



**ASHE**  
**Chesapeake**

# Newsletter

## Chesapeake Section

[chesapeake.ashe.pro](http://chesapeake.ashe.pro)

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# BAYBREEZE

# WINTER 2020



Gregg Iskra P.E.,

President, ASHE

Chesapeake

## Message from the President

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a great holiday season and are looking for a brand new year of ASHE activities. We had an active fall as you can see in this edition of the newsletter, and we are looking forward to some great upcoming activities in 2020.

So far this year, we have had several successful events. In October, we had our first technical sessions for Traffic. Again this year, we partnered with ITE (Institute of Transportation Engineers) for a joint session including multiple topics on transportation analysis and planning across Maryland. We'd like to give a special thanks to the dinner speaker, Carole Delion of MDOT SHA, who gave us an update on the future of automated vehicles in Maryland, and how MDOT is preparing for it. In November, ASHE hosted our Planning forum. The Planning technical sessions included a variety of interesting topics including studies on a new crossing of the Bay. People were discussing the options throughout dinner. Stephen Bolton for Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake was our dinner speaker, and he provided a great history on their activities. We encourage all members to check out the good work they do, and consider helping in any way you can. After the new year, ASHE again hosted a booth at the MDQI conference. We had plenty of activity, and are happy that many of our members (and a few new members) came by to see us. We'd also like to congratulate all the winners of our business card drawings, who won Echo Dots and Echo Shows. We look forward to seeing everyone at MDQI again next year.

We plan to continue to organize informative and entertaining events into 2020. Please mark your calendar for all of our upcoming Water Resources meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Historically, it's been our most popular session, and we expect it to remain this year even as it falls the day after President's Day. We have a good slate of speakers, including a discussion from MDE on some of their current policies and procedures. Following soon after that, we have our annual Poker Tournament which helps to support our scholarships. The Poker Tournament is February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Volunteer Fire Hall at Long Green. Please consider coming out to have some fun and support a good cause (the ASHE scholarship program). In March, we have our Highway technical meeting, which falls on Saint Patrick's Day this year. It will be another informative session with plenty of opportunity to network and socialize with your ASHE colleagues. We will complete the year with our Member Appreciation Night, tentatively planned for April 16<sup>th</sup>, and finish up with our golf tournament to be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2020 at Oakmont. The golf tournament also supports our scholarship fund, and we hope you can join us.

Lastly, I'd like everyone to start planning for the ASHE National Conference, which will be held on June 3rd through 7th in Raleigh, North Carolina this year. Raleigh is a fun city and the local region will be hosting what is expected to be another great conference. See the information included in this newsletter for more details about the conference, including their website address. We hope to see you there. And I hope to see many of you in the near future and hope you can make a few of our upcoming ASHE Chesapeake Events! Thank you and we are looking forward to continued success and comradery this year!

Gregg Iskra, P.E.

ASHE Chesapeake – 2019-2020 President





## OFFICERS



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*President*



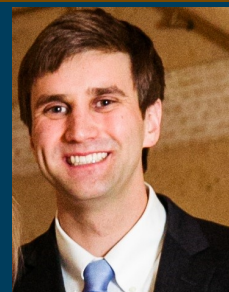
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Not Pictured:  
Kwaku Boampong  
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## Professional Development

The state of Maryland requires 16 Professional Development Hours (PDH's) every 2 years to keep your P.E. license. ASHE Chesapeake Section is providing opportunities to earn 12 to 15 PDH's every year. You can take advantage of this by attending our Technical Sessions offered at each of our monthly meetings. Sessions are available to members and non-members, with a discounted rate being offered to members.

# ASHE 2019-2020 Events

## ASHE CHESAPEAKE 2019-2020 EVENT SCHEDULE

- October 29, 2019— Traffic Meeting (Engineer's Club)
- November 19, 2019—Planning Meeting (Engineer's Club)
- February 18, 2020—Water Resources Meeting (Engineer's Club)
- February 22, 2020—Poker Tournament (Long Green Banquet Hall)
- March 17, 2020—Transportation/Highways Meeting (Engineer's Club)
- April 16, 2020—ASHE Member Appreciation Night (Orioles Game)

## Membership

**If you would like to become a member please visit our website:**

<http://chesapeake.ashe.pro/membership/>

**Or join us at a meeting and fill out a membership form and talk to any one of the Board of Directors or Committee members.**





ASHE Chesapeake held a joint meeting with the Washington DC Section of ITE on October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Engineers Club in Baltimore. Five presentations were delivered during the technical sessions in the afternoon. The event concluded with a keynote speech during dinner on CAV Policies and Standards.

### **CHART DMS Effectiveness Survey**

As part of the MDOT Excellerator Performance Management System, the MDOT SHA Office of CHART was asked to perform an update to surveys performed in 2017 and 2018 to determine the public's satisfaction with Dynamic Message Signs (DMS), as they are utilized on Maryland roadways. Information regarding the accuracy and usefulness of the information provided by individual DMS was sought, as well as information regarding the DMS program in general. This presentation summarized the results of 2019 update and compared them to the 2017 and 2018 results.

### **BaltimoreLink Signing**

Opening on June 18, 2017, the BaltimoreLink Bus System grew from infancy to completion in just over 18 months. With the promise of reliability, efficiency, safety and world class service, BaltimoreLink delivered by providing a transformed and connected bus network that includes high frequency service. An integral component of conveying more, useful information to the public was through the redesign of the bus stop signs. The BaltimoreLink Signage project was responsible for the design, installation and unveiling of nearly 5,000 new bus stop signs. This task was no small feat; unlike traditional signing projects of this size, this project was faced with many unique challenges/questions from the very beginning. The project used innovative solutions to implement the new system, including GIS for plan development and a unique sign bag to facility over-night deployment of the new signs.

