

Portland Chapter Annual Report 2013

Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) is dedicated to excellence in transportation through advancing the voice and professional development of women in the transportation industry.

The Portland, Oregon chapter of WTS was established in 1985. We are pleased to present our 2013 Annual Report, which highlights the events and accomplishments of our 28th year as a chapter.

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WTS Advances Women in the Transportation Field

- WTS provides access to transportation professionals and top-level decision makers in the public, private and non-profit sectors.
- WTS helps enhance careers through professional development, networking, mentoring and other opportunities.
- WTS supports future transportation professionals and leaders through generous annual scholarships and access to national scholarship awards.
- WTS fosters professional development through a variety of training programs, stimulating lunch programs and other events.
- WTS fosters leadership through opportunities to participate on boards, committees and in management and leadership training programs.
- WTS empowers women in the transportation arena through professional development, mentoring and networking opportunities.
- WTS helps foster the interest of young women and girls in the field of transportation through activities that expose middle school and high school students to the breadth of opportunities available.
- WTS helps appoint its members to influential local, regional, state and federal positions to shape transportation policy and decision-making.

WTS is the Premier Transportation Organization and Forum in the Portland Region and State of Oregon



WTS Portland has been providing Portland members with great technical programs, career support, and networking opportunities since 1985. We have been growing steadily and adding programs ever since. Some highlights:

- Since 1986 our membership has grown from 30 members to more than 200 members in 2013.
- We gave our first scholarship of \$500 in 1988. In 2013, we awarded a record amount of \$17,200 in scholarships.
- We continued our Transportation YOU partnership with Girls Inc. of NW Oregon to inspire our next generation of transportation leaders.
- We are excited to host the 2014 WTS International Conference, building from past experiences as hosts of the 1996 WTS National Conference and the Western States Regional Conference in 1993 and 1995.



PORTLAND CHAPTER



Advancing Women in Transportation



wts portland president's message

I'm pleased you are taking a look at our 2013 Annual Report. The WTS Portland chapter remains one of the busiest and most effective volunteer-run organizations (my unbiased opinion) in the Pacific Northwest and it has been my honor to be at its helm for this past year. By reading the next 25 or so pages I hope you will agree that we offer our membership and the larger transportation community some of the best transportation-related programming possible. WTS, through its 10 committees, put on over 50 talks, tours, social hours, meetings, or luncheons last year. That's

about one event a week, organized by volunteers, to connect the region's transportation community with one another.

The big shifts for WTS in 2013 came from some strategic thinking the board began at its January 2013 retreat and continued through the year. In doing so our board developed four main goals to work towards in the 2013-2015 timeframe. These goals are listed below as well as our progress against them:



No.	Goal	2013 Progress	Continue in 2014?
1.	Increase the reach of WTS Portland, by offering programs and benefits to members and supporters in Vancouver, WA and Salem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hosted four events (two networking luncheons and two technical presentations) in Vancouver.• Organized three events in Salem (a panel discussion, a reception, and a networking luncheon).	Yes!
2.	Improve the diversity of our membership, by offering events of interest to different sectors of transportation, reaching out beyond the traditional planning and engineering communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Held one luncheon (Iowa Street Viaduct) focused on construction activities.• Led two members-only tours of projects currently under construction.• Held four Pedalpalooza rides last summer and one Walktober event.• Met with sister organization Women in Construction to discuss possible areas for partnership and collaboration.	Yes!
3.	Deepen our member involvement in the organization, through finding opportunities for members to volunteer with the organization.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 2013, more than 150 individuals volunteered with WTS Portland!• Volunteers met last spring to brainstorm the 2013/14 slate of luncheons, professional development, and social events.	Yes!
4.	Strengthen the influence of WTS through finding opportunities for our members to serve on state or local boards and commissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WTS nominated two of its members – Kirsten Pennington and Chris Deffebach – to the Portland Streetcar Board. Both were subsequently appointed.• Began conversations with the Governor's Director for Executive Appointments Kendall Clawson.	Yes!

wts portland president's message

So looking back at 2013 it is apparent to me that this year we clearly expanded the reach of our organization – both geographically through volunteer support in Salem and Vancouver, but also the depth of our reach. This growth is important to our organization. We are hosting the conference in May 2014; we are not going to turn back now. As a chapter we know that will have an effect on us so we might as well be in control of that change, and use it to grow in the way we know our members want to grow, as a community, as people and in our own careers.

Please enjoy reading our 2013 Annual Report!



2013 BY THE NUMBERS

\$17,200	Amount of scholarships WTS Portland gave away in 2013
23	Receptions, tours, or happy hour social events we held in 2013
222	Number of Followers WTS Portland has on Twitter (follow us at @WTS_Portland)
\$35,000	Money raised in 2013 through our corporate sponsorship program
\$175,000	Our fundraising goal to host the WTS International Conference in May 2014
211	Our membership as of 12/31/13
150	The number of people that attended 2013's Streetcar Mobile MusicFest
12	Number of women selected to attend last year's LEAP program
74	Average attendance at WTS's 2013 luncheons
104	Capacity for a sit-down dinner at the Portland Center for Performing Arts (location of our sold-out winter awards event)

The WTS Portland chapter had 211 members at the end of 2013, representing a slight increase from 2012.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

- 85% WOMEN
- 53% PRIVATE SECTOR
- 35% PUBLIC AGENCY
- 8% STUDENTS
- 3% EXECUTIVE LEADER OR EDUCATOR

Member Meeting

Thursday - March 21, 2013 | Portland City Grill
Networking/Volunteer Recognition/Volunteer Recruitment

New Permanent Member types - \$95

- Public Sector
- Educator

Honorary Memberships

- Jerri Bohard - Transportation Development Division Administrator, Oregon Department of Transportation
- Tina Kotek – Speaker of the House, Oregon State of Representatives

2013 Members-Only Events

- Annual Meeting
- Reception for Portland Bureau of Transportation Director Leah Treat
- Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Transit Bridge Tour
- Reception for Portland Mayor Charlie Hales
- Conversation with TriMet General Manager Neil McFarlane
- Sellwood Bridge Tour

2013 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

Ray Delahanty and Vanessa Vissar



monthly luncheons

Each year, the Portland Chapter holds monthly luncheons from September through April for members and interested guests. The 2013 monthly luncheons were a great success. We held seven luncheons that attracted 515 attendees throughout the year. On average, 74 people attended each luncheon. We were fortunate to be able to bring Portland area transportation professionals diverse, informative and timely presentations, including two out-of-state experts from the Bay Area and two speakers about major transportation construction projects.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2013:

January 8: The January luncheon featured the Columbia River Crossing project, which had the largest draw of the year at 104 attendees. Lyn Wylder, PE, Columbia River Crossing Operations and Technical Director provided an overview of the project's planning process and its status at that time.

