



transportation

TRACKS

North Carolina Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) Newsletter
WINTER 2022

NCLTAP State of the Program

By Kate Davison

Welcome to the final TransportationTracks of 2022. As the year draws to a close, I thought it would be nice to take some time to reflect together on the state of the local technical assistance program that had been under the continuous leadership of James Martin since 1980.

As you all know, longtime employees James Martin and Linda Collier both retired within the past two years. Linda faithfully managed the program, bringing important safety and soft skills training alike to public works employees for 17 years. James kept the program strong, forging partnerships with APWA and working with the National LTAP Association, serving as President of APWA in 2013 and NLTAPA 2011-2012. He brought the Road Scholar program to life which has helped countless students propel their careers forward. NCLTAP would not be the program it is today, serving thousands of students over its many years, without Linda's and James' stewardship. We thank them for everything they've done.

These past two years have been a rollercoaster for NCLTAP just as they have been for everyone else. We learned a lot about online classes, which included making mistakes, started offering new classes, like Bicycles and Pedestrians: Meeting the Needs of All Users and Inspecting Curb Ramps, and hired new staff. Through it all, Bill Woods has kept the program running, traveling back and forth across the state to assist with classes onsite and taking on a new column in TransportationTracks to bring you a special coordinators view of traffic questions. This has been the biggest year ever by many measures - we've held 157 classes, reached 2936 students, totaling 1122 hours of training. And after four and a half years with NCLTAP, I became your new Director.



Kate and Magda in Asheville at the APWA-NC Streets and Fleets Conference

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Technology Transfer Newsletter

Published by the North Carolina Local Technical Assistance Program at the Institute for Transportation Research and Education at North Carolina State University

www.itre.ncsu.edu



We're looking forward to continuing into 2023 with the great momentum we've spent the last year building. The class schedule is full to bursting and finally available for a full year again! Look out for even more classes being added to the schedule as well. We plan to continue growing the team - we're still looking for a full time work zone instructor, so please apply! Due to the state of the world for the past few years, there are more resources available for online classes than ever before. We are happy to say that we have been reviewing several of these resources in order to provide you all with more classes that cover the subjects that would be most interesting and useful in your lives and careers..

We will soon be meeting with our 2023 Advisory Board to see how we can improve in the coming year. However, in order to really make NCLTAP the best it can be, we rely on your feedback. We would be thrilled to hear from you! What do you need from NCLTAP, how can we best support you? Are there any classes that you would want to see added to our roster? Please let us know by answering the upcoming survey in January 2023. As always, we will also continue to read all class evaluations and respond to direct questions as well. This is your chance to make your voice heard and directly contribute to the evolution of NCLTAP as we endeavor to meet your needs.



What's Wrong With This Picture?

Can you tell what's wrong with this picture? See answer on page 4.

U.S. Department of Transportation Releases Public Involvement Guide

The U.S. Department of Transportation has released its Promising Practices for Meaningful Public Involvement in Transportation Decision-Making guide which is the first guide of its kind. It is for DOT funding recipients and partners who wish to conduct public involvement in the transportation space. The guide is supposed to help transportation projects get done quicker and serve the community. The DOT has collected information from multiple sources to discover obstacles for communities that should be included in the decision-making process and how to address them. The guide follows through on the Department's Equity Action Plan, supports the implementation of the Department's Justice40 initiative, and helps ensure the inclusion of all community voices in the implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. If you would like to know more about the guide, click on this link.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Prepare for Cold Weather

A short description of ways that you can prepare for the upcoming cold weather as well as helpful links for things such as how to avoid hypothermia, a weather website, and dressing for the cold. Click here for more information!

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Tailgate Talk

Cold Weather Driving Safety

This Everyday Safety Tailgate Talk was originally published as the January 2016 "Safety Pins" by Philip E. Spiezio, Safety Officer, Washington County Office of the Safety Officer

Driving is another task that becomes more hazardous during the winter months. Winter drivers encounter many different hazards, such as snow, ice, and reduced visibility. Road conditions can vary widely. Especially watch out for icy patches on bridges and in shady areas.

Here are a few tips that may help to prevent you or somebody you know from being in a car accident this winter.

- Winterize your vehicle—Check tires (consider snow tires), check your antifreeze, windshield wipers, fluids, batteries, etc.
- Be sure to completely clean off your vehicle of snow before driving it—Don't forget your head, tail, and warning lights.
- Drive according to the conditions—Stay well below posted speed limits in bad weather and keep a safe distance from the next vehicle.
- Expect the unexpected—Be ready to reduce speed in case of sudden stops. Give yourself plenty of time to reach your destination.
- Keep your lights on—Make sure other drivers can see you.
- Use safe braking techniques to avoid skidding.
- Always gently steer into a skid to regain control of the vehicle.
- Always drive defensively and never while under the influence of drugs or alcohol!



