



Memorandum

To: Board of Directors
From: Rich Deal, Principal Engineer
Meeting Date: February 27, 2019
Subject: National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and Transportation Research Board Conference

On January 8 – 11, 2019, I attended the annual National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices of the Federal Highway Administration in Washington, DC. I serve as an Associate member of the Committee, sponsored by American Public Works Association. I am also a member of the pavement Markings Technical Committee, composed of state and local transportation agencies. The technical committees and council sessions focused on proposed changes to standards in each chapter of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, which is anticipated to be updated in 2020.

On January 13 – 17, 2019, I attended the annual Transportation Research Board conference in Washington, DC. The conference had over 900 sessions and meetings, along with vendor exhibits showcasing advances in transportation. This year, many of the research sessions and exhibits centered around emerging autonomous and connected vehicle technologies. US Department of Transportation Secretary, Elaine L. Chao gave a presentation on the advancement of automated vehicle technologies and de-regulation of some Federal Aviation Administration restrictions on drone and space flight limitations.

I focused on sessions about research and application of innovative roundabout designs to reduce crashes and move traffic in highly constrained settings. I presented at the Roundabout Video Theater session on: Downstream Merge Conditions Exiting Roundabouts. The Roundabout Video Theater also had some exceptional presentations of unusual roundabout treatments, Diverging Diamond Interchanges, Single Point Urban Interchanges, J-Turns, and multiple-roundabout corridors. I also serve on the Roundabout Committee, which met January 16. The 2020 International Roundabout conference will be in Monterey, CA, which will provide an excellent opportunity to showcase some of the roundabouts on the Central Coast.

The benefits of attending the Transportation Research Board annual conference centered on learning about new and emerging designs of roundabouts, alternative intersections, and bus rapid transit solutions that will enable safer, more creative solutions to benefit project designs for regional projects and support traffic solutions for member agencies.