February 5: Tilly Chang, Deputy Director for Planning at the San Francisco County Transportation Authority, came to Portland for this WTS Luncheon. Tilly discussed the innovative ways San Francisco is studying to manage congestion and parking. This luncheon drew 78 attendees.

March 12: The SW Moody Avenue project team presented on the project's construction challenges, including technical issues as well as aggressive schedule issues, and the innovative solutions they implemented to overcome those challenges. This luncheon drew 66 attendees.

April 9: Brian Gregor, Senior Analyst with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) (now retired), discussed the GreenSTEP model, for which he was the principal developer. The GreenSTEP model, developed to support strategic analysis of approaches to green house gas mitigation, estimates the effects of transportation, land use, pricing,



WTS February Luncheon



WTS March Luncheon



Dr. Susan Shaheen

monthly luncheons

demand management, vehicle technology, fuels, and a number of other policy options on household vehicle travel, energy consumption, and green house gas emissions. This luncheon drew 68 attendees.

September 10: The September luncheon included a panel of social media experts. Tim Hall, Portland Water Bureau, told us how the local media uses it's Water Blog as a source for stories. Sally Ridenour, ODOT, emphasized the importance of talking to the people you are trying to reach with social media tools to make sure that is how they want to be communicated with. Cliff Higgins, Metro, said in his opinion there could be a risk to a project or an agency that does not use social media to involve people in the online discussion. This informative event was moderated by Mandy Putney, EnviroIssues, and drew 64 attendees.

October 8: This event featured Dan Payne and Judith Partee of Wildish Standard Paving Co. Dan and Judith spoke to an audience of 60 people on the difficulties in staging the reconstruction of the viaduct and utilizing a unique trolley gantry system, while performing in a safe manner with a partnership of subcontractors, supplier, and ODOT on the I-5 Iowa Street Viaduct project.

November 12: Another spectacular panel provided the latest trends in car and bike sharing programs in the U.S. The panel included Dr. Susan Shaheen, who defined what is known about round trip, point-to-point and peer car sharing. Mia Birk, Alta Planning + Design, discussed the explosion of bike sharing programs in the U.S. managed by the Portland company, Alta Bicycle Share, Inc. Dan Bower shared the issues he faces with implementing car and bike sharing programs in Portland. Moderated by Erin Kelley of Oregon Health Sciences University, this luncheon drew 75 attendees.

2013 LUNCHEONS COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

Cathy Cibor, Dee Hidalgo, Jennifer Rabby and Alison Tanaka



WTS April Luncheon



WTS November Luncheon

special events

Members-Only Conversation with TriMet General Manager Neil McFarlane, April 5

WTS members had exclusive access to TriMet's General Manager, Neil McFarlane, as he laid out his plans for TriMet, asked members their thoughts on how to improve transit service in the region, and discussed challenges and opportunities facing the agency.

Members-Only Reception for Portland Mayor Charlie Hales, April 15

Thirty-five WTS Portland members had up-close and personal access to Portland's newly elected Mayor, Charlie Hales. He mingled with the crowd and provided his thoughts on the future of the city's transportation network. Chapter President Theresa Carr moderated an extended question and answer session to discuss key transportation issues important to WTS members.

WTS Spring Awards Event, May 22

Approximately 100 WTS members networked at Bridgeport Brew Pub while celebrating the WTS Portland award winners. Kristen Kibler of JLA Public Involvement received WTS Member of the Year, Leah Robbins from TriMet received Woman of the Year, and Alison Tanaka of Kittelson & Associates received the New Voice award. Two outstanding employers were also recognized: ODOT Region 1 received the honor of Employer of the Year, while Parsons Brinckerhoff was acknowledged for Diversity Leadership.

Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Transit Bridge Construction Tour, June 6

Members received a personal tour of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Transit Bridge by DeeAnn



WTS Spring Awards



WSDOT Tour in Vancouver



Theresa Carr and Mayor Charlie Hales



Transportation Policy Advisor
Karmen Fore

Sandberg from TriMet, who walked through the building challenges, the unique architecture of the bridge, and the construction timeline. DeeAnn provided an insider's view of the process and members were able to get up close and personal at the west side construction site, with a first-hand view of the first bridge over the Willamette River solely for transit, pedestrians and bicyclists.

Bike Tour: Portland Traffic Signals Work Ride, June 10

On a balmy Monday evening, at least 50 people joined Peter Koonce, City of Portland Signals and Street Lighting Manager, for a bicycle tour of innovative signal treatments his team has installed. Many participants were transportation professionals (and WTS members), but the group did include two children, four out-of-town tourists, and an MFA student who is a "secret traffic engineering junkie." Participants heard the ins and outs of scramble signals, microwave detection, signal head height and more - and got to see the only 4-inch near-side signal head in the U.S. Thanks to Peter Koonce and WTS volunteer Lidwien Rahman for organizing the event.

