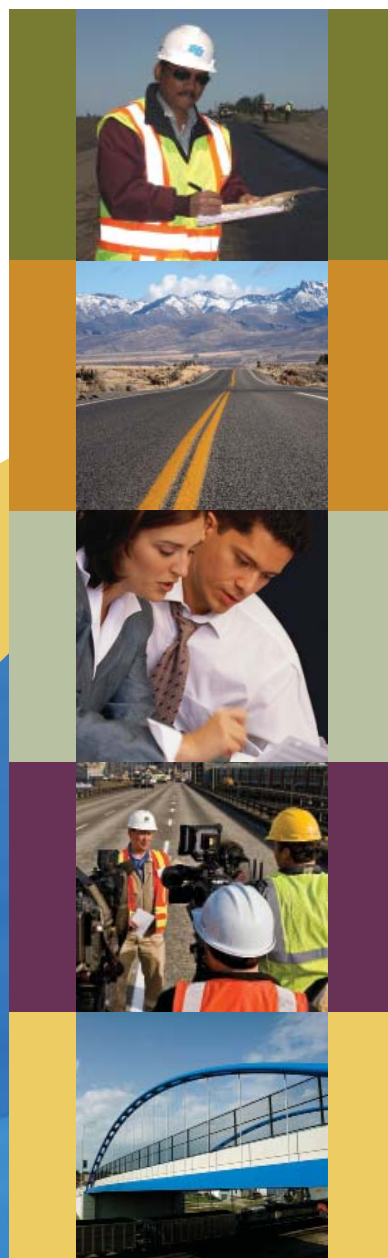


# 2013 NEWS MEDIA GUIDE





## INTRODUCTION



I'd like to introduce myself to those reporters who've covered AASHTO and to those who are new to the transportation beat. As AASHTO's newly appointed Executive Director, it is my privilege to represent our 52 member transportation agencies in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

This is a critically important period for America's transportation system. While state departments of transportation and federal agencies work to implement the various policy and program changes included in the recently enacted MAP-21 surface transportation bill, the debate over how to solve a growing transportation funding gap continues.

As the "Voice of Transportation" AASHTO plays an important role, helping states provide Congress and the news media critical information, careful analysis, and subject-matter expertise for Congressional testimony and news media interviews.

We know the importance of credible information and I encourage journalists to continue to turn to AASHTO as a resource for information on all transportation modes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bud Wright".

**BUD WRIGHT**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY  
AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS



As chair of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Transportation Communications and director of the Iowa Department of Transportation, I understand the vital role public information officers play in establishing and maintaining positive and open working relationships with the media. I also recognize the fact that these relationships are mutually beneficial to state transportation departments and the media. Communications personnel throughout the country listed in this publication

are available to assist in answering questions you may have about day-to-day transportation issues, and can be integral to information exchange during disasters and other major events. Whether it is a local, state, regional, or national transportation issue, don't hesitate to call upon one of the professionals listed within to deliver the information you are seeking.

**PAUL TROMBINO III**

DIRECTOR

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Journalists should consider the *2013 AASHTO Media Guide*, as a personal invitation to get to know our entire communications team and the information products we produce. The *Daily Transportation Update*, the *AASHTO Journal* and Transportation TV are on a growing list of resources available to the news media everyday.

My role is to serve as a liaison between journalists, AASHTO, and the communications professionals representing transportation agencies in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. This immediate access can help journalists to conduct research on myriad transportation issues and discover trends in a timely and well coordinated way.

TONY DORSEY

MANAGER, MEDIA RELATIONS

## AASHTO Subcommittee on Transportation Communications

The Subcommittee on Transportation Communications (TransComm) is made up of public affairs and communications professionals from transportation agencies in the 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. The subcommittee sponsors an annual meeting to encourage



the exchange of ideas, best practices, and educational programming within the industry.

The goal of TransComm is to promote excellence in communications.

The subcommittee also honors the accomplishments of its membership through annual skills awards and it advises other AASHTO committees on communications issues.

# 2013 NEWS MEDIA GUIDE

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# 2013 NEWS MEDIA GUIDE

## PURPOSE

Working journalists and news organizations can use this guide to identify a wide range of resources available to them within the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials including a list of subject matter experts. An electronic copy of the 2013 News Media Guide is available in the Newsroom section of the AASHTO homepage at: <http://news.transportation.org>.

## CONTACTING MEDIA RELATIONS

All media inquires and interview requests should be directed to the media relations department via email to Tony Dorsey at [tdorsey@aaashto.org](mailto:tdorsey@aaashto.org) or calling (202) 624-3690 or (202) 624-5802 during regular office hours; 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Members of the news media requiring assistance during breaking news events outside of regular business hours or during holidays should call (202) 624-3690 or (202) 412-2391.

## AASHTO PROFILE

### History

Founded in 1914, the American Association of State Highway Officials, as it was originally called, paved the way for the historic Federal Aid Road Act of 1916. This landmark legislation authorized the participation of the federal government in highway construction.

Since then, the association has built upon its state and federal partnership, advocating for the federal legislation that created the Interstate Highway System in 1956.

In 1973, as member states saw their responsibilities grow to include all transportation modes, the name was changed to American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

### AASHTO Today

Approaching its 100th anniversary, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials is the Voice of Transportation representing departments of transportation in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. AASHTO is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association serving as a catalyst for excellence in transportation.

