

Michiganite



Official Publication of the Michigan Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers

Letter from the President By: Matt Hunter - HNTB



MI ITE Section,

Greetings all! I hope everyone enjoyed a fun and active summer this year. I'm sure, like many of you, the last 18 months has felt like a time warp, so it's been great to transition back to safe in-person interactions.

Despite the challenges over the last year, ITE MI has continued to thrive.

In February, the annual trivia event was hosted virtually with a great turn out and a lot of fun for all. Thanks to Tessa Norman and the trivia planning committee for making this event a success. We're looking forward to returning to in person trivia in 2022 at exciting venues in Grand Rapids, Lansing, and Detroit Area.

The technical sessions committee continued to rise to the challenge with a virtual technical session in March organized seamlessly, and the first in person technical session in October hosted at the Kalamazoo Valley Community College. It was so good to see familiar faces and meet many new like-minded professionals. As always, the presenters were engaging, relevant, and interesting. Well done presenters! A special thanks to the technical sessions committee lead by Ellen Nightingale and Julie Kroll.

Our golf outing was another huge success with perfect weather. Great to see so many golfers having fun and networking together. We also revealed the new ITE MI logo at the 19th hole hangout. Thanks to Aimee Giacherio and the entire golf outing committee for their hard work putting it together year after year.

The Young Professionals Group (YPG) is off to a great start, meeting regularly and hosting frequent lunch and learns. Thanks to Cole Villalobos and the other YPG for your hard work and commitment to ITE MI.

I'm sure everyone is anxiously awaiting the board election which will be coming soon. We have two great candidates and can't wait to see who will be elected and join the board as director next year. Whoever that is, I'm confident they will lead our organization to great things. We are excited to announce the results at the upcoming December annual meeting to be held at the Bird on December 3rd. Hope you can join us!

~ Cheers,
Matt Hunter, PE, PTOE

Matt Hunter can be reached at (517) 256-9362 or mhunter@hntb.com

Table of Contents

- Letter from the President 1
- ITE Great Lakes District Meeting 2
- ITE Trivia Night 3
- New Members 3
- ITE Fall Technical Session 4
- ITE Educational Fund Golf Outing 5
- Treasurer's Report 7
- ITE Michigan Section Awards 8
- 2021 Young Professional Committee (YPC) 9
- Executive Board & Committee Chairpersons 10
- Advertisements 11

ITE Great Lakes District Meeting Summary August 29-30, 2021 in Columbus, Ohio By: Ellen Nightingale, MDOT

The Great Lakes District Meeting was held August 29th through August 31st, 2021 at the Hilton Easton in Columbus, Ohio. Approximately 175 attendees traveled from across the newly redistricted ITE Great Lakes District, including Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota.

The district meeting had many challenges to overcome with the COVID-19 pandemic. The original date for the conference was scheduled for April 19-20th, 2021. With the number of travel restrictions from various companies, the decision was made in January to move the conference. The student traffic bowl was still held on April 20th virtually.

The first day of the meeting began with an optional Transportation Impact Analysis (TIA) workshop led by Eric Tripi (GHD) and Brad Strader (MSKS). All eight modules were taught in a one-day crash course. This workshop was a Great Lakes-focused version of the consistently sold out International ITE TIA workshop developed by the same instructors.

On Sunday afternoon, the new GL-ITEy race began. Previously in the Midwestern District, the M-ITEy race was a scavenger hunt in teams to grow familiar with the local area, network with your team, and to raise money for the endowment fund. Now with the new redistricting, this tradition is being carried forward.

The Sunday evening reception was held on the balcony of hotel with an open bar. The rain held off just long enough for everyone to gather and catch up. The humidity was sweltering, condensing on the skin just as fast as the drinks, but that did not dampen the attendance. People were so eager to be out socializing with old colleagues after our long pandemic hiatus, the weather did little to deter.

Monday and Tuesday were filled with a variety of presentations. The opening session kicked off with ITE President Alyssa Rodriguez describing in detail what ITE at the international level is doing. She urged more professionals to volunteer on committees and highlighted the pro bono work volunteers have accomplished to date.

(See the website for more detail:

<https://www.ite.org/technical-resources/councils/>)

The Monday lunch keynote presented on the independent test track facility in Ohio, the Transportation Research Center. COTA provided a bus and driver for the Monday afternoon mobility tour. Jeff Kupko described to participants the Smart Columbus initiatives in action. The mobility tour ended at the Ohio DOT Traffic Management Center.