Resources and References:

OSHA Safe Winter Driving Publication

<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/SafeDriving.pdf>

NHTSA Winter Driving Tips

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/winter-driving-tips>

National Safety Council Be Prepared For

Winter Driving

<https://www.nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/seasonal-safety/winter-safety/driving>

National Center for Rural Road Safety launches the latest Road Safety Champion Program training

The National Center for Rural Road Safety is proud to announce the relaunch of the Road Safety Champion Program (RSCP). This program is a nationally recognized certification program for those involved in transportation, public health, and law enforcement who do not have much road safety knowledge. This program gives people the information and knowledge they need to best serve rural communities with its seven core safety topics and 5-7 additional courses. If you would like to learn more about RSCP, click the link below.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

Language Skills and Helping Hands

VOLAR matches Spanish-speaking students with consulates, schools and organizations in the Raleigh area that need interpretation and other services. Voluntarios Ahora en Raleigh is a NC State University group that specializes in pairing Spanish-speaking students with area organizations that help Spanish-speaking people in need. This group also has been in the Raleigh area for 10 years, and has been providing interpretation and other services for groups including clinics, consulates and schools. It's a mutually beneficial relationship: Spanish-speaking people get help they need, and students can practice their language skills outside the classroom. For more information click below!

[Click Here For More Information](#)



What's Wrong With This Picture?

This is a common sight we see as we travel throughout the state of North Carolina. This is just one of many roads under construction which may involve temporary work zones, detours, or road closures. We frequently encounter this during our everyday commute or even while we are traveling during the holidays.

In this picture, you see a work zone and the corresponding signs, barricades, traffic cones and barrels. It appears the existing road has been closed and a temporary alternate road has been constructed to allow vehicles to travel around the construction site. At first glance, it seems obvious to the approaching motorist to slow down and be prepared as you approach the work zone or possible detour. Look out for construction personnel and equipment! Be aware and proceed with caution!

But look closer. There is additional information and driver instructions displayed within this view. Notice the direction the orange and white retroreflective stripes are sloping on the horizontal rails of the barricades. According to the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Metric Standard Drawing for BARRICADES (Type III) MSD 1145.01, Sheet 1/1, General Note #9, the "stripes on the work zone barricade rails shall be alternate orange and white retroreflective stripes, sloped downward towards the side which traffic is to pass or turn in detouring."

So, if the approaching vehicle operators correctly interpret and follow this statement and the directionality of the sloping orange and white stripes on the barricades, all vehicles shall pass the barricades on the right side! Not the left side! The results would be catastrophic!

Therefore, the direction of the sloping orange and white stripes on the barricade rails need to be changed and correctly positioned so they slope downward from right to left, and correspond with the direction of the newly constructed alternate temporary road detour. Which obviously detours or turns to the left of the existing roadway.

Do you see any other problems with this picture? There may be more. Look closer.

Be safe and be aware during your travels this holiday season!

Volunteers Bring New Life to Vacant Lots with Tree Planting

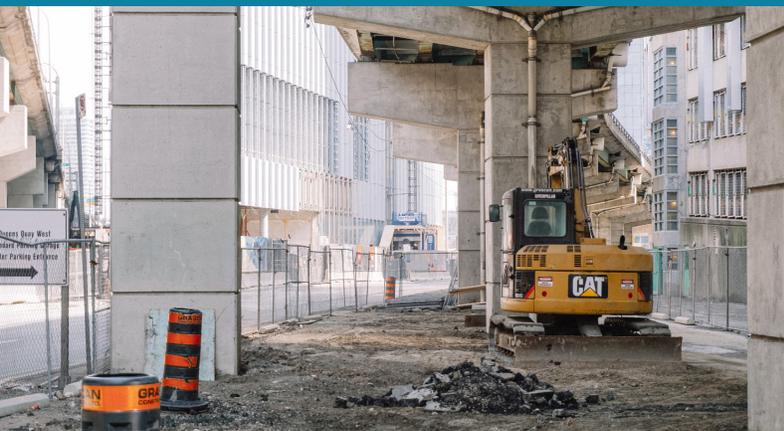
Bringing cooling shade back to a neighborhood was the goal of organizers of this year's Community Tree Day. Many people from the Lucille Gorham Unit of the Boys & Girls Club of the Coastal Plain and Girl Scouts of America Troop 1829 joined ReLeaf volunteers and employees with Greenville's Public Works Department and planted more than 40 trees. The local tree-planting nonprofit has planted donated hundreds of thousands of dollars in order to plant trees for the community over the past 30 years. To learn more about this event, click the link below.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