## Press Advisories/News Releases

A press advisory contains brief but important information about the date, time, location and purpose of an upcoming media event or news conference. A news release contains detailed information about AASHTO's response to and/or position on a major transportation related news event or issue. News releases may also be used to provide information about news worthy events involving AASHTO and/or its members; highway and state departments of transportation in all 50-states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Press advisories and news releases are made available to the news media via e-mail. If members of your organization would like to be added to AASHTO's e-mail delivery list please send your e-mail address(s) and any additional contact information such as a cell phone number, to [tdorsey@AASHTO.org](mailto:tdorsey@AASHTO.org). Once a news release has been distributed it will also be posted on the home page of the AASHTO web site at [www.transportation.org](http://www.transportation.org).

## Transportation.org

Find the latest news releases, detailed public policy analysis, information about upcoming meetings, and extensive association information on AASHTO's website, [www.transportation.org](http://www.transportation.org). The website hosts more than 100,000 pages of information about all transportation modes.

## AASHTO Journal

The AASHTO Journal, published every Friday, offers original in-depth reporting on key transportation policy matters, as well as a roundup of national, state, and association news affecting the transportation industry. A free online subscription, as well as a searchable catalog of back issues, is available at [www.aashtojournal.org](http://www.aashtojournal.org).

## AASHTO Daily Transportation Update

The Daily Transportation Update provides a selection of links to transportation-related news stories and Federal Register notices online every weekday morning. Keep up with media coverage of the transportation industry with a free subscription available at: [news.transportation.org/subscription/index.aspx](http://news.transportation.org/subscription/index.aspx) View the latest edition at [news.transportation.org/daily\\_update.aspx](http://news.transportation.org/daily_update.aspx).





## Transportation TV

Launched in May 2009, as part of AASHTO's national marketing campaign, Transportation TV has developed into an industry leader—creating more than 300 original video productions that have accumulated nearly 700,000 video views. Transportation TV's goal is to increase awareness about the importance of transportation in America and spark dialogue about the level of investment needed to preserve and modernize all transportation modes.

Visit the web site at:

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



## Social Media

Wherever you are online, AASHTO is probably just a click away. AASHTO is active on these sites that we use to build relationships with the media, key interest groups and the public:

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/aashtospeaks](http://www.facebook.com/aashtospeaks)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/aashtospeaks](http://www.twitter.com/aashtospeaks)

Transportation TV: [www.transportationtv.org](http://www.transportationtv.org)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/aashtovideo](http://www.youtube.com/aashtovideo)

Flickr: [www.flickr.com/aashtophotos](http://www.flickr.com/aashtophotos)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/aashto](http://www.linkedin.com/company/aashto)

SlideShare: [www.slideshare.net/aashto](http://www.slideshare.net/aashto)



## Mobile

Transportation is on the move and so is AASHTO. AASHTO's free app is available for Apple and Android operating systems. It offers users a comprehensive overview of the day's news, the weekly AASHTO *Journal*, direct access to Transportation TV and the latest association news releases and updates. Visit the iTunes app store or Android Marketplace and search "AASHTO" to get the best of transportation news delivered right to your mobile device.



For more information, please contact Lloyd Brown, AASHTO Director of Communications, at (202) 624-5802 or [lbrown@aaashto.org](mailto:lbrown@aaashto.org).

AASHTO's goal is to educate the American public and key decision makers about the critical need to preserve and modernize the nation's transportation infrastructure; to advance safety and security; to ensure freight and personal mobility, and to facilitate project administration and delivery. AASHTO plays a key role in developing national transportation policy by acting as a liaison between state departments of transportation and the Federal government. It is frequently called upon by Congress to conduct surveys, provide data, and testimony on matters relating to transportation such as the Federal-Aid Highway and Transit Bill, which is typically reauthorized every five to six years.

**High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Information** can be found AASHTO's website, [www.highspeed-rail.org](http://www.highspeed-rail.org), offers the latest data and information on passenger rail projects being delivered by the state departments of transportation. State DOTs are responsible for



planning, building, and delivering high-speed and intercity passenger rail and are working collaboratively with existing freight and passenger railroads and the Federal Railroad Administration to achieve success. The site includes basic facts about high-speed and intercity passenger rail, descriptions of projects from 15 states, key links to state and federal websites, and reports and testimony.

For more information on AASHTO's High-Speed Rail program, contact Shayne Gill at [sgill@aashto.org](mailto:sgill@aashto.org).

**The Center for Environmental Excellence by AASHTO** is a resource for technical assistance, training information exchange, partnership-building opportunities, and quick-and-easy access to environmental tools. The center promotes environmental excellence in the delivery of transportation services by encouraging environmental stewardship and disseminating innovative ways to streamline the transportation delivery process. Visit the center's website: [environment.transportation.org](http://environment.transportation.org).



**The Center for Excellence in Project Finance by AASHTO** was established in 2008 to provide support to state transportation departments seeking to develop financial plans and project oversight tools. The center also offers training in state-of-the-art financing methods to help states advance projects and examine resourceful ways to leverage necessary funds. Visit the center's website: [cepf.transportation.org](http://cepf.transportation.org).



AASHTO's **Multi-State Technical Assistance Program (MTAP)** provides a network for state transit professionals to exchange a wide range of information on public transportation funding, operations, and program management. Visit its website at: [mtap.org](http://mtap.org).



The Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP) Technical Service Program provides data from the census bureau for necessary transportation planning purposes. The CTPP also delivers training and technical support and fosters and supports research on improving data's utility. Visit its website at: [ctpp.transportation.org](http://ctpp.transportation.org)

## ENGINEERING

AASHTO develops and publishes voluntary engineering standards and guidelines which are used worldwide to design, construct, maintain, and operate highway and transportation facilities.

The standards and guidelines are contained in over 200 publications and documents that are developed by transportation experts from around the country and are available at: [www.bookstore.transportation.org](http://www.bookstore.transportation.org). The engineering division also supports a number of cutting-edge programs and technologies to exchange real-time information between the roadside and vehicles to improve safety and mobility.



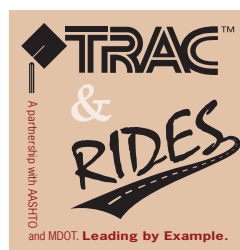
## TECHNOLOGY



AASHTO develops software products based on many of its standards, specifications, and guide documents. The AASHTO-Ware® technical services program is based on a best practices approach and allows member agencies to pool human and financial resources to produce software at a significant cost savings. Find out more at [aashtoware.org](http://aashtoware.org).

## EDUCATION

AASHTO's **Transportation and Civil Engineering Program (TRAC)** is collaborating with state and local education departments across the country to provide middle and high school teachers and students with a unique, hands-on curriculum. TRAC incorporates math, science, social studies, and technology education into a fun-filled learning environment, designed to increase self-confidence and an awareness of civil engineering. Learn more at [www.trac.net](http://www.trac.net).





AASHTO's SUBJECT  
MATTER EXPERTS:  
A RESOURCE FOR NEWS AND  
IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS ON  
TRANSPORTATION ISSUES





**FREDERICK G. "BUD" WRIGHT**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
EXPERT/POLICY AND PLANNING

**Frederick G. "Bud" Wright** is the executive director of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). He has almost four decades of experience in both the private sector and as a top executive at the Federal Highway Administration.

Wright, who was a transportation consultant based in Alexandria, Virginia, prior to his appointment as AASHTO Executive Director, served as Executive Director of the Federal Highway Administration from 2001 to 2008, assisting the Administrator in establishing policies, programs, and priorities for the \$40 billion annual Federal-aid highway program.

As FHWA's chief operating officer, Wright was also responsible for a workforce of more than 2,500 transportation professionals and an annual operating budget of \$400 million.

From 2001 to 2002, Wright was the FHWA program manager for safety. Before that, Wright was director of the Office of Budget and Finance, where he worked extensively on the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). In 1992, Wright became the first non-engineer to serve as an FHWA state-level Division Administrator.

Wright began his career in 1975 as an economist in the FHWA Office of Planning. In 1986, he was selected for a congressional fellowship, serving with the Senate Appropriations Committee staff. In 1989–1990, he was a member of the National Transportation Policy Team, which developed former Transportation Secretary Samuel Skinner's National Transportation Policy.

Wright holds a B.A. in Economics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA.

- Expertise in policy and government relations at the local, state, and federal level
- Expertise in management and coalition building
- Expertise in transportation safety



**JANET OAKLEY**  
DIRECTOR, POLICY AND  
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS  
EXPERT/POLICY



**Janet Oakley** joined AASHTO as Director of Policy and Government Relations in July 1999. She is responsible for managing transportation policy development and advocacy on behalf of the state departments of transportation as well as overseeing AASHTO's planning, environment, transit, rail, marine, aviation, and freight programs. She works closely with Congress and Congressional staff, the Administration, and representatives of various national transportation associations and state and local public interest groups.

Prior to joining AASHTO, Oakley was Director of Government Affairs for the National Association of Regional Councils. She was involved in the 1994 formation of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), and served for five years as its first director. During that time, AMPO's membership increased four-fold and its operating budget tripled.

She began her career more than 25 years ago as a transportation planner for the Kentucky Department of Transportation, where she had responsibility for multimodal transportation policy and program development.

Janet moved to Washington, DC, in the 1980s where she worked as a Transportation Planner for the Federal Highway Administration. She held subsequent positions as a budget analyst for the U.S. House of Representatives' Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee and as Director of Regional Affairs for the American Trucking Association.

She is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University with a Bachelor degree in Regional Planning and a Master degree in Planning and Geography. Oakley is a member, as well as past vice president and secretary, of the Washington Chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar; is a past Chair of the Washington Road Gang; and a member of the Transportation Research Forum, American Society of Association Executives, and the Women in Government Relations.

- Expertise in government relations
- Expertise in transportation policy
- Expertise in transportation public interest advocacy





**JOUNG LEE**  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR  
FINANCE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT  
EXPERT/FINANCE

In his role as Associate Director for Finance and Business Development at AASHTO, **Joung Lee** reviews surface transportation policy and legislative matters with the state DOTs, Executive branch, and Congressional staff. He examines highway and transit funding scenarios, evaluates options and proposals for innovative financing for federal highway projects, and delivers funding and financing presentations to interested parties. Lee also serves as deputy director of the AASHTO Center for Excellence in Project Finance, which provides support to state transportation departments in the development of finance plans and project oversight tools by offering training in state-of-the-art financing methods to advance projects and leverage funds. In addition, he is founder and chair of Young Professionals in Transportation, a national networking association based in Washington, DC.