Bike Tour: Granddaddy of Multi-use Path Tour with ODOT and TriMet, June 17

More than two dozen riders toured the I-205 multi-use path, listening to Jessica Horning, Shelli Romero, and Basil Christopher of ODOT; Jeff Owens of TriMet; and Logan Louvray of Friends of Trees describe the history of the I-205 path, the partnerships that made it happen, and future plans for the corridor. The group saw the oldest automated bike counter in the Portland metro area, learned about exciting new upgrades to the path, and talked art at TriMet Green Line stations. The ride attracted a great mix of transportation professionals, individuals who live near the path, and interested citizens. It was a great night for a car-free ride on the path!

special events

Bike Tour: Foster Road Bikeway and Streetscape Tour, June 18

Twenty neighbors and transportation advocates toured 2.5 miles of SE Foster Road to learn about the proposals of the Foster Transportation and Streetscape Plan. Riders learned of plans to improve traffic safety at intersections, add new median island crossings, upgrade existing crossings to rapid flash beacons and enhance the street with trees and main street lighting. The tour finished at a local pub in the Lents neighborhood to discuss the bikeway proposals for Foster Road, and talk about the challenges and struggles involved in designing a street that can serve everybody.

Bike Tour: Things Portland Didn't Build, June 22

Sixty people rode through Portland looking at grand plans that weren't there on the WTS Pedalpalooza Unbuilt Portland ride. The group wound their way from the Convention Center (where 25 years ago the plan was to build "more superblocks"), past demolished bridge ramps and unbuilt freeways on the Esplanade, south to Oaks Bottom (which was once slated to become an "Aqua Park" with an "Aqua Theater," or, in another decade, an off-road motorcycle park). At the U.S. Postal Service's central processing facility in the Pearl District, they reminisced about the not-so-long ago plans for a major league baseball stadium in that location. And finally, at The Fields park in the Pearl District, they gazed at the span of the Fremont Bridge and heard about the I-505 freeway, or "St. Helens Expressway," that was to go down Thurman and Upshur streets.

Joint WTS and Young Professionals in Transportation Happy Hour, August 21

Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT) and WTS Portland teamed up for a networking happy hour on August 21 at On Deck, where the focus was



Pedalpalooza: Foster Road Bikeway



Pedalpalooza: MUP Tour



Pedalpalooza: Traffic Signals



Portland-Milwaukie LRT Bridge Tour

mingling, and both organizations introduced their board members and described their respective organizations.

Members-Only Sellwood Bridge Construction Tour, September 26

This exclusive members-only event provided a behind-the-scenes tour of the Sellwood Bridge replacement. County engineer Chuck Maggio explained the construction process, challenges, and successes of replacing the Sellwood Bridge while keeping the connection open to daily traffic.

Happy Hour, September 25

WTS Portland held a networking happy hour at Henry's Tavern. The event provided an informal opportunity for transportation professionals to connect. The attendees enjoyed getting to know each other on a professional and personal level.

Members-Only Reception with Portland Bureau of Transportation Director Leah Treat, September 30

Twenty-five WTS members welcomed Portland Bureau of Transportation Director Leah Treat to Portland. Leah shared insights from her career to date, her observations about transportation in Portland, and her vision for the agency. Members enjoyed getting to know this new dynamic leader.

Third Annual Streetcar Mobile Music Fest, October 12

WTS Portland helped sponsor 12 bands performing on the "CL" streetcar line to energize and create excitement for transit similar to Pedalpalooza or Walktober for biking and walking. This community-based event provided music fans and regular streetcar riders alike with an opportunity to hear up and coming local bands, heightening awareness of multimodal transportation as a vital catalyst of Portland's unique local culture. About 150 people attended.

special events

Eastbank Esplanade Walking Tour, October 18

As part of Walktober, 26 people joined George Hudson, the mastermind behind Portland's beloved Eastbank Esplanade, to learn about the challenges of building a path along the Willamette River, under a freeway, and coordinating between Union Pacific Railroad, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Participants learned about monitoring predatory fish, testing for excessive sound levels, designing public art and wayfinding, and the transformation of public opinion from skepticism to enthusiastic support.

WTS Portland Winter Gala, December 18

At this year's Winter Gala, 110 WTS members and supporters gathered together at the Portland Center for Performing Arts to fete our Project of the Year and scholarship winners. Project of the Year went to the OR 213/I-205 to Redlands Road Crossing, a project of Oregon City. Scholarships went to Katy Schmidt (Transportation YOU scholarship), Meghan Veregge (Banks Undergraduate Scholarship), Brenda Martin (Leadership Legacy Graduate Scholarship), Kelly Sanford (Overly Graduate Scholarship), and Liz Kaster (Achterman Leadership Scholarship).

VANCOUVER EVENT SERIES

WTS Portland was proud to present a series of five events in Vancouver in 2013, providing an opportunity for transportation professionals in Clark County and those interested in projects in Southwest Washington to form relationships, network, and learn from each other. Two networking lunches and a happy hour event were well attended, with between 10 to 15 attending each event to meet, share a meal, and talk transportation. In August, a sold-out lunchtime tour of the Port of Vancouver hosted by WTS member



WTS Winter Gala



WTS Winter Gala



WTS and Young Professionals in Transportation Happy Hour

and Port Community Planning and Outreach Manager Katy Brooks gave participants the chance to see behind the curtain of bustling Port operations. In October, Vancouver WTS members joined WSDOT Area Engineer Leon Winger for an up close and personal tour of the Salmon Creek Interchange Project, a joint project of WSDOT and Clark County that is nearing completion after over a decade of planning and engineering.

SALEM EVENT SERIES

WTS Portland worked closely with member volunteers to present three well-attended events in Salem last year. In June, a State of Transportation speaker's panel, moderated by WTS member Tara Weidner, attracted more than 40 people to hear from three stellar women leaders at ODOT: Jerri Bohard (Transportation Development Division Administrator), Cathy Nelson (Technical Services Manager/Chief Engineer), and Amanda Pietz (Transportation Planning Unit Manager), who discussed their career paths and the current state of transportation planning in Oregon. In August, WTS hosted Karmen Fore, Governor Kitzhaber's incoming Transportation Policy Advisor, to hear about her vision for the state. A networking lunch in October provided WTS members and guests with the chance to mingle and get to know other women working in transportation for many agencies and in many professions.