## **October 29, 2019 Traffic Meeting**

### **Presentation 1:**

*CHART DMS Effectiveness Survey*

Tim Ryan (AECOM)

Umesh Murthy (Transtech)

### **Presentation 2:**

*Baltimore Link Signing*

Kevin Permisohn (WSP)

### **Presentation 3:**

*MTA Improving Service in Real-Time*

Michael Helta (MTA)

### **Presentation 4:**

*Move Anne Arundel County Transportation Master Plan*

Ramond Robinson (AA County)

### **Presentation 5:**

*Anne Arundel County's Neighborhood Transportation Master Plan*

Eric Tabacek (AA County)

### **Dinner Speaker:**

*Carole Delion (SHA)*

*Continued on next page.*

Meeting presentations can

be found on our website

<http://chesapeake.ashe.pro/events/>





## October 29, 2019

### *Traffic Meeting*

*Continued from previous page.*

#### **MTA Improving Service in Real-Time**

MTA carries over 350,000 passengers on a daily basis which totals to well over 100 million annually. While on-time performance, safety, and efficiency are important, so too is the customer experience. Not knowing when your ride will arrive is infuriating and was a reality in the not so distant past for many of the agency's riders. Beginning 2 years ago, MTA has put priority on improving the information that they provide their customers with a goal of having all 5 modes offer real-time arrival information by the Spring of 2020. Mike's presentation walked through the process of identifying, developing, launching, and managing real-time arrival feeds and ways the agency has started to use the data to improve operations.

#### **Move Anne Arundel County Transportation Master Plan**

*Move Anne Arundel!*, the county's first Transportation Functional Masterplan presents a framework that will serve as a guide on how Anne Arundel County should approach transportation planning. The plan integrates and prioritizes recommendations from five separate studies prepared for the county and lays out goals, objectives and performance measures.

#### **Anne Arundel County's Neighborhood Traffic Control Program**

Citizens continually raise concerns with traffic safety, particularly speeding within their residential neighborhoods. In 1998, the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works developed a process to respond to citizen concerns in a fair and systematic manner. The process sets guidelines for the implementation of certain traffic control techniques and outlines total community involvement in the process to insure all concerns are addressed in an equitable manner.





## November 19, 2019 *Planning*

The ASHE Chesapeake November Planning Meeting featured 3 technical presentations. The first technical presentation was conducted by Barry Kiedrowski from Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA). The presentation discussed SHA's planning efforts for MD 97 in Montgomery Hills, Montgomery County. To meet the needs of the community to have accessibility to local businesses, pedestrian accessibility, bicycle connectivity, and transit use, a selected alternative has been identified. This alternative will significantly calm traffic by narrowing lanes, adding a raised landscaped median, and installing ADA-compatible sidewalks on both sides of the road, as well as a two-way bicycle track on the west side of Georgia Avenue.

The 2nd presentation by Heather Lowe and Melissa Williams of the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) discussed adding a second Chesapeake Bay Crossing. MDTA is preparing a Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Fourteen corridors and multiple Modal and Operational alternatives (MOAs) were identified and evaluated as part of the study. The data indicated only three of the alternatives, and the no-build alternative, sufficiently met the purpose and need in accordance with NEPA.

The 3rd presentation by Laura Barcena and Michael Grant discussed The Baltimore Metropolitan Council's plan to update and enhance the existing Congestion Management Process (CMP) for the Baltimore Region. The updated CMP will be a multi-step process that utilizes up-to-date data to identify and analyze areas of congestion and identify strategies to address the congestion.

### **Presentation 1:**

*MD 97 Montgomery Hills  
Project Planning Study*

Barry Kiedrowski (SHA)

### **Presentation 2:**

*The Chesapeake Bay Crossing  
Study: Tier 1 NEPA*

Heather Lowe (MDTA)

Melissa Williams (MDTA)

### **Presentation 3:**

*Baltimore Region Congestion  
Management Process*

Laura Barcena, PE (Rossi  
Transportation Group)

Michael Grant (ICF)

### **Dinner Speaker:**

Stephen Bolton—COO of  
Habitat for Humanity of the  
Chesapeake

Meeting presentations can be found on our website

<http://chesapeake.ashe.pro/events/>





The Carolina Triangle Section is honored to host the 202 ASHE National Conference at the Raleigh Convention Center in Raleigh, North Carolina, June 3-7, 2020.

As the capital of North Carolina, Raleigh is one of the fastest growing cities in the US and the optimal location for the ASHE National Conference. It is easily accessible via I-40, I-85, I-95, the Raleigh-Durham International Airport, and by rail with the new Raleigh Union Station. The 'Triangle' region is a modern example of an extraordinary transportation system and the home to numerous cultural, educational, and historic sites. Seize this opportunity to interact, absorb, share and grow as we explore the future of transportation. Enjoy the food, nightlife, music, arts, recreation, outdoors, and hospitality that the "City of Oaks" has to offer.

For more information go to <http://2020conference.ashe.pro/>



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**To become a sponsor for the 2019-2020 ASHE Chesapeake Event Season, reach out to our Sponsorship Committee!**

ASHE Chesapeake Section Sponsorship Committee Contacts:

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Marco Avila at 443-519-6909      marco.avila@wsp.com

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