Prior to joining AASHTO in 2007, Lee held positions as a transportation planner and transportation analyst between 2001 and 2007 with the Federal highway Administration's Headquarters and Division Offices (Virginia, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and New Jersey). During this time, he also completed assignments to the Federal Transit Administration—Region 10, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in California, and the Office of the Secretary of Transportation. He holds a Bachelor of Urban and Environmental Planning degree from the University of Virginia and a Master of Governmental Administration degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

- Expertise in Federal transportation funding analysis
- Expertise in application of financing mechanisms
- Expertise in policy formulation and advocacy



**LLOYD BROWN**  
DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS  
EXPERT/STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

**Lloyd Brown** is the director of communications for the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. He is responsible for all facets of AASHTO communications including strategic messaging, media relations, social media outreach, and website administration.

Before joining AASHTO in August 2010, Brown served as the Washington State Department of Transportation's communications director, overseeing the administration of WSDOT's public information and involvement activities throughout Washington including high-profile projects such as the SR 520 Bridge and Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement. Under Brown's leadership, WSDOT was recognized as a national leader in the development and implementation of social media tools, redefining the agency's relationship with the public.

Prior to joining WSDOT in 2002, Brown worked as a public relations account manager working on and leading award-winning public relations and public affairs campaigns for a range of private and public sector clients throughout the West, including the California bottle and can recycling program and Arizona's ground-breaking anti-tobacco program. Brown began his communications career as a radio disc jockey at KZFN in Moscow, Idaho. He soon left radio to follow his passion for writing, becoming a newspaper reporter and editor in Washington state and later in Arizona.

He has a Master of Arts degree in communications and leadership from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications from Washington State University in Pullman.

- Expertise Social Media Policy/Practice
- Expertise Crisis Communications



**MATTHEW H. HARDY, PH.D.**  
PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR PLANNING AND POLICY  
EXPERT/PLANNING AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

In his role as the Program Director for Planning and Policy, **Matthew Hardy** supports AASHTO's Standing Committee on Planning, Standing Committee on Performance Management, Subcommittee on Asset Management, as well as AASHTO's efforts in the implementation and reauthorization of federal surface transportation legislation. He has worked on projects ranging from the development of the AASHTO *Transportation Asset Management Guide: A Focus on Implementation* to performance-based planning and programming to transportation data. He has extensive experience in working with state DOTs to implement comprehensive transportation asset management programs. He supported the development of AASHTO's findings on national-level performance measures to support the requirements of MAP-21. And, he has worked with the FHWA in the development of numerous resources related to the performance-based planning and programming.

More broadly, Hardy has worked with transportation professionals on the use and application of analytical tools and methods to support the decision-making process at the local, state, and federal levels. Immediately prior to his position at AASHTO, he was a Principal in the transportation division at Noblis, providing program management and research support to various agencies at the U.S. DOT. Specific topics included transportation decision making, transportation simulation and modeling, and ITS. Matt earned a Ph.D. from George Mason University. His research focused on the application and use of simplified integrated transportation and land use models to support metropolitan planning decisions. He holds an M.S. in Transportation Policy, Operations and Logistics, and a B.S. in Urban Systems Engineering, both from George Mason University.

- Expertise in transportation planning and performance-based planning and programming
- Expertise in transportation asset management
- Expertise in performance management and performance measure development



**JIM McDONNELL, P.E.**

**DEPUTY PROGRAM DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING  
EXPERT/HIGHWAY DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION**

**Jim McDonnell** is the Deputy program director for engineering at AASHTO. He serves as the staff liaison to AASHTO's design, construction, and right-of-way/utilities committees, including oversight of the technical development of highway design and construction standards/guidance, and analysis of proposed Federal legislation and coordination of official AASHTO responses.

McDonnell has over 20 years of experience in highway planning, traffic engineering, and design working for the North Carolina Department of Transportation, an engineering consulting firm, and AASHTO. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Duke University and is a licensed Professional Engineer.

- Expertise in roadway design
- Expertise in design-build contracting



**KELLY HARDY, P.E.**  
PROGRAM MANAGER, SAFETY  
EXPERT/HIGHWAY SAFETY

**Kelly Hardy** joined AASHTO in July 2009 as the program manager for safety. In this role, Hardy serves as the liaison to the Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety (SCOHTS) and its Subcommittee on Safety Management. She works with state DOTs and AASHTO's many highway safety partners to help achieve the AASHTO vision of reducing by half the number of fatalities in two decades and to promote a comprehensive approach to improving highway safety on all public roads. Hardy is coordinating a joint effort between AASHTO, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Transportation Research Board to implement the safety tools set forth in the *Highway Safety Manual*. With FHWA, she is helping to facilitate the development of "Toward Zero Deaths: a National Strategy on Highway Safety."