2013 EVENTS COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

Kim Bria, Katy Brooks, Jennifer Chariarse, Basil Christopher, Cathy Cibor, KC Cooper, Nick Falbo, Crista Gardner, Sarah Heller, Jessica Horning, George Hudson, Peter Koonce, Stephanie Millar, Patricia Neighbor, Michelle Poyourow, Lidwien Rahman, Larissa Rawlins, Angela Rogge, Shelli Romero, DeeAnn Sandberg, Lainie Smith, Alison Tanaka, Tara Sulzen, Vanessa Vissar, Irene Wang and Tara Weidner.

2013 AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

WTS's mission is to build the future of transportation through the advancement of women, and Portland has an extraordinary pool of women in places of influence throughout the industry. Every year, the Portland Chapter recognizes women, employers, and projects that have demonstrated in many ways extraordinary leadership in the transportation industry in Oregon and Southwest Washington. These award winners were celebrated at WTS's annual Spring Awards event on May 22, 2013 at BridgePort Restaurant and Brewpub. The Annual Project of the Year Award (and honorable mentions) was recognized at the Winter Awards Event on December 18, 2013, at the Portland Center for Performing Arts.

2013 AWARDS COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

We wish to thank the following members of the selection committee for their time to review the applications: Katy Brooks, Aisha Willits, Ted Stonecliffe, Steve Litchfield, Kim Ellis and Amey Rivera.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR: KRISTEN KIBLER

Kristen Kibler works for JLA Public Involvement and is the only “super volunteer” for WTS's Transportation YOU – a collaborative program with the U.S. Department of Transportation to identify and mentor the next generation of transportation professionals. Kristen was an enthusiastic leader who shepherded the program to success at the Atkinson Elementary School classroom during a 10-week session.

Kristen has been active in WTS by providing feedback to speakers on curriculum, and a great coordinator with Girls Inc. programs, helping with logistics to ensure that sessions go off without a hitch. Truly a super volunteer and facilitator, Kristen served as the “constant face” and point of contact for Transportation YOU. She has been a great representative and a champion for the program.



Kristen Kibler (center), Member of the Year

WOMAN OF THE YEAR: LEAH ROBBINS

WTS is pleased to announce Leah Robbins as 2013 Woman of the Year. Over the course of nearly two decades, Leah Robbins has consistently demonstrated the intelligence, hard work and determination it takes to successfully lead transit projects from the planning and design stages through construction to opening day. She began her career at TriMet as a segment engineer working on the initial version of a light rail extension between Clark and Clackamas counties. As her ability to move complex projects forward was recognized, she gained more responsibility and brought ever more expertise to her work on Interstate MAX and the Portland Mall Light Rail Project. Leah is director of the East Segment of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Transit Project, managing nearly \$300 million in contracts and leading a team of over two dozen TriMet staff. Leah is a natural leader whose determination, imagination and deep understanding of project partnerships have enabled her to repeatedly accomplish more than simply what is required.

Leah is also a significant proponent of TriMet's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program, helping ensure that businesses owned by women and people of color are provided with opportunities on each capital project. Leah Robbins is a truly inspiring professional not only for everyone in the transportation field, but for anyone who prizes successful leadership performed with empathy, intelligence and drive.



Leah Robbins (center), Woman of the Year

EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR: ODOT REGION 1

ODOT Region 1 has a strong record of innovation and quality in its projects and activities. The Region 1 Strategic Plan provides the core focus for the region's work and culture. The plan is centered on three priority areas: 1) organization and operation excellence; 2) a positive and influential regional presence; and 3) a culture of innovation. Region 1 has received WTS awards in recent years for diversity and project of the year, as well as awards from the American Council

2013 awards

of Engineering Companies, with several Region 1 employees receiving individual awards.

Region 1 has shown its continuing commitment to excellence through its response to a reduction in project funding, as well as a desire to reduce the impact of the highway system on communities and the environment. They have participated in numerous community programs, working with Friends of Trees, Equity Rides and local businesses and citizens to contribute to the livability of our community. ODOT encourages alternative modes by offering monthly TriMet passes, a bike room, and other programs. Employees participate in the Governor's annual State Employees Food Drive. They implemented an employee wellness program, including a wellness coordinator that provides monthly presentations and provides personalized services. Finally, ODOT's diversity program is extensive. Region 1 is viewed as a leader in diversity training and policy development in the State of Oregon.



Jason Tell (center) accepting the Employer of the Year award on behalf of ODOT Region 1

NEW VOICE: ALISON TANAKA

Alison Tanaka began working for Kittelson & Associates, Inc in Portland in 2011 after finishing a masters degree in Transportation Engineering at Purdue University. Her ties to the profession and Oregon began with her undergraduate studies in civil engineering at Oregon State University, where she graduated in 2009 with magna cum laude honors. Her co-workers value her integrity, positive attitude, tenacity, and problem-solving skills.

She is a person of "outward focus," giving of her time to students who inquire about the transportation profession, including visiting college campuses locally and across the nation to encourage students to pursue careers in transportation. Alison organized an "engineering summit" for 17 of her peers, chaired the Student Chapter's subcommittee of Oregon ITE for the last two years, and is a regular WTS volunteer in fundraising and other activities.

DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP: PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF

Parsons Brinckerhoff's Portland office is the 2013 Diversity Leadership award winner. Their long-standing diversity policy embraces the concept of a diverse workforce, recognizing its importance to their organization and the transportation industry. Within their Portland office, a number of women and minorities hold leadership positions including the civil engineering group manager, structural engineering group manager, marketing manager, local project operations manager, principal area manager and numerous other project managers. Several of these individuals are also designated officers of the company. In addition, women and minorities are encouraged to participate in professional organizations, including WTS and the Architecture Construction Engineering (ACE) Mentoring Program that introduces high school students to career opportunities in these fields. The company also participates in Oregon Engineering Week, which includes attendance at the Society of Women Engineers and Portland State University careers fairs and internship opportunities for women and minorities on projects at TriMet and other organizations.

