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Richmond Branch - ASCE
<http://www.ascevirginia.org>

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VDOT Access Management Regulations

Date: December 16, 2008
Place: Westwood Club
Time: 12:00 Lunch, 12:30 Program
Costs: \$20.00
Menu: Option 1 - Salad, Grilled Pork Loin, Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans, & Dessert
Option 2 - Salad, Grilled Chicken, Sundried Tomatoes Rice, Spinach & Dessert
Option 3 - Salad, Pasta Primavera, and Dessert

Contact Rebecca Nordan at Koontz Bryant to RSVP @ 740-9200 or email her at rnordan@koontzbryant.com by 9AM on December 15, 2008

Legislation was passed in the General Assembly in 2007 (HB 2228 and SB 1312) directing The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to review the Access Management Regulations and Standards for the Commonwealth. The first phase of the regulations, access management on principal arterial roadways, went into to effect July 2008. The second phase of the regulations, access management for minor arterials, collectors and local roads, is currently in the public comment period (ends December 15, 2008.)

The revisions and standards include spacing standards for entrances (access to sites) and intersections. They also cover signalized intersection spacing requirements.

Tim White, P.E., PTOE, transportation planner and engineer for Kimley Horn and Associates, will be presenting. Mr. White has 18 years of experience primarily in the areas of traffic engineering and transportation planning in both the public and private sectors. He has successfully managed projects of all sizes and complexity across the Commonwealth; ranging from small traffic impact studies to multi-million dollar on-call contracts for VDOT and local jurisdictions. While at VDOT, he chaired the statewide access management committee and managed the statewide highway safety improvement program. He represented VASITE on the VDOT Access Management Policy Committee to help shape these new regulations and standards. Mr. White received both his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Virginia.

A Message from the President

By Bryan Stevenson



I'll make it short this time.

Congratulations to Craig Ponte who will be our new Scholarship Chair and College Liaison. He will be filling the role previously held by Brian McPeters who has held the position for the last 6 years. Over this time, Brian was a key link between the Branch and the University of Virginia. Brian's extended commitment to the position was crucial in the success of the program. Thanks to Brian for all he has done.

A number of our members were in attendance for the annual UVA Rotunda dinner, presented by the ASCE student branch. A pre-dinner social was hosted by the Richmond Branch (thanks again Brian) which gave our members the opportunity to network with students and staff of the University. This is also the event where the Branch presents the scholarship to the winning candidate (thanks to Brian one more time.)

See information below regarding the upcoming social for the members of the General Assembly. Thanks to Amanda Harmon for all her efforts with this event.

If you have the interest, I would encourage you to get involved with Mike Howell and his education outreach efforts (see next page). Thanks to Mike for everything he has been able to accomplish.

Branch to hold social for 2009 General Assembly members

As part of the government outreach efforts, the Richmond Branch will be hosting a social for the General Assembly members. The social is tentatively scheduled for January 21, 2009 at Richbrau in Richmond's Shockoe Slip. The branch has been in contact with ASCE National's government relations employees (one of whom is a former general assembly staffer) for suggestions and tips on holding the event.

The Branch is hosting this event in an attempt to strengthen the relationship between ASCE and Virginia.

If you are interested in being involved in the event, please contact Amanda Harmon at 804-673-3882 or Amanda.Harmon@kimley-horn.com or Bryan Stevenson at 804-330-8040 or bryan.stevenson@aesva.com

Branch Education Outreach

By Mike Howell, Education Chair

Last spring when ASCE National President David Mongan visited Richmond, he highlighted the effort that ASCE is making nationally to help educate our elementary, middle, and high schools about engineering and the important role that engineers play in shaping our world. Since then, the Richmond Branch of ASCE has been making great strides in furthering this effort in Richmond and the surrounding area. The Branch, along with the Younger Members Group, is actively working with other engineering organizations such as American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and Richmond Joint Engineers Council (RJEC) to make this program a success.

So far, the group has been successful in working with local schools in many different areas. In October, members of ASCE helped facilitate two work sessions for "Math Field Day" sponsored by the Math Science Innovation Center. The two sessions helped demonstrate to the middle school students where engineering is used in their daily lives. ASCE members are currently working with staff at the Lloyd C. Bird High School in Chesterfield to fulfill the application requirements for the school to receive a Governor's Academy status for their Pre-Engineering Specialty Center. ASCE members are also serving as advisors for Falling Creek Middle School's Future City Competition where students are learning about city planning and land development by modeling cities using the Sim City software. Preparations for the annual ASCE Popsicle Bridge Contest scheduled to take place in February are currently underway as well. This year's competition hopes to recruit students from all over the area to participate in this year's event. A planning meeting is scheduled for December 17th at 5:30pm at Sine's Pub downtown for any who are interested or want to know more information.

Anyone interested in becoming involved in ASCE's Educational opportunities around the area, including helping out with this year's Popsicle Bridge Contest, should contact Mike Howell at (804)777-3058 or mhowell@brockenbrough.com.

VSMP Construction Permitting Regulation Revisions currently at Public Comment stage

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is currently accepting public comments on the regulations relative to the VSMP construction permitting. Among the regulation revisions are changes to the permitting process and procedures and revisions to the requirements of a Stormwater Pollution and Prevention Plan (SWPPP.)

Additional information can be found at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/lr4b.shtml#publichearing>

DCR will accept public comment until December 26, 2008. Public comment can be made via the internet at <http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewStage.cfm?stageid=4817>

Schedule of Upcoming Richmond Branch and other Events

| Date | Speaker | Topic | Location |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| December 16 | Tim White, Kimley Horn | VDOT Site Access Program | Westwood Club |
| January 14* | Joe Battiata (Williamsburg Environmental Group) | Virginia Stormwater Regulation Revision topics | Westwood Club |
| January 21 | - | Social for General Assembly | Richbrau |
| February 19 | Ms. Jill S. Tietjen , President of Technically Speaking Inc | RJEC Engineers Banquet | The Jefferson |
| February 22 | - | Engineers Career Day (and Popsicle Stick Bridge competition) | Science Museum of Virginia |

*Note this is a Wednesday meeting date

Support your branch! Would you like to advertise your company's logo in next month's issue? The cost is \$10 (checks only, made payable to ASCE Richmond Branch). Contact any board member for details.

Did you know there are over 200 active members of the Richmond Branch! Do you have something to say? Would you like to contribute an article? Let's hear from you, and maybe your thoughts will be in the next newsletter. Contact Bryan Stevenson at 330-8040.