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ITE Honors Three Transportation Leaders with Prestigious Membership Recognition

WASHINGTON, DC – ITE—A Community of Transportation Professionals congratulates its three newest Honorary Members, the highest recognition of notable and outstanding professional achievement ITE presents to an individual. Since 1933, when ITE selected its first Honorary Member, only 97 individuals have been recognized with this distinction. The ITE International Board of Direction has elected the following three individuals as Honorary Members: **Rock Miller, P.E., PTOE (H); Jeffrey F. Paniati, P.E. (H); and Peter Yauch, P.E., PTOE, IMSA, RSP2I (H)**. Congratulations to these remarkable professionals for receiving ITE’s highest honor!



Rock Miller, P.E., PTOE (H)

Rock Miller is a champion for active transportation and has served as a technical expert across North America. His exemplary contributions to ITE throughout his career have earned him the designation of Honorary Member. He has been involved at the local, District, and International levels of ITE for more than 45 years. Rock’s combination of technical expertise, professional integrity, contributions to advancing the knowledge base of the profession, and dedication to improving transportation engineering distinguishes him among his peers. He has been a dedicated volunteer, supporting the advancement of bicycle access and safety.

Rock has completed a wide variety of unique transportation projects, including traffic signals, signing and striping, street lighting, worksite traffic control, traffic impact analysis, and the design of street and highway improvements. He has also prepared numerous transportation policy plans and completed controversial and complex transportation studies, including projects anticipating litigation by another public agency and projects with intense public opposition. He is well regarded for his ability to apply strong fundamental traffic engineering knowledge to custom situations. Rock has frequently been invited to speak at regional and national conferences and committees on topics such as pedestrian circulation and safety, urban bikeway design, traffic calming, traffic safety, and transportation policy. He is thoroughly familiar with the latest capabilities and requirements available and expected from cities and municipal governments. For more than 35 years, Rock has been a consultant at the senior or principal level in the field of traffic engineering, traffic safety, and circulation design.

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Rock has served in numerous ITE leadership positions, including Southern California Section President (1991), Western District President (2002), International Director (2004–2006), and on the ITE International Executive Committee, culminating in his role as International President in 2012. Rock also served on Local Arrangements Committees, including as Chair of the 2016 ITE Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA, USA. Highlights of his recent contributions include serving on the Traffic Bowl Member Program Committee, Transportation Safety Council TFARM Standing Committee, Transportation Forensics and Risk Management Committee (Chair), Pedestrian and Bicycle Executive Committee, and the ITE Grand Crossing Committee. He received a Lifetime Achievement award from ITE’s Western U.S. District in 2018 and from its Southern California Section in 2021.

Rock is a registered Traffic Engineer in California and a Registered Civil Engineer in California and Hawaii. His experience includes a decade of work as a municipal traffic engineer and the balance of his career with various consulting firms. He is currently self-employed, dividing his time between pedestrian and bicycle enhancement, safety policy, and forensics. Rock teaches several one-day courses for the UC Berkeley Institute of Transportation Studies, including Bikeway Design and the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. He is Vice Chair of the Bicycle Technical Committee and a voting member of the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Rock also serves on the California Traffic Control Devices Committee and the Transportation Research Board Bicycle Research Committee. Recently, he worked toward the passage of speed limit reform legislation in California (AB 43).



Jeffrey F. Paniati, P.E. (H)

Jeff Paniati has had a remarkable career within transportation, and his unique contributions to ITE as both a member and Executive Director and CEO have earned him the title of Honorary Member. Jeff’s journey with ITE began in 1986 when he joined as a member. He served in a variety of ITE volunteer leadership positions, including as President of the Washington, DC Section and as Chair of the Traffic Engineering Council.

After a long career with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Jeff joined ITE as Executive Director and CEO in 2015. During his eight years of leadership, Jeff successfully led the organization through a period of substantial change, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jeff’s expertise modernized the organization, spearheading the ONE ITE initiative, which unified the ITE member experience and created a new District and 20 new Sections. Under his guidance, ITE experienced record membership growth. He also ensured the financial success of the organization and set a strategic direction for ITE. Jeff oversaw a staff of 25 professionals responsible for a range of member services, including developing technical guidelines and standards, delivering professional

development opportunities, organizing meetings and conferences, and advocating on key transportation issues. During his tenure, Jeff also served as Executive Director and CEO of the Transportation Professional Certification Board, leading the establishment of the Roadway Safety Professional certification.