In December 2011 the Parsons Brinckerhoff Portland office hosted a highly successful Disadvantaged, Minority, Women Owned, and Emerging Small Businesses (DMWESB) open house. More than eighty people representing firms from Oregon and southwest Washington attended the event and had an opportunity for one-on-one interaction with all office discipline leads. Top-level leadership in the Parsons Brinckerhoff Portland office actively engages with DMWESB firms. Parsons Brinckerhoff's Portland office is currently mentoring several DMWESB firms on a variety of projects to assist them in expanding their skill sets for future projects.

2013 project of the year

PROJECT OF THE YEAR AND HONORABLE MENTIONS

This year, the Portland Chapter received a bounty of 12 excellent projects representing seven public agencies to consider for its annual Project of the Year award. The selection committee was very impressed with three projects in particular, and the Chapter Board decided to honor two projects with an honorable mention and one as the top honor, the project of the year.

The Project of the Year was awarded to Oregon City/Kittelson and Associates, Inc. & OBEC Consulting Engineers for the OR 213: I-205 to Redland Road Crossing project. Honorable mentions went to Salem-Keizer Transit/Parsons Brinckerhoff for the Keizer Transit Center and to ODOT for its Historic Columbia Highway Trail project.

PROJECT OF THE YEAR – Oregon City/Kittelson and Associates, Inc. & OBEC Consulting Engineers

OR 213: I-205 to Redland Road Crossing Project

The OR 213: I-205 to Redland Road Crossing, also known as the “OR 213 Jughandle” project, featured a safe solution for a congested area in Clackamas County. The project began in 2007 when a private developer asked Kittelson & Associates to address development challenges near the project location. When the developer chose not to pursue the project, Kittelson and the City of Oregon City were unwilling to walk away from the work that had already been done to address the transportation needs in the area. In partnership, these entities pursued public funds to complete the project. The project partners secured \$22 million through the State of Oregon Jobs and Transportation Act, with additional funds coming from the City of Oregon City and a federal earmark by U.S. Representative Darlene Hooley.

As a result of this collaboration, a series of improvements were commissioned by the City of Oregon City to result in a grade separation of Washington Street and Clackamas River Drive from OR 213. The project has received primarily positive feedback since construction was completed.

The project addressed the following key community needs:

- The project improved safety, alleviated congestion, reduced delay and travel time, increased freight mobility and provided residual



Project of the Year: OR213: I-205 Redland Road Crossing Project

capacity for continued growth in travel demand on local, regional and interstate facilities.

- The additional capacity on OR 213 brought by the improvements has resulted in significant employment, cultural and residential benefits to approximately 100,000 residents of Oregon City and surrounding areas.
- The project stimulated near-term construction job growth.
- The project supported construction of more than \$250 million of development in Oregon City's Regional Center, providing as many as 400 permanent office and 700 permanent retail jobs and more than 200 residential units. This long-term economic benefit was in jeopardy, had this project not been funded.
- Improved access to Oregon City from OR 213 brings the potential for redevelopment, especially for the decommissioned landfill area that has been investigated by numerous developers and ultimately abandoned due to the costs of necessary off-site improvements that would be required.

Nancy Kraushaar, formerly the Oregon City Public Works Director and now the Community Development Director/City Engineer for Wilsonville, sought out funding and provided oversight of the project. Aleta Froman-Goodrich, now the Oregon City Engineer, served as the project manager and Amy Jones led the waterline and sanitary sewer relocation design efforts.

2013 scholarship awards

2013 WTS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

One of the strongest functions of WTS Portland is to support up-coming transportation professionals through scholarship awards. They are a confidence boost that drives these women forward in their studies and eventual careers. Lastly, they provide an introduction to the robust network of transportation professionals in our growing chapter who represent the living blood of our industry.

This year, we received a record 34 applications from a very strong pool of applicants. This represents an increase in our chapter's visibility in academic circles statewide. We awarded our first Transportation YOU Scholarship to a high school senior in the amount of \$1,000 and maintained our highest award, the Gail Achterman Leadership Scholarship for Undergraduates and Graduates, at an impressive level of \$5,700, which is completely funded by attendee contributions at the Spring and Winter awards events.

One common thread of our winners this year was that they all have long backgrounds in transportation, are committed to the industry, and are accomplished leaders. The amount of our awards this year was a record for our chapter, totaling \$17,200. All applications except the Gail Achterman Leadership Scholarship were forwarded to WTS International for consideration at international level. International decisions are announced in March 2014 and any international winners will be reported in our 2014 annual report.

Transportation YOU Scholarship



Katy Schmidt

Transportation YOU is a program started by WTS and former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood to get more girls involved in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) subjects in school and eventually in industry. This is the first Transportation YOU scholarship award to be given by the Portland Chapter in the amount of \$1,000.

Katy Schmidt from Crescent Valley High School in Corvallis, OR was selected as our winner. Katy is a renaissance girl excelling in sports, music, and academics. She plays club soccer and high school varsity soccer. She also plays piano and is an accomplished leader in her school's Core Council. With a 4.0 grade point average, she ranks number 1 out of 238 students in her graduating class and is a National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalist. Finally, she was accepted to Brown University where she will begin to apply her two favorite subjects, math and science, in a civil engineering program starting in the Fall. She will also represent Brown as a Division I soccer player.

One of the driving forces behind Katy's desire to be an engineer is that she believes that hard work will enable her to one day claim credit for the design of a significant structure, design, or process (we hope it will be transportation related). Her recommendation letter reinforced her outstanding work ethic and innate intellectual skills, positive attitude, and ability to face challenges with optimism.

2013 scholarship awards

Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship



Meghan Veregge

This year's undergraduate scholarship in the amount of \$3,500 goes to Meghan Veregge, a University of Portland civil engineering student with a transportation focus. Meghan will graduate in May 2014 with a GPA of 3.90. She is currently the Vice President of the UP chapter of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and is a member of the Blue Key Honor Society.