Hardy also supports liaisons to other AASHTO committees and subcommittees in their safety-related efforts. Prior to joining AASHTO, Hardy was a consultant serving as a project manager on highway safety-related Federal Highway Administration and National Cooperative Highway Research Program projects. She is a Professional Engineer, registered in Virginia, and has a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Engineering degree both in Civil Engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

- Expertise in highway safety management and engineering



**KELLEY C. REHM, P.E.**  
PROGRAM MANAGER FOR  
BRIDGES AND STRUCTURES  
EXPERT/BRIDGES AND STRUCTURES

**Kelley Rehm** works with Departments of Transportation Bridge Divisions to manage updates to codes and specifications that are federally mandated for use in bridge design, construction, and inspection. She also helps to promote needed research in the area of bridges and structures. Rehm has over 17 years experience in bridge design, construction, and management working both as a private consultant and before that as a design engineer with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

Rehm also is a contractor in independent research with NCHRP, and other consultants and universities. Currently, she is a member of the Board of Directors for the non-profit organization Bridging the Gap Africa. This organization builds footbridges for rural communities in East Africa where walking is the main mode of transportation. She is the lead engineer for the organization and the chair of the Technical Advisory Committee.

She has a Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Kentucky as well as a Masters Degree in Structures also from the University of Kentucky. She is also a Ph.D. candidate at Vanderbilt University in the area of Transportation Management.

- Expertise in Bridge Design, Construction and Management
- Expertise in Bridge Inspection



## R. LEO PENNE

PROGRAM DIRECTOR, FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION  
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
EXPERT/FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION

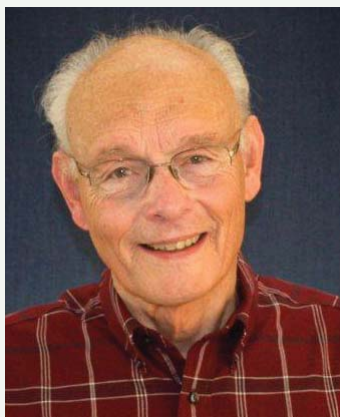
**R. Leo Penne** is program director for freight transportation and economic development with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. He manages AASHTO's committees on rail, maritime, trucking, and intermodal transportation. Penne is responsible for issues involving freight transportation by all modes and for coordinating with industries having significant interests in freight movement and transportation infrastructure. Penne is also responsible for developing and communicating the case for the economic benefits of transportation.

Previously, Penne held the following positions: director, state of Nevada Washington Office; program director for housing community, and economic development, Public Technology, Inc.; director, office of policy analysis and development, Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce; senior legislative counsel and assistant director of the Office of Policy Analysis, National League of Cities; and president, R. Leo Penne Associates, Inc.

Penne has developed and carried out programs for advocacy, policy development, and research in areas such as transportation, economic development, urban development, livable communities, public finance, job training, and tourism and has written and edited books, reports, and articles on these subjects.

Penne holds degrees in political science from Seattle University and the University of Washington.

- Expertise in freight transportation
- Expertise in economic development



**LELAND D. SMITHSON, P.E.**  
COORDINATOR  
AASHTO SNOW AND ICE  
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM  
EXPERT/SNOW AND ICE RESPONSE

**Leland “Lee” Smithson** is a licensed professional engineer in the state of Iowa, Smithson is the coordinator for the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Snow and Ice Cooperative Program (SICOP). (SICOP’s function is to ensure that new, potentially implementable international and/or domestic winter maintenance technologies are adequately researched, tested, and when appropriate, implemented. by individual state and municipal operational programs). A regular participant in Transportation Research Board activities, Smithson has served as chairman of several boards, committees and panels addressing a wide range of issues such as setting guidelines for the selection of snow and ice control materials to mitigate environmental impacts. Leland retired from the Iowa DOT in 2002 where during his 45-year career he was director of various offices in the fields of Research, Maintenance, Planning, and Administration.

Smithson is a graduate of Iowa State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Transportation Engineering.

- Expertise in Snow and Ice Response and Removal
- Expertise in Transportation Engineering
- Expertise in Research, Maintenance, Planning, and Administration



# State Departments of Transportation Directory

## AASHTO OFFICERS 2012-2013

### President

#### **Michael P. Lewis**

*Director, Rhode Island  
Department of Transportation  
State Office Building  
2 Capitol Hill  
401-222-2481*

#### *Media Contact*

*Rose Amoros, 401-222-1362 ext. 4450  
E-mail: [rosamaria.amoros@dot.ri.gov](mailto:rosamaria.amoros@dot.ri.gov)*

### Vice President

#### **Mike Hancock**

*Secretary  
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet  
200 Mero Street  
Frankfort, KY 40622  
502-564-4890*

#### *Media Contact*

*Chuck Wolfe, 502-564-3419  
E-mail: [chuck.wolfe@ky.gov](mailto:chuck.wolfe@ky.gov)*

### Secretary

#### **Carlos Braceras**

*Acting Executive Director  
Utah Department of Transportation  
4501 S. 2700 West  
Salt Lake City, UT 84119  
801-965-4000*

#### *Media Contact*

*Nile Easton, 801-673-9107  
E-mail: [neaston@utah.gov](mailto:neaston@utah.gov)*



Michael P. Lewis is the 2013 president of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). As president, Lewis will emphasize three areas: the deployment of new technologies; the implementation of reforms

included in Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, (MAP-21); and leading AASHTO's effort to pass the next surface transportation reauthorization bill.

