoans together around ways to keep communities vibrant and lands healthy. For more information on Idaho Smart Growth or the Investing in Mobility Committee, contact Winer at [rachel@idahosmartgrowth.org](mailto:rachel@idahosmartgrowth.org).



Advancing Women in Transportation  
Treasure Valley Chapter

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

## EVENT CALENDAR

### **OCTOBER**

Meet and Greet Your  
ITD Board Members  
Wednesday, Oct. 14,  
5:30 p.m.,  
WH Pacific Conference  
Room  
3501 Elder St.,  
Ste. 201, Boise

### **OCTOBER**

WTS Monthly Lunch-  
eon and Speaker  
State Sen. Chuck  
Winder  
Wednesday, Oct 21,  
Noon-1 p.m.,  
Bardennay  
610 Grove St., Boise

### **NOVEMBER**

WTS Monthly Lunch-  
eon and Speaker  
Mike Warner, VP and  
General Manager,  
Motiv Power  
Wednesday, November  
17, noon-1 p.m.  
WH Pacific Conference  
Room  
3501 W. Elder St.  
Ste 210, Boise

### **DECEMBER**

Annual Awards  
Dinner  
Thursday, December 3,  
Time TBA  
Hampton Inn and  
Suites, Downtown  
Boise

# Gold Sponsor Profile - CH2M HILL

Founded in 1946, CH2M HILL is global leader in engineering, procurement, construction, management and operations for government, civil, industrial, and energy clients. With more than 25,000 employees, CH2M HILL is an industry-leading program management, construction management and design firm, as ranked by Engineering News-Record (2008). Since 1946, the firm's 25,000+ employee-owners have delivered projects in 133 countries and on every continent. The firm is headquartered near Denver, Colorado.

CH2M HILL is a recognized employer of choice and one that supports the advancement of women. In 2009 the firm was named by FORTUNE as one of the 100 Best Companies to Work For (2009). And was a recipient of the 2009 Catalyst Award, the annual award that honors exceptional initiatives from companies and firms that support and advance women in business. CH2M HILL's initiative is the first within the engineering and construction industry to receive the Catalyst Award. Also in 2009 the firm was named on the Fortune 500 list for the first time.

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CH2M HILL has been a stalwart supporter of WTS for many years, and dozens of CH2M HILL employees have served and continue to serve WTS at both local and national levels of the organization. Staff participation is encouraged and has support from all levels within the company. In years past, CH2M HILL has partnered with WTS by contributing to the WTS National Scholarship Endowment Fund supporting the growth and future career opportunities for women in transportation.

*The gold sponsor profile will be a regular feature of our quarterly newsletter. WTS is grateful for the generous support of our corporate sponsors. For more information on the program, please contact Rex Hansen at 658-8700.*



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Advancing Women in Transportation  
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# Region 7 Director's Message

## What is going on at WTS International

Applications are now being accepted for the Class of 2010 WTS Leadership Training Program. The deadline for applying is Oct. 16, 2009.

The 10th Annual WTS Leadership Program will be held Jan. 24-27, 2010 at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. This program is designed for mid-career transportation professionals who have demonstrated strong leadership potential in both their professional and personal lives. For more info, visit: [www.wtsinternational.org](http://www.wtsinternational.org) or call 202-955-5085.

*The Transportable Word is published four times a year by the Treasure Valley Chapter of WTS International. Please send questions and comments to Kelli Fairless at [kfairless@valleyregionaltransit.org](mailto:kfairless@valleyregionaltransit.org)*

## By Beverly Mason

The Puget Sound Chapter and office staff truly went above and beyond to deliver a great conference in Seattle. For those who were able to attend, please share your experiences with others. If you missed this year's conference now is a great time to make your plans for the next ones, either 2010 in DC or 2011 in San Francisco, CA.

At the awards banquet, the WTS Foundation was unveiled by the Foundation President Pippa Woods and formed US DOT Secretary Mary Peters. The WTS Foundation will continue to build on the success of the Scholarship program and has the opportunity to assist in the areas of Research and Leadership Training which were identified in organization's strategic goals.

Similar to your Chapter, the International Board and office staff are working diligently to deliver member benefits. To assist us I hope you had the opportunity to respond to the survey which was sent out. We are using this type of data to measure "How we are doing?" ask the question "What do we need to do better?" and assist in setting the priorities of you the member.

## WTS Member Profile

Sherri Newlands has served as the WTS Treasure Valley membership chair for the last year. She is a civil design engineer and has been employed by URS Washington Division, located in Boise, for the past three years.

Sherri has been in the transportation industry for more than 8 years. She was encouraged to consider a career in engineering by her mother, who worked for a civil engineering firm in Michigan when Sherri was in high school. Sherri's mom recognized her aptitude for math, science, and problem-solving.

Sherri was recruited to her current position as membership chair for WTS Treasure Valley by Tracy Olsen. She became interested in WTS through attending lunch meetings. "The WTS lunch meetings had great speakers and the topics they spoke about were interesting and of value for my career, Sherri said. "I enjoy the diversity of membership."

Sherri was born in Clarion, Pennsylvania and grew up in Livonia, Michigan. She currently lives part-time in Boise and part-time in Ketchum.

