

# TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

## BUSINESS PLAN 2009-2010

### APWA Mission Statement

**Mission Statement:** The American Public Works Association promotes professional excellence, understanding of, and competency and credibility in public works.

**Committee Mission Statement:** APWA's Transportation Committee pursues the association's mission as it applies to all aspects of transportation facilities, services, and policies that fall within the purview of public works agencies.

### **Goals & Strategies**

**Goal #1:** APWA will be the members' primary gateway resource for education, knowledge exchange, and services.

**Committee Goal:** The Transportation Committee will assist APWA members to acquire and maintain the skills and knowledge necessary to successfully manage public works infrastructure and deliver transportation services cost effectively.

### Strategies and Actions

1. Choose topics, organize content, and secure speakers for a minimum of three educational sessions for presentation at Congress 2010.
2. Choose topics, identify authors, and complete articles for the 2009-2010 transportation and winter maintenance issues of the *APWA Reporter*.
3. Develop ideas for new and updated APWA publications and projects.
4. Assist in the planning and implementation of the North American Snow Conference.
5. Annually update the Transportation Committee's PowerPoint presentation and investigate adding sound and possibly video.
6. Annually, in November or December, identify a list of important emerging issues in transportation, and action items such as *Click, Listen and Learn* (CLL) sessions, Reporter articles, Congress sessions, and others that can be used to inform APWA members on these issues.
7. Evaluate the use of the APWA's infoNOW Transportation community to improve management practices through regular collection and sharing of news, information on good practice, and links to other sources of information of value to APWA members at a national level and in the association's local chapters.

8. Develop guidelines to assist in joint production—by the Transportation Committee and other APWA elements—of training, products, and services.
9. Assist the Winter Maintenance Sub-Committee with publication and dissemination of winter maintenance information and technologies throughout the membership.
10. Support the Road Safety sub-committee to extend the resources of the Transportation Committee and provide increased opportunities for more member involvement and leadership development.
11. Support the Sustainable Communities sub-committee to extend the resources of the Transportation Committee and provide increased opportunities for more member involvement and leadership development.
12. Maintain the association's relationship with the Transportation Association of Canada with a focus on possible dissemination of information useful to APWA members.
13. Participate in the development and/or review of the APWA body of knowledge

**Goal #2: APWA will be acknowledged as the public policy advocate for the public infrastructure.**

Committee Goal: The Transportation Committee will act to make APWA the voice of the public works profession on transportation issues to policy-makers, implementing agencies, and the general public.

Strategies and Actions

1. Monitor implementation of federal transportation legislation and policy and support APWA's activities to direct federal legislation and policy, particularly SAFETEA-LU Reauthorization
2. Solicit feedback, monitor and help establish APWA positions on transportation issues such as environmental streamlining (including cumulative and secondary impacts); statewide and metropolitan transportation planning; homeland security; Federal roles in transportation finance; transportation operations; urban street standards (including context sensitive solutions and traffic calming); sustainability, and safe routes to schools.
3. Annually review, modify, and re-adopt existing statements or create policy and position statements pertinent to the emerging issues of transportation in relation to the impact APWA members.
4. Maintain the strong partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), exemplified by the following ongoing activities and new initiatives, and continue to refine and prioritize partnership activities:
  - a. Continue to represent the APWA position on the National Transportation Operations Coalition

- b. Research APWA members' educational needs as they might be served by FHWA resources and facilitate members' access to these resources.
  - c. Jointly develop educational opportunities with FHWA.
- 5. Support and strengthen contacts with the FTA's Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP), FHWA's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), and APWA's Small Cities/Rural Communities (SC/RC) Forum, e.g., through efforts to maintain funding and utilization of these programs and to facilitate the exchange of information on topics of mutual interest.
- 6. Develop expanded partnership opportunities with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), e.g., Locally Administered Projects (LAP) Program training for local governments; request an annual report from APWA's representative to AASHTO.
- 7. Monitor the activities of the APWA representatives to the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD); request semi-annual reports on this activity.
- 8. Continue to develop collaborative opportunities with APWA corporate members, the Institute for Transportation Engineers (ITE), and other organizations
- 9. Maintain links with the Transportation Research Board to ensure that issues of national significance with particular importance to local public works communities are addressed through research and innovation.

**Goal #3: APWA will be recognized as the brand name for credible information on public works.**

Committee Goal: The Transportation Committee will act to mobilize APWA's resources to participate in public policy development and inform the public of transportation's contribution to the nation's economy and community wellbeing and APWA's members' role in managing our transportation system.

Strategies and Actions

- 1. Encourage APWA's local chapters to be involved in National Public Works Week, Engineering Week, and National Transportation Week.
- 2. Serve as the first-response source of information for news media seeking information and generally promote public awareness on transportation issues, particularly as they influence community wellbeing
- 3. Inform, educate and develop awareness among public works practitioners of "Smart Growth," sustainable development, "carbon footprint," and related concepts as they relate to transportation.

4. Become the preferred conduit from the Federal Government to local officials for transportation information
5. Develop a plan for linking local APWA chapters and the Transportation Committee to facilitate exchange of transportation information among geographic regions and between federal and local agency officials.
6. Review APWA's publications on transportation and related topics, to identify items to be updated or substantial gaps to be filled.