Prior to joining ITE, Jeff had a 32-year career with the U.S. Department of Transportation's FHWA, where he held leadership positions in the areas of highway safety, intelligent transportation systems (ITS), and system management and operations. His roles included Chief of the Safety Design Research Division, Deputy Director of the ITS Joint Program Office and Associate Administrator for Operations at FHWA.

From 2008 to 2015, Jeff served as Executive Director of FHWA, the highest career position within the agency. He was responsible for 2,900 employees across 65 offices nationwide and an annual operating budget of \$400 million. He also served as Senior Advisor to the FHWA Administrator on programs, policies, and priorities for the then \$40 billion annual Federal-aid highway program. In 2009, Jeff served as Acting Deputy FHWA Administrator during the presidential transition and led the early implementation of the American Recovery and Reimbursement Act.

Jeff's professional involvement includes AASHTO, ITS America, the World Road Association, and the Transportation Research Board. He has received numerous honors and awards, including the Presidential Rank Award of Distinguished Executive and the FHWA Richard D. Morgan Leadership Development Award. He has been inducted into the University of Connecticut Academy of Distinguished Engineers, the ITS America Hall of Fame, and the ITS World Congress Hall of Fame. He is an advisory board member for Transoft Solutions and Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc.



Peter Yauch, P.E., PTOE, IMSA, RSP2I (H)

Peter Yauch's sustained contributions to ITE and the transportation industry make him an outstanding choice for Honorary Member. He is Vice President Emeritus at Iteris, Inc., where he supports strategic initiatives and workforce development activities, leads TSMO activities, and oversees arterial operations, performance monitoring, and safety-related efforts. Pete has more than 47 years of experience in traffic operations, ITS, and safety.

As a consultant, Pete has served as Project Manager on numerous traffic engineering projects, including feasibility studies, designs, and implementation efforts for Advanced Transportation Management System (ATMS) and computerized traffic signal control systems. His work also includes traffic operations studies, signalization designs, signing and marking plans, roadway lighting plans, traffic safety studies, area-wide traffic signal timing projects, and corridor improvement studies. He



developed and presented several training courses on traffic signal design, equipment, operations, as well as research projects related to traffic flow. His experience encompasses both national and regional involvement, with major participation in the design and management of projects in 18 states, and a strong knowledge of multiple Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) districts. Pete previously served as the District Signal Systems and Safety Engineer for FDOT District Seven, the City Traffic Engineer for the City of Clearwater, Florida, and as the Director of Transportation and Assistant County Administrator for Pinellas County, Florida.

Pete has held several leadership positions within ITE and has been recognized with numerous awards. He is the author of several papers on TSMO topics and a frequent presenter at ITE conferences and webinars. He currently serves as District Administrator for the ITE Florida Puerto Rico District and served on the Executive Board from 2003 to 2007 and again from 2014 to 2015. In 2021, he was honored with the ITE Burton W. Marsh Distinguished Service Award. The Florida Puerto Rico District has also recognized him with the Sherwood “Woody” Hiller Distinguished Service Award, the Nat Rambo Fellowship Award, and Transportation Professional of the Year, among others. The Tampa Bay Chapter named him Transportation Professional of the Year in 2006. He served on the ITE International Board of Direction from 2011 to 2013.

Pete is Co-Chair of the ITE Professional Development Committee and has also served on the Traffic Engineering Council, and the TSMO Council. His contributions were vital to developing the ITE TrafficWiki, a one-stop shop for traffic engineering knowledge. In 2022, he updated the ITE training course for the Professional Traffic Operations Engineer program. He has also been a peer reviewer for *ITE Journal* for more than 35 years. Pete is a member of the ITE delegation to the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD).

Read more about each one of these dynamic individuals in the January 2025 issue of the *ITE Journal* [here](#). Visit ITE’s [Honorary Members web page](#) to see a full list of Honorary Members.

About ITE — Founded in 1930, ITE is an international membership association of transportation professionals who work to improve safety and mobility for all transportation system users and help build smart and livable communities. Through its products and services, ITE promotes professional development and career advancement for its members, supports and encourages education, identifies necessary research, develops technical resources including standards and recommended practices, develops public awareness programs, and serves as a conduit for the exchange of professional information. Through meetings, seminars, publications, and a network of more than 18,000 members working in 78 countries, ITE connects members to a world of ideas, people, and resources. For more information, visit www.ite.org.

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