Crowdsourcing for Advancing Operations

Potholes pose a safety risk for all road users and, in 2021, cost Americans over \$26.5 Billion in vehicle damage. They are a frequent basis for motorist complaints, and their timely repair are central to cost-effective pavement preservation. But, keeping track of potholes can be costly and is ongoing do to the number of potholes and misinformation from people who call them in. But, with the app Waze app the accuracy of reporting potholes has increased and they have been able to be repaired more quickly. For more information, click the link below.

[Click Here For More Information](#)



Strategic Workforce Development

By U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

Innovative strategies to identify, train, and place workers in highway construction jobs that support the Nation's highway system.

The demand for highway construction, maintenance, and operations workers is growing while industry is experiencing a revolution of emerging technologies that will require new skills. To attract and retain workers in the Contractors' workforce, new resources are available to help compete with other industries and demonstrate the value of a career in transportation.

An Industry and Public Workforce Collaboration

According to a 2018 national survey by the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), 80 percent of construction firms reported difficulty finding qualified workers. In addition, a 2015 report by the U.S. Departments of Transportation, Education, and Labor estimated that the transportation sector will need to hire approximately 4.6 million workers between 2012 and 2022.

Government agencies, trade organizations, private agencies, and communities nationwide need new, collaborative approaches to meeting this challenge. The Nation depends on the highway system, and the highway system depends on qualified workers.

FHWA partnered with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), AGC, the American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA), and the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration to conduct a 2-year pilot that explored how industry representatives could work collaboratively with the public workforce system to improve

their ability to recruit, train, and retain highway construction workers. The pilot was conducted in 12 locations—six States and six cities—from 2016 to 2018.

This effort resulted in a highway construction workforce development playbook called "Identify, Train, Place." The playbook is aimed at helping State and local agencies identify, train, and place workers in the Contractors' workforce to meet resource needs to deliver highway construction jobs. The playbook condenses the lessons learned from the pilot into simple, repeatable "plays" that others can use. The plays reflect solutions to challenges that affected the pilot participants and are customizable to local needs.

In addition to the playbook, FHWA developed a comprehensive outreach campaign called Roads To Your Future. The campaign includes free messaging and marketing materials to help recruit the next generation of highway construction workers. Many of the materials can be customized with local information to market open jobs and training to potential applicants.

Increasing the Contractors' construction workforce can help communities thrive while solving one of today's most persistent national transportation problems. It also offers an opportunity to recruit minorities and women to jobs that can change their lives, and the lives of their families, for the better.

Benefits

Effective Solutions. Advancing the lessons learned through the highway construction workforce pilot offers the transformational ideas and support needed to fill the gaps in the workforce.

Proven Training. Training programs, practices, and tools from across the country are available to help plan workforce development activities.

Flexibility. Free materials are available to support workforce marketing efforts. Posters, flyers, mailer cards, and social media graphics can be customized with local contact information.

State of the Practice

The Highway Construction Workforce Partnership, a collaboration of national partners, is providing knowledge, resources, and technical support to assist local efforts. Besides the playbook, other programs, practices, and tools from around the country that may help with planning workforce development efforts include the Alabama Road Construction Training Course, Arizona Industry Readiness Course, Denver WORKNOW Navigator Program, and the Future Road Builders Gaming App.

2023 Leadership & Management Division (LMD) Conference

Save The Date

Public Works Education & Career Forum
State View Hotel Raleigh, North Carolina
Wednesday, May 17, 2023

ATTENTION ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS* FROM NC POST-SECONDARY AND SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

Topics Will Include:

- What is Public Works?
- What types of public works job opportunities exist in NC?
- What are the requirements for these public works jobs?
- What is the job market forecast for public works jobs / careers?
- What are the salary ranges for these public works jobs?
- What does / can APWA-NC (and it's individual members) do to support college and pre-collegee interest in public works?
- and much more ..

If you are interested in attending this no-cost Forum or have questions, please email twatley@ci.charlotte.nc.us.

** Advisors, Internship/Co-op/Workforce Development Coordinators, Guidance Counselors, Curriculum Specialists, Department Leads, etc.*



DOT Navigator

The DOT Navigator is a new resource to help communities understand the best ways to apply for grants, and to plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services! Click the link for more information!