Monday evening's social was at Pins Mechanical Company. The bar featured duck bowling, a game played with smaller pins and a "bowling" ball to be thrown rather than rolled. The venue was complete with an open bar for conference attendees, free arcade games, and an adult-sized slide. It provided another opportunity for much needed networking.

Tuesday started at 8:30am with many technical presentations from which to choose. From how COVID impacted traffic to designing and planning for vision zero, the membership showed how their firms and agencies have been tackling challenges in the Great Lakes region. During all the sessions, eight vendors were available in the lobby to discuss products.

The meeting was only made possible thanks to the local arrangements committee and the 27 sponsors who supported the meeting through the uncertainty. This meeting was the first in-person district meeting for ITE post-pandemic.

The next district meeting will be held in Duluth, MN on June 20-22nd, 2022.

ITE Trivia Night February 25, 2021 (Virtual) By: Tessa Norman, HNTB

The 2021 annual Trivia Night, held on February 25, was a virtual live trivia. Thirty competitors answered 40 questions in math, transportation, pop culture, and sports. The final question was "What is Matt Hunter's current role in ITE?" and 65% answered correctly!

The winners were Dan Robyns in 1st, Stephan Maxe in 2nd, and Chris Beaur in 3rd.

A special thank you to Lia Michaels, Paul Arends, and Tessa Norman for writing questions!

Who is this
a meme of?



Math
30%

What
percentage of
an average
city is paved?



New Members of ITE Michigan Section

Matthew Taylor

James McGuire

Daniel Westenburg

Jacob Kleinhenz

Tracie Leix

Patrick Sloan

Megat Usamah Bin Megat Johari

Natalie Fylak

Steven Heinrich

Charles Keller

Baofu Wu

Emma Hagel

Thomas Fisher

Kirit Patel

Ganapathi Bharadwaj Badireddi

Travis Hare

Sara Phuong Ton

Mohamed Benhasan

Mazen Ibrahim

Matthew Keyes

Sunday Imosemi

Brandon Cotton

Welcome to the
Michigan Section of ITE!!

Do you want to become a member?

If so, please contact

John Engle at (517) 256-7860

or EngleJ1@michigan.gov

ITE Fall Technical Session October 6, 2021 in Kalamazoo, Michigan By: Matt Hill, WSP

The Fall Technical Session was Oct. 6, 2021 in Kalamazoo, MI with approximately 40 in attendance at the Kalamazoo Valley Groves Campus. This was our first in-person tech session since the pandemic started, so it was good to see everyone in person that attended. The morning kicked off with Hailey Savola and Jill Bauer of ROWE testing the traffic engineering knowledge of our attendees in an on-line trivia competition. Congratulations to Kyle Ramakers of Tetra Tech with the win!

Corey Hackworth of MDOT's Marshall TSC followed with a presentation on the I-69 Design-Build project in Calhoun and Eaton counties, which included some cool drone footage and some lessons learned regarding the DB process on one of MDOT's largest projects, public engagement, and how to preserve Massasauga rattlesnake habitat (spoiler alert, pay a fee to provide this habitat elsewhere).

Christina Anderson from the City of Kalamazoo then presented an update on the current and planned transportation improvements within the City with some historical context. Discussion largely focused on the various transportation studies that have been done over the years, the recent PEL conducted in the downtown, current roadway design guides the City is developing, as well as the relatively recent change in jurisdiction of several of the major one-way roadways that go through downtown from MDOT over to the City. Plans are for conversion of some of these roadways from one-way to two-way, and there was discussion on some of the non-motorized improvements that are being tested in the downtown currently and being planned for the near future.

Kelly Ferencz of HRC provided a career guidance session organized by the Young Transportation Professionals Committee. Kelly highlighted her career path and stressed many of the lessons learned along the way that have contributed to her success in this industry. One of the main takeaways was developing relationships within the industry. Relationships open doors and create opportunities for your career

to develop. Everyone in attendance also got to meet someone they previously did not know as part of a networking exercise led by Kelly.

Lunch was followed by the Michigan ITE awards announcements where the following award were handed out:

- Transportation Achievement Award to the City of Jackson and Hubbell, Roth & Clark for "Circling Greenwood"
- President's Award to Tim Haagsma, Kent County Road Commission
- Young Member of the Year Award to Ellen Nightingale, Michigan Department of Transportation

Pete Pfeiffer, the MDOT Kalamazoo TSC Manager, followed the awards ceremony presenting on the high lake Michigan water concerns in Berrien County. The presentation focused on the lessons learned and problem solving techniques the department employed to alleviate roadway flooding that was occurring due to the rising Lake Michigan water levels as well as mitigating bluff erosion along the Lake itself. The problems were not always obvious and required multiple troubleshooting sessions to get to an effective solution. Pete walked us all through that process with some great photos and Q & A.