Meghan also is a member of the UP

chapter of the Society of Women Engineers where she mentored an incoming freshman female engineer. She participated in the ITE Traffic Bowl in August and is currently an intern at Parsons Brinckerhoff designing bus rapid transit alignments and cross sections.

Other volunteer activities Meghan is involved in include volunteering for Portland Transition Projects and Habitat for Humanity. Her short-term goal is to continue her civil engineering design work at PB designing transit infrastructural amenities

TRANSPORTATION YOU

Transportation YOU Program Kicks Off 3rd Year

WTS Portland kicked off its third year of the Transportation YOU program continuing their partnership with Girls Inc. of NW Portland. This year's program involved an 8-week session with a group of middle school students at Lent Middle School. The after school program ties in with the Girls Inc. Operation SMART (Science, Math and Relevant Technology) program. A number of new volunteers participated this year. The sessions were lead by super volunteer and facilitator Kristen Kibler from JLA Public Involvement. Sessions included both in class room and field trip sessions.

Guest speakers and sessions included: Karen Buehrig, Rae-Leigh Stark and Grace Cho speaking on transportation options and modes; Dana Hanenburg and Bridget Weighart speaking on data that included a radar gun activity; Kristen Stallmen and Geoff Bowyer leading the girls on a tour of ODOT's Traffic Management Operation's Center; Cara Belcher, Colleen Smith and Susan Law speaking on design that included an exercise on bridge construction; Aryn Trimble, Kristin Hull and Jennifer Chariarse leading the girls on a tour fo the Portland Milwaukie Light Rail Project; and Susan Peithman, Hau Hagedorn and Hannah Crum speaking on design/construction and problem solving.

2013 scholarship awards

President's Leadership Legacy Scholarship for Graduates



Brenda Martin

The President's Leadership Legacy Scholarship in the amount of \$3,500 was awarded to Brenda Martin, a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning student at Portland State University. Originally from Sacramento, CA, Brenda received her bachelor's degree in Mass Communications and Political Science from U.C. Berkeley in 2006. Before deciding to go back to school

to study urban and transportation planning, Brenda had a career in local politics in San Francisco. This brought out her real passion for community organizing and gave her an understanding of all the issues that face citizens in their everyday lives: job creation, good schools, tenants' rights, crime, and of course, transportation.

Her current work at PBOT places her in a position to help current planning efforts to create livable streets and effective transportation options for all residents of Portland. She is also a WTS member and has a long-term career goal to bring efficient, effective transportation policy to underrepresented groups and to build safer, more livable cities.

She also is currently conducting research for the Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies at PSU as a Graduate Student Researcher on a project for the City of Beaverton – the HUD sponsored Creekside District Master Plan. Her work has focused on involving minority and vulnerable communities in the planning process.

Helene M. Overly Memorial Graduate Scholarship



Kelly Sanford

A non-traditional student receives this award this year for her work in urban street design. Kelly Sanford, a Masters of Architecture student at the University of Oregon, was our Overly Scholarship recipient this year. She will graduate in June 2014, and currently sports a 3.85 GPA. The selection committee was impressed with her commitment to transportation and the research she is undertaking as an architect of street spaces.

Before going back to school for a graduate degree, Kelly worked for the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition where she produced schematic street design drawings and renderings as their "Connecting the City" intern. She also interned at the City and County of San Francisco Planning Department where she was involved in the application process for San Francisco's parklets program as the "Pavements to Parks" intern. Parklets are former parallel parking spaces that have been converted to mini-parks rather than taking up valuable sidewalk space.

In the near future, she would "like to become an urban designer, designing bus shelters, benches, bike share systems, and other urban elements that may improve the viability and attraction of different transportation modes."

2013 scholarship awards

Gail Achterman Leadership Scholarship for Undergraduates and Graduates



Liz Kaster

Our chapter's highest honor is open to undergraduate and graduate students. It is funded exclusively by the contributions of our members at the Spring and Winter awards events. This year's award, valued at \$5,700, goes to someone with six years of experience in the industry, and has already made great strides as an active transportation planner and advocate.

Liz Kaster is a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning student at Portland State University, and is on track to graduate in June, 2015. Her strong work ethic is evidenced by her 3.82 GPA from the University of Puget Sound and her impressive work history at the City of Tacoma where she was an urban planner and commute trip reduction coordinator before returning to academia for a graduate degree. During her time in Tacoma, she assisted with the development of the Mobility Master Plan (the city's first bike/ped plan). You also might see some of her trademark bike lane ladies the next time you are in Tacoma (according to Liz, these are the only gender-specific bike lane symbols in the world). She managed the city's bicycle parking program and Tacoma's annual bicycle and pedestrian counting program.

2013 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

Heidi Beierle, Katie Bell, Kristie Gladhill and Patricia Neighbor

APPOINTMENTS

Shelli Romero is working with the WTS Board and our membership to highlight the opportunities and benefits to seeking appointments to boards and commissions - both transportation and non-transportation related at local and state levels. Service on boards and commissions has both personal and professional benefits as you learn about a variety of issues, gain new contacts and learn about different perspectives and acquire valuable experience in public policy. With more WTS members plugging into these opportunities, we will increase public awareness about our organization and our work and expand our span of influence!

Our efforts are paying off. In late 2013, two WTS members were named to the Portland Streetcar Board Inc. Kirsten Pennington and Chris Deffenbach applied and were confirmed to the Streetcar Board. For more information, or questions, contact Shelli Romero at Shelli@rosecitychica.com.

professional development

WTS International's mission to transform the transportation industry through the advancement of women is, in part, carried out through the Portland Chapter's commitment to professional development. In 2013 more than 100 attendees had the opportunity to participate in evening lectures and an all-day workshop that gave members opportunities to continue learning about their field and expand their transportation interests. Events included the opportunity to earn AICP and PE continuing education credits.

WTS Portland also continues to partner with OTREC, OAPA and ITE for planning and executing the annual Oregon Transportation Summit. Attendance continues to climb at this successful event which brings together educators, national and community leaders, and state-wide professionals for a day of networking, learning and fun.