[Click Here For More Information](#)

Trusted Operator Program™ (TOP) Drone Training

The Trusted Operator Program™ (TOP), developed by the Association of Unmanned Vehicle and Systems International (AUVSI), provides a certification process for pilots beyond their FAA Part 107. This program helps people to have a higher level of demonstrated knowledge, flight proficiency, safety, and risk management practices. These skills are valued by employers and customers of commercial uncrewed aircraft system (UAS) operators. Additionally, NC State is one of only four institutions of higher education in the US that is certified by AUVSI to deliver all three levels of TOP drone pilot certification. These courses are available online and will be available in person at a later date. The classes are free to NCSU students and go from levels 1-3 for training. If you are interested click the link above and you can use the discount code for First Responders, TOPFIRSTCOMP.

Additionally, there is a NIST UAS Advanced Standard Test Methods Proctor Training Course in collaboration with the Airborne Public Safety Association (APSA). This three-day course will be held on campus at NC State from Wednesday 2/8/23 - Friday 2/10/23.

[TOP Drone Training](#)

[Test Methods Proctor Training Course](#)

EDC-7 Overview

For over 10 years the Federal Highway Administration's Every Day Counts program has rapidly deployed proven technologies and processes. EDC round 7 (2023-2024) highlights innovations to improve safety for all users, build a sustainable infrastructure for the future and grow an inclusive workforce. Because the innovations to be promoted in EDC-7 can provide benefits that extend beyond the traditional surface transportation setting and reach into other transportation modes, FHWA is looking forward to working with our State transportation departments and industry organizations to help new audiences learn how the EDC-7 innovations may enhance other transportation programs and projects with other modes.

NIGHTTIME VISIBILITY FOR SAFETY

The nighttime crash fatality rate is three times the daytime rate. Enhancing visibility along corridors, intersections, and pedestrian crossings can help reduce fatalities. This initiative promotes traffic control devices and properly designed lighting to improve safety for all users.

NEXT-GENERATION TIM: TECHNOLOGY FOR SAVING LIVES

Over six million crashes a year in the U.S. put responders and other vulnerable road users at risk. Next-Generation Traffic Incident Management programs promote emerging technologies such as emergency vehicle lighting and queue warning solutions. These and other tools can advance safety and operations to mitigate incident impacts.

INTEGRATING GHG ASSESSMENT AND REDUCTION TARGETS IN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Transportation is the largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the U.S. This initiative provides resources to help agencies quantify greenhouse gases and set goals to decrease motor vehicle, construction, and life-cycle emissions through planning and project development.

ENHANCING PERFORMANCE WITH INTERNALLY CURED CONCRETE (EPIC²)

Cracking in concrete is a limiting factor in achieving long-term concrete performance. Internal curing mitigates shrinkage cracking and has the potential to substantially extend the service life of concrete bridge decks and enhance the performance of pavements and repairs.

EPDs FOR SUSTAINABLE PROJECT DELIVERY

Construction materials such as concrete and asphalt have environmental impacts during their life cycle. Environmental product declarations, or EPDs, document those impacts. This tool helps States support procurement decisions and quantify embodied carbon reductions using life cycle assessments for sustainable pavements.

RETHINKING DBE IN DESIGN-BUILD

Many design-build contracts do not adequately provide opportunities for disadvantaged businesses. New practices are available to support the effective integration of program requirements to help small, disadvantaged businesses compete for design-build contracts.

STRATEGIC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The demand for highway workers is growing, and emerging technologies require new skills. This innovation helps stakeholders improve their ability to identify, train, and place highway construction workers. The focus will expand to rural and Tribal communities to increase career opportunities.

Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$160 Million Available for Smart Transportation Technology that Helps Americans Get More Out of Their Infrastructure

The U.S. DOT announced that they are accepting applications for two programs that will create around \$160 million available for the next 5 years to projects that use technology to improve transportation and help to make communities safer. One of the programs is the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program which will offer up to \$100 million annually over the next 5 years and will be awarded to those who are using technology to help real-world problems in communities today. The program seeks to address Vehicle technology, like automation and connectivity, Systems innovation, like delivery and logistics, traffic signals, smart grid, and data integration, and new ways to monitor and manage infrastructure, like sensors and UAS. The other program is the Federal Highway Administration's \$60 million Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN) which promotes technologies that improve safety and reduce travel times that can serve as a national example. Additionally, these projects are evaluated on their economic impact and potential to create jobs. To learn more about these programs, click the link below.