Our last speaker of the day was Ellen Nightingale of MDOT's SW Region who spoke on "Advocacy and Developing Younger Engineers." Ellen took us through the moments in her life that stood out where different people advocated for her and what led her to taking the steps to become an engineer (one of those steps involved her aiding in particle physics research at Notre Dame while still in high school on the urging of her science teacher). Ellen described different small and impactful efforts all professionals can do to meaningfully change lives, and provided examples of different types of networking (like ITE), mentoring, and making connections.

ITE Educational Fund Golf Outing By: Aimee Giacherio, Wade Trim

The 29th Annual ITE Educational Fund Golf Outing was held at Mystic Creek Golf Club in Milford, Michigan on Thursday, June 3rd under gorgeous sunny skies. We had a spectacular outing and the Michigan Section ITE Golf Committee would like to extend our thanks to all the firms that generously supported this year's benefit golf tournament. This year's golf outing was a great success with a total of 128 golfers and 42 sponsors! All of our sponsors are listed below. Additional thanks are extended to all of the outing participants. Many of you dug deep into your pockets to participate in the on-course challenge holes, raffle, and flagging tape which contributed to 24 percent of the total profit.

Congratulations to the RS Engineering team consisting of Steve Stramsak, Bob Rayl, Tom Sereseroz, and John Stevenson who captured first place at the event. (see photo below)

2021 1st Place Team - RS Engineering

Profits from this year's event totaled \$13,352 which is the second highest profit in our history! All the proceeds are deposited directly into the Michigan Section ITE Educational Fund. This fund is used to provide free attendance at Michigan Section meetings, to provide monetary awards for annual student research paper competition, to help defray students' costs for attending national ITE and Transportation Research Board meetings, and to provide scholarships to worthy transportation engineering students at Michigan State University, Michigan Technological University, and Wayne State University.

Thanks to all who made this event a huge success!!

continued on page 6...



ITE Educational Fund Golf Outing

... continued from page 5

Hole & Lunch Sponsors:

- AECOM
- Billy Field Cookies
- Carrier & Gable
- Econolite
- Econolite Systems
- HNTB
- Integral Blue
- Iteris
- MDI Worldwide
- National Sign & Signal Co.
- OHM Advisors
- QWICK KURB, INC.
- Rathco Safety Supply, Inc.
- Trinity Industries

Hole Sponsors:

- Carmanah Technologies
- DLZ Michigan, Inc.
- Dornbos Sign Inc.
- Eberle Design, Inc.
- Fleis & VandenBrink
- GHD
- Hubbell, Roth, & Clark, Inc.
- ITS Michigan
- Mannik & Smith Group
- Mayor John B. O'Reilly Jr
- Michael Baker International
- MS2
- Pelco
- Progressive AE
- Quality Counts LLC
- Rowe PSC
- Sensys Networks, Inc.
- Spalding DeDecker
- Tetra Tech
- Traffic Data Collection, LLC
- TrafficCalm Systems
- Wade Trim
- WSP

Other Contributors:

- Gary Piotrowicz
- Joseph Marson
- Kevin McCarthy
- Tim Haagsma
- Bill Sproule (MTU)

Special thanks to our volunteers at HRC and Tim Haagsma for presenting the awards!



Treasurer's Report - September 2021
By: Joyce Yassin, WSP

Treasurer's Report: September 2021
Joyce Yassin

Section Fund Balance (As Of :	\$ 33,826.34
--------------------------------------	---------------------

Section Fund Balance	\$ 33,826.34
----------------------	--------------

ACTIVITIES for January 1 through September 27, 2021

Income - Section Regular Fund	\$ 46,945.50
--------------------------------------	---------------------

Dues	\$ 2,903.50
Advertisements	\$ 4,800.00
Meetings	\$ 620.00
Golf Outing: Golfer Fees	\$ 11,583.00
Golf Outing: Sponsor Fees	\$ 10,950.00
Golf Outing: Flagging Tape, 50/50, Seed Mon	\$ 3,089.00
ITE International	\$ 13,000.00

