



INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

International Transportation Committee (ITC)



2010 Spring Forum Report

Chairman: Jerry Colburn, SR/WA, R/W-RAC
Vice Chairman: Chris Pawloski, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

LoAnn Weight, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC
Region 1 ITC Representative

The ITC Mission

- **To provide advice and assistance to the Association on matters related to the acquisition, use, management or disposal of rights of way for transportation.**
- **Examine and monitor legislation or changes in legislation affecting methods or practices pertaining to transportation**
- **Communicate with the other International Committees on all interagency or legislative activities and keep other industry committees informed.**

The following items represent a summary of the major projects and initiatives undertaken and ongoing within the International Transportation Committee since our Fall, 2009 ITC Report. The ITC is dedicated to continually improving our service to the IRWA membership and is interested in receiving feedback from all members on any issue.

2010 Annual Education Conference

The ITC is currently working toward another round of informative sessions for the 2010 Education Conference in Calgary next June. We were selected for 5 sessions and they are outlined in the attached matrix.

About the ITC

The ITC membership is made up of IRWA members from both the US and Canada. We have a mix of both the governmental agencies (on the national, state and local levels) and private consultants. Our ITC members come from nearly all fields of the Right of Way profession. We have appraisers, relocation advisors, acquisition specialists, environmental experts, experts in the field of personal property, and engineering professionals. Our membership also includes State and Federal employees that are engaged in Policy and Rules Making. The ITC is an umbrella that covers all dispositions that deal with Right of Way and is striving to be the most valuable resource for right of way information – specializing in transportation.

The ITC is very visible as a participant in the Annual Education Conference each year. Generally presentations by the ITC have record attendance and the use of “Attendee Surveys” is very valuable in evaluating both the quality of the content and the presenters.

Breakdown of ITC Functions

“The ITC shall study and report on general and specific concepts, practices and procedures relating to right of way and real property acquisition with special attention to areas of cooperation, coordination, and advance planning in the effective use of right of way by public or private agencies.”

Focus. We are committed to becoming the foremost resource for transportation issues related to the right of way profession – not only for the Association, but for public and private concerns outside of the IRWA.

Strategy. Our strategy is to identify each transportation field and develop a ***Transportation Resource Directory*** showing which of our ITC members have a particular strength or interest in that field. We have asked that all ITC members submit their resumes to the Chairman or Vice Chair so that we can identify our assets in any given transportation discipline.

“The ITC shall promote and encourage persons, schools and other organizations, involved in right of way and real property acquisition, to participate with it in research and preparation of acquisition procedures.”

Focus. Our immediate focus is to make people outside of our organization aware of what we do. The ITC needs to ensure that our message and our branding are professional

and consistent. We will market the fact that we are a transportation and right of way resource for all and we welcome collaboration.

Strategy. We will partner with other professional associations when possible and contact public agencies and private industry where the IRWA representation is weak. We will make a special effort to reach out to public officials, colleges and universities. The ITC will participate at appropriate conferences and seminars and will provide speakers where possible in order to encourage stronger relationships and collaboration.

“The ITC shall encourage chapters, acting through chapter transportation committees, to participate with it in its studies and in the performance of functions similar to its own, on the local level.”

Focus. Although all local chapters do not have a Transportation Committee, our Region Representatives need to make an effort to provide outreach to those chapters that do have a committee. If there is no Transportation Chair, we will focus our communication on the President.

Strategy. When we develop our *Transportation Resource Directory*, we will be able to communicate this information to all of the chapters through the Transportation Chair or the President of the chapter. This will be a large marketing task for the Region Representatives and other Members at Large within the regions.

“The ITC shall review the work and programs of the chapter Transportation Committees and shall make quarterly reports to the International President Elect and the International Executive Vice President on committee activities at the chapter or international level.”

Focus. Our focus with the chapter Transportation Committees will be aimed toward creating an awareness of and enhancing our *Transportation Resource Directory*. The chapter Transportation Committees will help us with the first phase of our marketing effort to all members who have a stake in transportation right of way issues.

Strategy. We will contact all of the chapters – either through the Transportation Committee or the Chapter President if there is no Transportation Chair. We will present a matrix illustrating the ITC’s transportation specific knowledge and we will ask for the chapter’s collaboration and ideas for letting others know of this transportation resource. This will also revitalize the Email Outreach Project that was started in 2006.

The ITC Email Outreach Project

The Email Outreach Program provides an exchange of ideas and information between the ITC and Chapter Members. Transportation Stakeholders will share information on issues such as:

- Information about activities the ITC is pursuing or is considering
- Hot topics or new trends that are occurring (whether on a national level or in a specific area)
- Program issues or specific problems that are encountered on a program or project

- Suggestions for break-out session topics that the ITC might sponsor in upcoming Annual Education Conferences
- Topics for potential research projects
- Information about pending or implemented legislation, regulatory changes or court decisions
- Presentations on a wide range of transportation issues
- Suggestions for training course development or improvement of existing courses
- Anything that pertains to the mission of IRWA or our Committee

Additional Assignments to the Transportation Committee From the IEC

We have been asked to be more involved with the education process, the “how- to’s” of the review process, identifying the gaps and partnership opportunities both within and outside of our association. We are drafting a response that is due at the end of the calendar year. Some of the specific items to be addressed are as follows:

- Review current IRWA courses in your specialty area and determine if they need to be revised, rebuilt or replaced. We currently have submitted Course 100 (Principals of Land Acquisition) and Course 105 (The Uniform Act Executive Summary) as courses that we would like to review and provide recommendations to the IPDC.
- Are there enough active facilitators for the courses that we are reviewing? If not, do we have any recommendations for attracting new facilitators? Are they needed in specific geographic areas?
- Do the case studies need to be updated?
- Does the ITC have committee members that can volunteer to write exam questions? We need A & B versions of all exams.
- Does the ITC want any input into edits for the “Principles of Right of Way” textbook?
- Can we suggest at least one new course that relates specifically to our committee?
- Canvas committee members to determine the types of real estate activities involved with transportation. We are fulfilling this by developing the ***Transportation Resource Directory***.
- Review current certifications and determine if additional certifications are needed in our area of focus. We are also working with the IPDC to develop and monitor a curriculum for Departments of Transportation Right of Way Training.
- Analyze Gap Analysis data to identify future needs within our area for recruitment, education and professional development, providing at least one suggestion for a new course that relates specifically to our committee.
- Plan and execute education sessions at the 2010 Calgary and 2011 Atlanta Annual Education Conferences, with an eye toward meeting the emerging needs of our constituents.
- Actively partner with the International Professional Development Committee.
- Serve as the committee of reference for informing and educating members on current issues affecting our profession, when required. This is also being fulfilled by our ***Transportation Resource Directory*** and our outreach to chapters.

- Are the ITC members aware of other professional associations that have competing or complimentary education programs? Are there opportunities for partnering, membership recruitment, etc.?
- What IRWA committees does your committee fit horizontally with and how will the ITC analyze our current constituency and see if there are any gaps?

VISION STATEMENT

“The International Right of Way Association will be the worldwide leader for innovation and excellence in the acquisition and management of right of way.”

In summary, we on the ITC are committed to improving our effectiveness and our responsiveness to the IRWA members. We encourage you to contact your Regional Representative on the ITC, the Chair or Vice-Chair with your issues, suggestions, potential projects, suggested conference topics, speakers, or just plain advice. Please remember we value input from all association members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Colburn, Chairman

Chris Pawloski, Vice Chair