2013 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENTS INCLUDED:

Health Impact Assessment Workshop, February 5, 2013

A full day health impact assessment (HIA) workshop for health professionals was led by Steve White of the Oregon Public Health Institute. WTS and OAPA partnered with OPHI on this event, with space provided by David Evans and Associates. This workshop aimed to increase understanding of the HIA rationale and process, as well as multi-sectoral understanding of key public health concepts and social determinants of health. The workshop covered how to know when an HIA is appropriate, and being able to identify opportunities to integrate HIA or similar health assessments



Health Impact Assessment Workshop, February 2013

into existing impact assessments. Workshop goals were to increase understanding of the HIA process practices and projects, while also strengthening relationships between organizations interested in integrating health into their work.

Alternative Performance Measures: The 5 W's, May 7, 2013

A panel of speakers discussed why and how alternative performance measures are impacting transportation planning at their agency. Susie Wright, of Kittelson & Associates, moderated a panel including Lidwien Rahman from ODOT, Peter Koonce from PBOT, Larry Conrad from Clackamas County, Steve Kelley from Washington County, Deena Platman from Metro, and Jon Makler from PSU PORTAL. The panel explored why agencies are exploring alternative performance measures, what types of measures are being explored and applied, what is being found, and next steps for implementing or codifying them. Metro and PSU shared updates about the latest ITS advancements that are making different types of data available for evaluating and monitoring system performance. Jon Makler asked for audience input on what they use in PORTAL, and what they would like to see in future additions and updates.

Business Development Live!, June 12, 2013

Frank Lippert of Go! Strategies set up and moderated a BD Live! session. A real client, with real work on the horizon, was brought to the stage: Sean Batty, TriMet Director of Operating Projects. The client was interviewed by four very different business development professionals, live, on-stage, before the audience. One interviewee was modelling things particularly not recommended to do to contrast the other interviewers. After the interviews, the client and BD professionals talked about what did and did not work, and compared the styles demonstrated. It was an informative learning session for everyone involved, helping attendees learn how to make effective cold calls to potential clients, and using techniques for interviewing a client to get valuable information to help their firm win work, and how to use their network to maximize and expand business relationships. It also gave insight into what clients really think about the procurement process, and what is most important to them when evaluating proposals.

Reception with Susan Shaheen, November 11, 2013

Dr. Susan Shaheen, from UC Berkeley, was one of the luncheon panelists. She graciously stayed a couple hours after the luncheon for a reception which allowed a small group the opportunity to talk with Susan directly, hearing more about her research in bike as well as car sharing, trends and the outlook for the future.

Tolling: why, what where, when and how, November 13, 2013

Tolling has not been a common transportation management tool in the Northwest, but is starting to be considered and implemented for more locations. Bart Cima, a Director with the IBI Group, spoke on this topic from historic roots to modern technology, and new technology available in this field. He brought along samples of transponders to show how they are evolving to be smaller, to the point of being a sticker rather than a far bulkier device. He talked about current tolling systems around the country, and in the Northwest, as well as potential new systems.

Oregon Transportation Summit, September 16, 2013

The Oregon Transportation Summit brings together hundreds of Oregon's academic and practicing transportation professionals to advance the state of the art by accelerating new research into practice and shaping the agenda for future research. The summit features a plenary session, a luncheon program and a variety of workshop sessions. The plenary session opened with Adie Tomer, a Senior Research Associate and Associate Fellow at the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program. Adie spoke about the interrelations of transportation and economic opportunities, exploring whether transportation supports the new economy model as vehicle miles traveled drop and there are demographic shifts. The luncheon keynote speaker was Taras Grescoe, author of "Straphanger: Saving our Cities and Ourselves from the Automobile," discussing his views on how transportation shapes our cities and how one can live without the automobile.

MENTORING

The Portland Chapter rolled out a new format for the WTS Mentoring Group as part of the 2013 program. Instead of pairs, teams of three professionals were put together consisting of a senior, mid-level, and entry-level transportation professional. The goal of the program was to expand the opportunities of mentoring and allow the senior team member to aid in growing the mentoring skills of the mid-level professional, while both of these professionals provide guidance to the entry level professional. In addition, this gives an entry-level professional the chance to have face time with a senior transportation professional that they might not otherwise have. Topics covered included preparing resumes, networking, cultural changes in organizations, goal setting and risk taking.

professional development

Workshop topics at Oregon Transportation Summit included:

- How is Oregon responding to MAP-21?
- What if the fare isn't fair?
- What's black and white and green all over?
- Saving Energy with Connected Vehicles
- BOOM! POW! Dissertation Showcase
- Has 'MovingCooler' cooled off?
- Here and There, Then and Now on BRT
- Tackling Tricky Truck Treatments

WTS provided full scholarships for four local members to be able to attend the workshop.

WTS held a reception, co-hosted with ITE Oregon, following the Summit with one of its distinguished speakers, Marcia Pincus. Marcia is the program manager for U.S. Department of Transportation's ITS and the Applications for the Environment: Real-time Information Synthesis (AERIS) at the ITS Joint Program Office.

2013 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

Katie Bell, Chengxin Dai, Dru van Hengel, Sharon Miller, Patricia Neighbor and Susie Younie

SOCIAL MEDIA

WTS Engages with Social Media in 2013

Responding to member feedback received through our annual survey, the WTS Portland Chapter expanded its communications efforts to include social media. This effort, led by Communications Chair Mandy Putney and supported by Becca Sterbenz, has created new ways for members, sponsors, likeminded organizations and the media to engage with WTS. We encourage members to check out our Facebook page, follow us on Twitter and share relevant professional information with our LinkedIn group.

2013 OUTREACH COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

Courtney Duke, Talia Jacobsen, Hannah Ritchie, Nicole Schmidt and Becca Sterbenz



This year, the WTS Portland Chapter hosted its fourth annual leadership training. This year's program, Leadership for Emerging and Advancing Professionals (LEAP), targeted women one-to-five years in their transportation careers. It is a competitive process, attracting a stellar group of women transportation professionals. The WTS Portland Chapter is proud of the growth these women demonstrated during the busy two-day retreat.