Expenses - Section Regular Fund	\$ 31,082.17
--	---------------------

Postage & Supplies	\$ 11.00
Website	\$ 213.18
Meetings	\$ 475.62
Great Lakes District Mtg (President)	\$ 820.49
Great Lakes District Mtg (Board Member)	\$ 1,322.46
Plaques/Awards/Prizes	\$ 175.00
General liability Insurance	\$ 1,527.00
Golf Outing: Seed Money	\$ 450.00
Golf Outing: Gifts/Prizes	\$ 900.00
Golf Outing: Course Fee (Golf/Cart/Lunch)	\$ 10,880.00
Student Paper Award	\$ 800.00
Young Professional Committee (incl. \$200 log	\$ 200.00
ITE GLD Sponsors	\$ 900.00
Student Scholarships	\$ 12,000.00
Bank Charges/PayPal Fees	\$ 407.42

ITE Michigan Section Awards By: Hailey Savola, ROWE PSC - Awards Committee Chairperson

The 2021 ITE Michigan Award presentation took place on October 6, 2021 at the Fall Technical Session in Kalamazoo. Hailey Savola, ROWE PSC, on behalf of the ITE Awards Committee and the ITE Michigan Board, presented the following awards:

- **Transportation Achievement Award to the City of Jackson and Hubbell, Roth & Clark for “Circling Greenwood”**
- **President’s Award to Tim Haagsma, Kent County Road Commission**
- **Young Member of the Year Award to Ellen Nightingale, Michigan Department of Transportation**

Congratulations to all of the award recipients!

The 2022 Awards Brochure will be sent out in January and we are looking for another wonderful round of entries. If you are interested in nominating someone, please be on the lookout for the announcement e-mail in January 2022. Awards will be due in late April of 2022.



Transportation Achievement Award as presented to City of Jackson & HRC

Pictured from Left to Right:

Hailey Savola, ROWE/ITE Michigan Awards Chair
Cole Villalobos, HRC
Lia Michaels, HRC
Matt Hunter, HNTB/Michigan ITE President



Young Member of the Year Award as presented to Ellen Nightingale, PE

Pictured from Left to Right:

Hailey Savola, ROWE/ITE Michigan Awards Chair
Ellen Nightingale, MDOT
Matt Hunter, HNTB/Michigan ITE President

2021 Young Professional Committee (YPC) By: Cole Villanobos, Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc - YPC Chair

Members: Cole G. Villalobos (HRC), Tessa Norman (HNTB), Benjamin Palevsky (MKSK), Adam McArthur (WSP), Steven Lavrenz, (WSU), Mohammad Alakash (AECOM), Hassen Alwalie (Danlaw Inc.), Joshua Fink (Econolite), Mohamed Benhasan (Michael Baker International), and Growing



The Michigan ITE Young Professional Committee (YPC) was formed by Cole G. Villalobos, P.E., PTOE in late 2020 and was kicked off by holding its first ever panel session at the December 3rd technical session Titled “Defining and Developing a Profession: Empowering Future Generations of Leaders in Transportation Engineering “. Shortly after the YPC held a Logo Contest to replace the ITE Michigan sections logo. After months of submissions, revisions, and voting by active ITE members the new logo was chosen on June 4th, 2021 and announced at the annual golf outing.

The YPC has held presentations at every technical session including the ones listed below:

- March 2021: Prepare. Perform. Please! - How to stand out during your virtual job interview
- October 2021: Career Guidance Session

On top of holding presentations at the technical session the YPC has started a virtual Lunch and Learn Webinar Series. With the help of experienced ITE professionals the following webinars have been held so far:

- How MDOT Operations Projects are Selected (September 2021)
- Cenral system management software and the TOC environment (November 2021)

With the growing use of technology, the committee is working on growing our social media presence. This year we added LinkedIn to the platforms that we use to reach our members. Please like/follow ITE Michigan on LinkedIn and Facebook! Both of which are linked to our website <https://itemichigan.org/>.

As the committee is approaching its one-year mark, we are hoping to continue our progress with the technical sessions and webinars as well as work toward fostering more student participation.

The YPC would like to thank the following individuals who have been supportive and have help the committee so far this year.

Kelly Ferencz (HRC), John Engle (MDOT), Paul Arends (AECOM), Danielle Deneau (RCOC), Chris Zull (Progressive AE), Lia Michaels (HRC), and Emil Wipprich.

A big thanks also goes out to all the dedicated committee members who have worked so hard to pull everything together.