Lewis has led the Rhode Island Department of Transportation since March 2008. He is a member of both the Executive Committee and SHRP II Oversight Committee of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) and the Executive Committee of the Northeast Corridor Commission (NEC). In Rhode Island, he serves as chair of the Rhode Island Public Rail Corporation and is a board member of the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority, the State Traffic Commission, the I-195 Redevelopment Board and the Growth Planning Council.

Lewis was an engineer with the Massachusetts Highway Department and then the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority from 1984 to 2007. From April 2000 through project completion in December 2007, he was Director of Boston's Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel Project (Big Dig).

## STATE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND MEDIA CONTACTS

### Alabama

#### **John R. Cooper**

*Transportation Director*  
*Alabama Department of Transportation*  
1409 Coliseum Boulevard  
Montgomery, AL 36110  
334-242-6311

#### *Media Contact*

Tony Harris, 334-242-6552  
E-mail: [Harrist@dot.state.al.us](mailto:Harrist@dot.state.al.us)

### Alaska

#### **Patrick J. Kemp, P.E.**

*Commissioner*  
*Department of Transportation and Public Facilities*  
P.O. Box 112500  
Juneau, AK 99811-2500  
907-465-3901

#### *Media Contact*

Jeremy Woodrow, 907-465-8994  
E-mail: [jeremy.woodrow@alaska.gov](mailto:jeremy.woodrow@alaska.gov)

### Arizona

#### **John Halikowski**

*Director, Department of Transportation*  
206 S. 17th Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
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# AASHTO GLOSSARY

**AASHTO's Materials Reference Laboratory (AMRL):** Housed at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, MD, AMRL promotes adherence to standards in the testing of construction materials by laboratories serving the transportation industry.

**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA):** The \$787 billion economic stimulus package passed by Congress on Feb. 13, 2009. The legislation provided \$48 billion for transportation: \$27.5 billion for highways; \$8.4 billion for transit; and \$8 billion for high-speed and intercity passenger rail projects.

**Appropriations:** An act of a legislative body that makes funds available for expenditures with specific limitations as to amount, purpose, and period. Congress regularly has to pass 12 annual appropriations bills, including funding for the U.S. Department of Transportation.

**Apportionments:** An administrative assignment of funds based on a prescribed formula by a governmental unit to another governmental unit for specific purposes and for certain periods.

**Authorization:** State legislatures and Congress pass legislation creating or renewing federal or state programs with a specified funding amount.

**Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation:** The Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program (HBRRP) provides funds to assist states in their programs to replace or rehabilitate deficient highway bridges and to seismic retrofit bridges located on any public road.

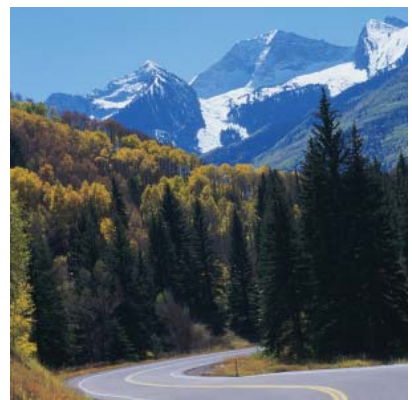
**Categorical Exclusions:** With regard to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, a categorical exclusion means a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment; therefore making neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement required.

**Clean Air Act:** The Clean Air Act (CAA) is the comprehensive federal law that regulates air emissions from area, stationary, and mobile sources. The law authorizes National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect public health and the environment.

**Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality:** As part of the Clean Air Act, the CMAQ program is jointly administered by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to provide funds to state transportation agencies, Metropolitan Planning Organizations and transit agencies to invest in projects that reduce criteria air pollutants regulated from transportation-related sources.

**Context Sensitive Solutions:** A collaborative, interdisciplinary approach that involves all stakeholders to develop a transportation facility that fits its physical setting and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic and environmental resources, while maintaining safety and mobility. CSS is an approach that considers the total context within which transportation improvement projects will exist.

**Contract Authority:** Funds obligated to state transportation departments prior to appropriations. The Federal Highway Administration notes that most federal-aid highway programs operate under contract authority.



**Core Highway Program:** Made up of the National Highway System, Interstate Maintenance, Surface Transportation Program, Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement programs.

**Dedicated Funds:** 1) Funds allocated to a given area usually by some formula and made available on an annual basis. 2) Funds collected for a specific program or purpose.

**Design Speed:** A selected speed used to determine the various geometric design features of the roadway. The assumed design speed should be a logical one with respect to the topography, anticipated operating speed, the adjacent land use, and the functional classification of highway.

**Discretionary Spending:** Spending set by annual appropriation levels made by decision of Congress. This spending is optional, and in contrast to entitlement programs for which funding is mandatory.

**Earmark:** Funds dedicated for a specific program or purpose by a legislator. Revenues are earmarked by law. Expenditures are earmarked by appropriations bills or reports.

**Environmental Impact Statement:** Part of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, an EIS is a document that must be filed when the federal government takes a "major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment."

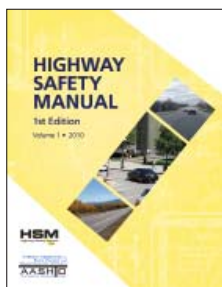
**Federal-Aid Highway:** A highway eligible for assistance under Title 23 United States

**Code other than a highway classified as a local road or rural minor collector.**

**Federal-Aid System:** Any of the Federal-aid highway systems described in Title 23 Section 103.

**Federal Operating Assistance:** Funds authorized by the Federal government to assist in paying the cost of operating transit services.