The goal of the workshop was to develop a life plan based on professional and personal growth objectives. Participants focused on how to reach the next level of their professional growth, what to do to stretch themselves to remain excited, satisfied, challenged, relevant, and marketable, and how to develop goals to help achieve career and life plans.

Participants explored concepts such as their personality type and the types of others, how different personalities react with stress and how they thrive, emotional intelligence, the role of power, work-life balance, change and accountability, and how to have presence when leading a group. They used these concepts to inform their personal vision and goals. A panel of female WTS members, mid-to-senior in their careers, shared their work and life paths, obstacles, opportunities, and epiphanies.

Not only was the content worthwhile for attendees, but the connections they made among their peers will serve them for years to come. One woman said of her experience, "This workshop was a wonderful pause for me. I can get so wrapped up in being busy that I forget to reflect, and Judy (our facilitator) made it very easy to take a step back and refocus. I also appreciate all of the personal connections that I have made, and feel that this workshop gave me a great place to start my relationship with this wonderful group of women."



2013 LEAP participants (top row, left to right) are Anastasia Roeszler, DKS Associates; Patricia Neighbor, Wasco County; Vanessa Vissar, TriMet; Jenny Cadigan, Westside Transportation Alliance; Kate McQuillan, Multnomah County; Kristie Gladhill, ODOT; (bottom row, left to right) Thaya Patton, Metro; Brie Becker, NelsonWygard; Alison Tanaka, Kittelson & Associates; Grace Cho, Metro; Karla Kingsley, Kittelson & Associates; and Angela Rogge, David Evans & Associates.

2013 LEAP COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

This training was possible due to the generous support of our corporate sponsors. Next fall, the leadership training targeting women mid-to-senior level in their careers, Leadership Excellence and Development (LEAD) will be held. Watch for information in the late summer for the 2014 program.

LEAP ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Joanna Valencia
Cindy Pederson
Cathy Hastie
Lynn Averbeck
Dee Hidalgo

LEAP PANEL SPEAKERS:

Kirsten Pennington, ODOT
Tara Weidner, ODOT
Deena Platman, Metro
Kristin Hull, CH2M HILL

2013 financial report

WTS Portland Chapter started the year with \$48,495 in cash and long-term savings. Our total assets, made up of cash and long-term savings, at the end of 2013 were \$47,812. In 2013, the Portland Chapter raised about \$35,000 in corporate sponsorship and approximately \$31,000 from other income (including event registration fees and membership dues, primarily). The Portland Chapter spent about \$66,000 on monthly luncheon programs, special events, professional development events, the LEAD workshop, and scholarships. Overall the chapter spent approximately \$680 more than received making a very minor impact on the chapter's long-term savings and spending.

Much of the Chapter's long-term savings came from revenues earned from hosting the WTS National Conference in 1996. Currently, approximately \$31,000 of our assets (those from the 1996 WTS National Conference revenues) is being reserved to underwrite another significant event, hosting the 2014 International Conference in Portland.

Historically, our events have been planned so that revenues would cover costs; however, the past several years have demonstrated that underwriting events is necessary in order to maintain the quality of our event venues and food service while keeping member costs low and accessible to our entire community of professionals. Keeping costs low is one of our primary goals in order to maintain well-attended events because networking opportunities have continuously been identified as one of the most valuable benefits of membership.

INCOME

Corporate Sponsorship	\$ 34,806.20
Special Events	12,495.83
Luncheons	10,885.80
Membership	6,470.00
Professional Development	527.55
Interest	71.40
Others	0.00
TOTAL 2013 INCOME	\$ 65,256.78

EXPENSES

Special Events	\$ (16,795.55)
Luncheons	(14,791.73)
LEAD/LEAP Workshop	(10,574.14)
Scholarships*	(11,500.00)
Membership	(3,836.50)
Treasury Administration**	(3,177.74)
Others**	(2,209.97)
Opportunity Response***	(1,240.37)
Professional Development	(945.89)
Fundraising	(557.05)
Mentorship	(228.50)
Awards and Recognition	(74.90)
Secretary	(7.50)
TOTAL 2013 EXPENSES	\$ (65,939.84)

* A total of \$17,200 in Scholarships was awarded in 2013. But the difference of \$5,700 was funded by the individual donations at our Spring & Winter events through our WTSF account and not part of the chapter's budget.

** Others include member support, president to the National Conference, chapter management training, and silent auction expenses.

*** Opportunity Response includes 2014 WTS National Conference and high profile speaker expenses.

fundraising and sponsorship

The Fundraising Committee has been hard at work to raise funds to support the 2014 WTS International Conference and 2014 Portland Chapter activities. The fundraising target is set at \$175,000, which will cover the conference expenses, local chapter operational expenses, the Portland Chapter scholarship fund, and events the week of the conference. Thank you for all the generous support from our 2013 and 2014 Sponsors so far.

2013 FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

Frank Angelo, Mike Baker, Wayne Bauer, Heather Catron, Catherine Ciarlo, Peter Coffey, Reza Farhoodi, Ashleigh Griffin, Kristin Hull, Sheila Muckridge, Shayna Rehberg, Charissa Rotramel, Linda Scronce-Johnson, April Siebenaler, Dave Siegel, (Co-Chair), Alison Tanaka and John Willis



corporate sponsors

WTS THANKS OUR GENEROUS 2013 CORPORATE SPONSORS!

Platinum - \$2,500



Gold - \$1,500



Silver - \$750



Bronze - \$300

- Brooks Staffing
- Cambridge Systematics
- Fregonese Associates
- GRI
- JLA Public Involvement
- WH Pacific

WTS WELCOMES OUR 2014 CORPORATE SPONSORS!

St. John's - \$10,000



Fremont - \$7,500



Hawthorne - \$5,000



Broadway - \$3,500



Burnside - \$1,000