If you would like to get involved with the committee, either as a member or as a supporter, please reach out to Cole G. Villalobos at Cvillalobos@hrcengr.com and check out our page located on the ITE Michigan Website.

2021 Executive Board & Committee Chairs

President:

Matt Hunter
HNTB Corporation
(517) 318-7566, mhunter@hntb.com

Vice President:

Mark S. Saksewski
City of Farmington Hills
(248) 871-2554, MSaksewski@fhgov.com

Treasurer:

Joyce Yassin
WSP USA / WSP Michigan Inc.
(313) 963-4923, Joyce.Yassin@wsp.com

Secretary:

John Engle
Michigan Department of Transportation
(517) 256-7860, EngleJ1@michigan.gov

Director:

Steve Stramsak
RS Engineering
sstramsak@rs-eng.com

Immediate Past President:

Lia Michaels
Hubbell, Roth & Clark
(248) 454-6812, lmichaels@hrc-engr.com

Affiliate Director:

John Carrier
Carrier & Gable, Inc.
(248) 477-8700, John@carriergable.com

Great Lakes District Director:

Kristi Sebastian
Dakota County, Minnesota
(952) 891-7178, kristi.sebastian@co.dakota.n.us

Technical Committee:

Ellen Nightingale
Michigan Department of Transportation
NightingaleE3@michigan.gov

Newsletter Editor:

Matthew Kolis
GHD
(248) 479-0226, matthew.kolis@ghd.com

Website:

Adam McArthur
WSP USA / WSP Michigan Inc.
(313) 963-5760

Education & Scholarships:

Tim Haagsma
Kent County Road Commission
(616) 242-6901, thaagsma@KentCountyRoads.net

Public Relations:

Kevin McCarthy
City of Farmington Hills
(248) 871-2858, kmccarthy@fhgov.com

Legislative State:

Mark Bott
Michigan Department of Transportation
(517) 335-2625, bottm@michigan.gov

Legislative Federal:

Dave Morena
Federal Highway Administration
(517) 702-1836, David.Morena@dot.gov

Nominating & Audit:

Sheryl Soderholm Siddall
Washtenaw County Road Commission
(734) 327-6687, siddalls@wccroads.org



Executive Board

Pictured from Left to Right:

Matt Hunter, HNTB
John Engle, MDOT
Lia Michaels, HRC
Mark Saksewski, City of Farmington Hills
Steve Stramsak, RS Engineering
Joyce Yassin, WSP



ANDERSON, ECKSTEIN & WESTRICK, INC.
CIVIL ENGINEERS - SURVEYORS - ARCHITECTS



“Engineering Strong Communities”

51301 Schoenherr Road, Shelby Township, MI 48315
www.aewinc.com | 586.726.1234

QUALITY.
TRUSTWORTHINESS.
COMMITMENT.

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE SINCE 1945.

BLN
BEAM · LONGEST · NEFF

51151 WEST PONTIAC TRAIL
WIXOM, MI 48393
248.863.2760 | B-L-N.COM

- BRIDGE DESIGN AND INSPECTION 
- ROADWAY, TRAFFIC, AND PLANNING 
- WATER RESOURCES AND NEPA PERMITTING 
- BROADBAND SERVICES 
- EMERGENCY SERVICES 
- CONSTRUCTION SERVICES 
- DEMOLITION SERVICES 
- SURVEY SERVICES 
- RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION 
- RIGHT-OF-WAY ENGINEERING 

RS
Engineering, LLC



Designing the connections that move you.



Studies



Design



Operations

517-908-0877 / Lansing & Farmington Hills
www.rs-eng.com

Road / Traffic / Bridge / Construction

Turning ideas
into reality

AECOM is the world's premier infrastructure consulting firm, partnering with clients to solve the world's most complex challenges and build legacies for generations to come.



aecom.com

AECOM



**The Power of
→ Commitment**

In a world that increasingly
needs us to be invested in it,
↳ we are

→ ghd.com




Your partner in
Michigan for Intelligent
Traffic Management
Systems

Today and in the future.

www.usa.siemens.com/intelligenttraffic



Siemens ITS has been supporting Michigan since the 1970s and is now building an even stronger local presences to meet your traffic management needs.