**Firewall:** A tool to prevent savings in one category from being applied toward increased spending in another.



**Highway Safety Manual:** A 2010 publication that features tools for considering safety in the project development process. This manual was produced through a joint effort between AASHTO, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Transportation Research Board.

**Highway Trust Fund:** Created by the Highway Revenue Act of 1956 (Pub. L. 84-627), primarily to ensure a dependable source of financing for the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways and also as the source of funding for the remainder of the federal-aid highway program. Of the 18.4 cent-per-gallon federal tax on gasoline, 15.44 cents goes into the highway account, 2.86 cents into the Mass Transit Account and .1 cent into the Leaking Underground Storage Tank fund administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Diesel is taxed at 24.4 cents per gallon.

**Intermodal Planning Group (IPG):** A regional organization of federal agencies set up to oversee transportation planning activities in the states of that region. It might include representatives of the Federal Highway Administration, Coast Guard, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Railroad Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Environmental Protection Agency, and other Federal agencies.



**Interstate Maintenance:** The Interstate Maintenance program provides funding to states for resurfacing, restoring, rehabilitating and reconstructing most routes on the Interstate Highway System. Funds are subject to the overall federal-aid obligation limitation. A state may transfer up to 50 percent of its IM apportionment to its National Highway System, Surface Transportation, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation, or Recreational Trails apportionment.

**Interstate Highway System:** A 47,000-mile network of roadways founded in 1956 with the passage of the Federal-Aid Highway Act. It is officially called the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

**Interstate Substitution Transfer Project:** Formerly non-highway public transportation projects financed by funds which would otherwise have been spent on a segment of the Interstate highway system. New amendments to the Federal- Aid Highway Act allow the funds to be used for highways and street improvement projects as well as for public transportation projects.

**ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems):** A broad range of wireless and wire line communications-based information and electronics technologies. When integrated into the transportation system's infrastructure, and in vehicles themselves, these technologies relieve congestion, improve safety and enhance American productivity. ITS is made up of 16 types of technology-based systems. These systems are divided into intelligent infrastructure systems and intelligent vehicle systems.

**LRFD (Load and Resistance Factor Design):** AASHTO bridge design manual introduced in 1994.

**MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices):** Defines the standards used by road managers nationwide to install and maintain traffic control devices on all streets and highways. The MUTCD is published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 655, Subpart F.

**Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21):** Signed into law by President Barack Obama on July 6, 2012, it is scheduled to expire on October 1, 2014. MAP 21 reauthorizes the Federal-aid highway program at approximately \$105 billion for fiscal years (FY) 2013 and 2014. It consolidates the number of Federal programs by two-thirds to focus resources on key national goals, reduce duplication, and increase the accountability and transparency of investment decision making through performance-based planning and programming. The legislation also eliminates earmarks, expedites project delivery, and strengthens the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program (TIFIA) to leverage additional federal dollars for transportation projects.

**Match:** State or local funds required by the federal government to complement Federal funds for a project. For example, in the case of public transportation, the federal government may provide 80 percent of the necessary funds if the state or local government matches 20 percent. For interstate highway projects, the federal government provides 90 percent of the funds, and state or local government pays the 10 percent matching cost. A match may also be required by states in funding projects which are a joint state/local effort.



**Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO):** The organization designated by the governor as responsible together with the state for transportation planning in an urbanized area according to 23 USC 134. This organization is the forum for cooperative decision making by principal elected officials of general local government.

**Metropolitan Transportation Plan:** Metropolitan Planning Organizations, in cooperation with states and such transportation providers as public transit operators, carries out the metropolitan transportation planning process. That includes development of the transportation plan and the Transportation Improvement Plan.

**National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP):** Administered by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) and sponsored by the member departments of AASHTO in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) was created in 1962 as a means to conduct research in acute problem areas that affect highway planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance nationwide.

**National Environmental Policy Act of 1969:** NEPA's basic policy is to assure that all branches of government give proper consideration to the environment prior to undertaking any major federal action that significantly affects the environment. NEPA requirements are invoked when airports, buildings, military complexes, highways, parkland purchases, and other federal activities are proposed. Environmental Assessments (EAs) and Environmental Impact Statements (EISs), which are assessments of the likelihood of impacts from alternative courses of action, are required from all federal agencies and are the most visible NEPA requirements. Section 106 of NEPA deals with historic preservation.

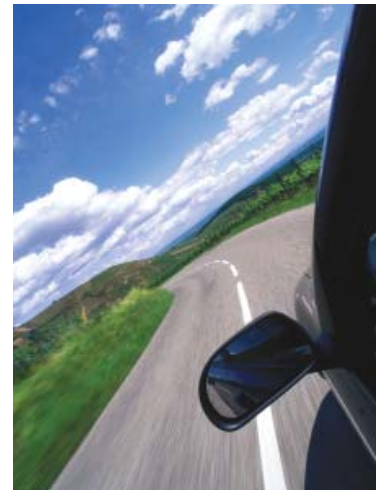
**National Highway System:** Approximately 160,000 miles of roadway important to the nation's economy, defense, and mobility. The National Highway System includes the interstate system, principal arterials, Strategic Highway Network, Major Strategic Highway Network Connectors and intermodal connectors.