[Click For More Information](#)



Welcome Ray!

Ray Narvaez is the new Support Specialist for the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). She will be scheduling and facilitating LTAP classes, organizing agency-only classes, assisting with finances, providing reporting, and answering questions for the NCLTAP community. Let her know if you need anything! In 2022, she received a Bachelor's degree in History and Museum Studies from St. Mary's College of Maryland where she worked in the Anthropology Department's archaeology lab. Ray recently relocated to North Carolina from Maryland and now lives in Raleigh.

Goodbye Kelly!

Kelly Holsopple is stepping away from LTAP to go back to school but plans to stay involved with the program when she can. She will be attending NC State and studying Elementary Education. She is very grateful for the opportunities and people she met during her time at NCLTAP and plans to stay as involved as she can while finishing her degree.

NC LTAP News & Updates

To update your mail information, add a colleague to the database, or obtain information about Roads Scholar Program complete the form online at go.ncsu.edu/ncltapcontactform.



For more special offers and news, like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

Your Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____

Check Appropriate Items

- Add/Update email information to NCLTAP listserv NCTROADS
- Send information about Roads Scholar program
- Send schedule of training opportunities

NCTROADS Listserv

Subscribe to the NC LTAP listserv. It is free and easy. Send a message to kbdaviso@ncsu.edu or call Kate Davison at 919-515-3983 and ask to be added to NCTROADS.

This is an informal network for the exchange of news about current research, discussion of problems and solutions, request for advice and assistance, and announcements of upcoming conferences, events and training opportunities for transportation personnel. Once you are subscribed, you can send a message all the listserv members at NCTROADS@lists.ncsu.edu

NC Local Technical Assistance Program February – March 2023 Schedule

For Online Registration see calendar at: <https://itre.ncsu.edu/training/ltap-training/>

Questions or Email Registration: wewoods@ncsu.edu or kbdaviso@ncsu.edu

Course descriptions available on website.

Date	Class Title	RS/ARS/MRS	Cost	Location	To Sign Up
February 3, 2023	Confined Space Entry and Lockout/Tagout	ARS	\$175	High Point	Click Here
February 6, 2023 9am-12pm	ADA in Temporary Traffic Control	ARS	\$50	ONLINE	Click Here
February 7-8, 2023 9am-12pm	ADA Self Evaluations/ Elements of PROWAG	ARS	\$150	ONLINE	Click Here
February 7, 2023	Silica's New Standard - Strategies for Municipal Compliance	ARS	\$175	Raleigh	Click Here
February 8, 2023	Excavation Safety	RS	\$150	High Point	Click Here
February 8, 2023	Stormwater Hydrology	ARS	\$150	Kernersville	Click Here
February 9-10, 2023 9am-12pm	Bicycles and Pedestrians: Meeting the Needs of All Users	MRS	\$150	ONLINE	Click Here
February 13, 2023	Asphalt Pavement Maintenance	RS	\$150	Charlotte	Click Here
February 14, 2023	Maintenance and Repair of Utility Cuts	RS	\$100	Charlotte	Click Here
February 15, 2023	Flagger Training	RS	\$100	Raleigh	Click Here
February 21, 2023	Basic Work Zone Installer	RS	\$150	Raleigh	Click Here
February 22, 2023	Intermediate Work Zone Safety Training	RS	\$175	Raleigh	Click Here
February 27, 2023	Fall Protection	ARS	\$150	Raleigh	Click Here
March 2-3, 2023	OSHA 10-Hour Safety Training	ARS	\$175	High Point	Click Here
March 6-7, 2023 8:30am-11:30am	Basic Drainage/ Roadway Drainage Maintenance	RS	\$150	ONLINE	Click Here

LTAP Links on the Web

Transportation Information at your fingertips!

NC LTAP	https://itre.ncsu.edu/focus/ltap/
National LTAP/TTAP	http://www.nltapa.org/
NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT)	https://www.ncdot.gov/
Rural Road Safety Center	https://ruralsafetycenter.org/
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/
US Department of Transportation (USDOT)	https://www.transportation.gov/
UNC School of Government	https://www.sog.unc.edu/
Institute of Transportation Engineers	http://www.ite.org/
NC Section of ITE (NCSITE)	http://ncsite.org/
APWA - NC Chapter	http://northcarolina.apwa.net/
NLTAPA Tailgate Talks	https://nltapa.org/information-exchange/nltapa-tailgate-talks/

NC LTAP Advisory Board

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