Contact our local technical sales team:

Steve Gitkin | VP, Sales and Marketing | steve.gitkin@siemens.com | +1 (551) 579-2619

Eric Gannaway | Senior Sales Executive | eric.gannaway@siemens.com | +1 (586) 488 5431

Russell Kudela | Senior Application Engineer | russell.kudela@siemens.com | +1 (586) 784-7205

James Krukowski | Senior Application Engineer | james.krukowski@siemens.com | +1 (248) 882-8334

Sam Markwood | Senior ITS Technical Cabinet Installation, Testing and Warehouse Manager | samuel.markwood@siemens.com | +1 (586) 876-4737



MKSK

Planning
Urban Design
Landscape Architecture

HUBBELL, ROTH & CLARK, INC.



248.454.6300 | hrcengr.com



ENGINEERING.

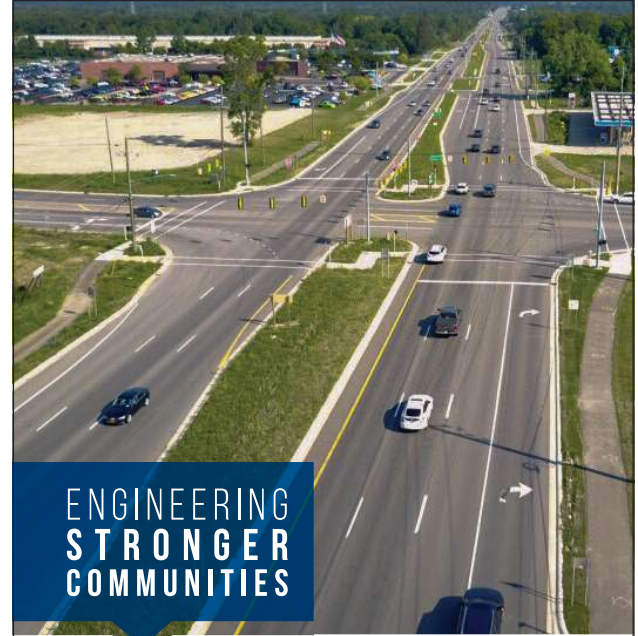
is what we do.

ENVIRONMENT.

is our inspiration.

EXCELLENCE.

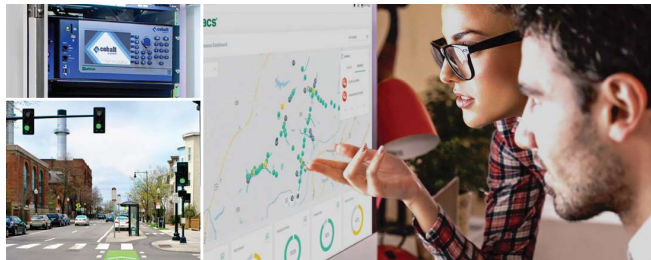
is our qualified professionals, technicians, and support staff.



ENGINEERING
STRONGER
COMMUNITIES



800.482.2864
www.wadetrim.com



One-Stop-Shop Leader in Traffic Management



24/7/365
Technicians Available



160,000+
Sensors Deployed



15,000+
ITS Devices Maintained



335+
Systems Deployed



57,000+
Intersections Managed



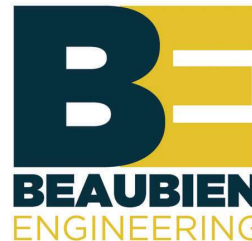
120,000+
Traffic Controllers Deployed

As the leader in one-stop-shop traffic management solutions, Econolite offers the most comprehensive portfolio of ITS products and services.

To learn more, visit www.econolite.com.



Saving Lives Through Improved Mobility®



RICHARD F. BEAUBIEN, P.E.
Professional Traffic Operations Engineer

beaubienengineering.com
rfbeaubienpe@gmail.com
248.515.3628

1685 Ross Drive
Troy, MI 48084

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, DESIGN & OPERATIONS



TDC utilizes the most current technology to ensure every traffic study is executed with the highest quality control. We specialize in performing video multi-modal traffic studies with WiFi/GPS capabilities & newest AI technology. This gives us the ability to apply our experience & insight into transportation projects in measuring specific road users, traffic patterns, behaviors & conflicts that help to identify safety issues & countermeasures.

**Contact: Traffic Data Collection, LLC www.tdccounts.com Phone: (586) 786-5407
Marc G. Matich, Principal matichm@tdccounts.com Cell: (248) 342-3933**

Thanks to all of our
MichiganITE
Newsletter Advertisers!!
For information on
how **YOU** can advertise in the
MichiganITE -
contact Matthew Kolis
at (248) 479-0226
or matthew.kolis@ghd.com