**Obligation Authority:** Total amount of funds that may be obligated to states in a year. For the federal-aid highway program this is comprised of the obligation limitation amount plus amounts for programs exempt from the limitation.

**Obligation Limitation:** The maximum amount of federal assistance that may be promised during a specified time period. This is a statutory budgetary control that does not affect the apportionment or allocation of funds. It controls the rate at which these funds may be used.

**Rescission:** A cancellation of previously approved but unspent funds. Congress or the president may propose it. Rescissions must receive approval from Congress within 45 days of the request to cancel allotted funds. Since Fiscal Year 2002, states have rescinded more than \$13 billion.

**Revenue Aligned Budget Authority:** Annual funding adjustment to the highway program started in Fiscal Year 2000. The firewall level is adjusted to reflect revised receipts estimates for the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund. Then, adjustments—equal to the firewall adjustment—are made to the federal-aid highway authorizations and obligation limitation for the fiscal year. This can either boost or cut federal funding to states.







**Revolving Fund:** Working capital established to facilitate operations of special functions, which is replenished by reimbursement from other funds.

**Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act:** A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (Public Law 109-59): Passed in 2005, it authorizes federal surface transportation programs through Fiscal Year 2009. SAFETEA-LU is authorized at \$286.4 billion for federal highway, transit, freight, research, safety, intelligent transportation systems and environment and planning programs. Congress has temporarily extended SAFETEA-LU pending the enactment of a new authorization.

**Short Line Railroad:** 1) A company that originates and/or terminates freight traffic, participates in division of revenue, and is normally less than 100 miles in length. 2) Class III railroads that receive less than \$40 million a year in operating revenue and have less than 350 miles of track.

**State Funds:** Funds obtained under the authority of the state or any political or other subdivision thereof, and made available for expenditure under the direct control of the state highway department.

**State Implementation Plan:** A state plan for complying with the federal Clean Air Act, administered by the Environmental Protection Agency. The SIP consists of narrative, rules, technical documentation, and agreements that an individual state will use to clean up polluted areas.

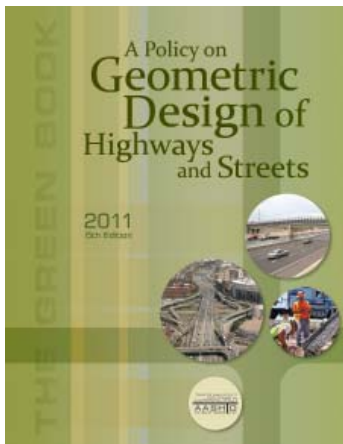
**State Implementation Plan:** Federal clean air laws require areas with unhealthy levels of ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and inhalable particulate matter to develop State Implementation Plans (SIPs), describing how they will attain National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

**State Operating Assistance:** Funds obtained from one or more state governments to assist in paying the cost of operating transit services.

**Strategic Highway Research Program 2 (SHRP2):** To address the challenges of moving people and goods efficiently and safely on the nation's highways, Congress created the second Strategic Highway Research Program known as SHRP 2. This targeted, short-term research program involves the collaborative efforts of the Federal Highway Administration, AASHTO, and the Transportation Research Board. The program addresses four strategic focus areas: the role of human behavior in highway safety (Safety); rapid highway restoration (Renewal); improved travel time reliability through congestion reduction (Reliability); and transportation planning that better integrates community, economic, and environmental considerations into new highway capacity (Capacity).

**Surface Transportation Improvement Program:** A list of transportation projects for which federal funding will be sought over a three- to five-year period. It describes transportation improvements to be funded by public funds from all sources, with a budget for each project. The first year's transportation projects are called the annual element. Federal legislation requires that each state develop one multimodal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for all areas of the state.





**The “Green Book”—A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways**

**and Streets:** An AASHTO publication that provides the fundamental framework for the design of roadways and associated features in rural and urban settings.

**Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):** A list of transportation projects for which funding will be sought over a three- to five-year period. It describes transportation improvements to be funded by public funds from all sources, with a budget for each project. The first year’s transportation projects are called the annual element.

**Transportation Plan:** A program of action to provide effectively for present and future demands for movement of people and goods. This program must necessarily include consideration of the various modes of travel.

**Transportation Research Board (of the National Academies of Sciences) (TRB):** The mission of the Transportation Research Board is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal.

**Transportation System Management (TSM):** An emphasis on small physical improvements and operational efficiencies to the transportation system in order to positively affect mobility.

**Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):** A document that is produced annually by metropolitan planning organizations that describes transportation-related planning activities that will be carried out during the next year.

**Urban Transportation Planning Process:** The federally required planning process in urbanized areas aimed at developing programs to meet a region’s transportation needs through analyzing the existing system and preparing plans and studies in a comprehensive, continuing, and cooperative manner.

**Urbanized Area (UZA):** A geographic area with a population of 50,000 or more designated by the Census Bureau as having met certain criteria of population size or density.

**Weigh-in-Motion (WIM):** A set of sensors and supporting instruments that measures the presence of a moving vehicle and the related dynamic tire forces at specified locations with respect to time; estimates tire loads, speed, axle spacing, vehicle class according to axle arrangement, and other parameters

(Sources: AASHTO, Federal Highway Administration, C-SPAN Congressional Glossary, Northeast-Midwest Institute, Transportation Research Board)



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