

## **2023 Excellence in Transportation Awards**

## SECTION MOMENTUM AWARD The Metropolitan Section of New York & New Jersey



The Metropolitan Section of New York & New Jersey has received ITE's Section Momentum Award, which recognizes the ITE Section who has experienced the most growth or momentum in the previous year. The Section's year was marked by successful in-person events and notable technological advancements.

The Metropolitan Section of New York & New Jersey (ITE Met Section) achieved remarkable milestones in 2022, transitioning from virtual to In-Person meetings and enhancing its technological infrastructure. Spearheaded by a collective Section board decision in a 2021 "Reorganization meeting," the year was dedicated to revitalizing in-person engagement.

**In-Person Meetings and Strategic Speaker Selection:** ITE Met Section had boldly navigated challenges, postponing events when necessary, to safely hold events in-person rather than simply going virtual. The focus on having local guest experts and leadership from New York and New Jersey transportation agencies rekindled interest among Section members.

**Engaging Discussions and Knowledge Exchange:** Meetings delved into vital topics, including capital plans of transportation departments, ethics in engineering licenses, multimodal technology, traffic engineering data hubs, virtual reality in construction inspection, Highway Capacity Manual updates, major redevelopment programs, and digital twin technologies.

**Networking and Professional Development:** The Young Professional Group organized five successful happy hours across the region, fostering connections. The ITE Met Section's Mentorship Program thrived with inperson meetings and monthly mentor/mentee interactions, while a virtual career fair facilitated interviews with 15+ companies.

**Insightful Site Visit and Technological Advancements:** A tour of the Traffic Management Center at New York City Department of Transportation provided valuable real-time traffic monitoring insights.

**Technological Innovation: Glueup and Website Platform:** The integration of Glueup (Event Back) streamlined email communication, event management, and contact management. The Met Section's website transitioned to Wix, enhancing user experience, integration, and security.



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Revamped Sponsorship Program: A redesigned sponsorship program attracted increased participation and added a Small, Minority, Disadvantage Business category. Perks included prominent recognition, logo visibility, free registrations, and more. The program has steadily grown year over year, with 2022 being the most successful.

The ITE Met Section's achievements exemplify its commitment to fostering professional growth, facilitating meaningful exchanges, and embracing innovative technologies. For further information and engagement, visit ITE Met Section's website or for a summary, see its Section Momentum nomination submission here.



Congratulations to the 2022 Leadership of the ITE Met Section on a job well done!

Left: Taking office

Below: 2022 Leadership roster



## 2022 Leadership















Farukh Ijaz, P.E. President

Vice President

Secretary

Tom Pagano, P.E., PTOE Asheque Rahman, ENV SP Brad Miller, P.E., PP. PTOE Treasurer

Marvin Souza, P.E. Past President

Director Systems

Lu Ding, P.E., PTOE Jr. Section Director

Steven Eisenberg, P.E. Sr. Section Director

President and Managing Partner at



Senior Traffic Engineer at The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey

Associate Vice President at Michael Baker International

Michael Baker

**Project Engineer** at New Jersey Turnpike

Associate at





Associate at Sam

Schwartz







