

PRESENTER/PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Professional Biography Kermit Wies Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Kermit Wies is Deputy Executive Director for Research and Analysis with CMAP. Prior to the creation of CMAP, Mr. Wies was Deputy for Planning with CATS and is the principal author of the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan. His new responsibilities at CMAP include developing and overseeing the agency's programs for data collection, exchange, dissemination, analysis, evaluation and modeling.

Professional Biography Peter Harnet, P.E. Illinois Dept. Of Transportation

Pete has been employed with the Illinois Department of Transportation since 1985, first as a summer intern and then as a full time Civil Engineer after receiving his BS from Bradley University in 1986. During over 21 years of service, he has worked in the Bureaus of Construction, Design and is currently the Bureau Chief of Programming. His experiences include being an construction inspector in the field, a designer, and a Squad Leader, Unit Chief and Section Chief in the Bureau of Programming overseeing Phase I studies. He also spent four years in a project office in Mundelein, as Deputy Project Manager for the Lake County Transportation Improvement Project, which was jointly sponsored by the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority and IDOT. The LCTIP involved an extensive analysis of transportation needs and alternatives, as well as extensive public outreach over a 500 square mile study area in Lake, McHenry and Cook Counties. Pete has been involved with a wide variety of projects, ranging from arterial and bridge reconstruction to new roadways on new alignment.

**Professional Biography
Catherine Kibble, P.E.,
Illinois Dept. Of Transportation**

Catherine has been employed with the Illinois Department of Transportation since 1983, first as a co-op and then as a full time Civil Engineer after receiving her BS from Marquette University in 1986. During her 23+ years of service, she has worked in the Bureaus of Construction, Programming and is currently the Consultant Services Section Chief in the Bureau of Design. Her experiences include being a Resident Engineer in Construction, a Phase I Squad Leader in the Bureau of Programming overseeing Phase I studies and she is now working in Phase II dealing with the oversight of contract plan preparation. She has been involved with a wide variety of projects including widening and reconstruction, resurfacing and bridge reconstruction projects; most notably she was the Phase II Project Manager for the Kingery Reconstruction project.

**Professional Biography
Don Kopec
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning**

Don Kopec is the Deputy Executive Director for Programming and Operations. CMAP is the comprehensive planning agency for northeastern Illinois created by combining the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission. Prior to the merger of CATS and NIPC, Mr. Kopec served as the Executive Director for CATS. Mr. Kopec received his bachelor's and master's degrees in urban geography from Northern Illinois University and joined CATS in 1974. He has held a number of positions at CATS including the Director of Transportation Systems Development, the Deputy Director for Programming and Assistant Executive Director.

Professional Biography
Pat Kelsey
Christopher B. Burke Engineering West Ltd.

Patrick Kelsey has 25 years experience mitigating the environmental impacts of highways on natural areas, forest preserves, parklands, and campus settings including the Morton Arboretum. Early in his career Pat worked for the Morton Arboretum assessing the potential impacts of the then proposed North-South Tollway. Pat's work focused on the impacts of deicing salts on natural areas, trees and shrubs on the Arboretum grounds and aquatic system impacts. As a result of this work (including other Arboretum staff), a comprehensive mitigation package was negotiated for the implementation of the new tollway. For the last nine years Pat has been working with Kane County DOT staff on the technical environmental studies for the EIS, environmental mitigation for Stearns Road Bridge and most recently in design and construction of the project mitigation. Pat has been a staff member of Christopher Burke Engineering and Christopher Burke West since 2000. Currently, Pat is the Vice President of the Natural Sciences Division at CBEL West.

Professional Biography
David Yocca, ASLA
Conservation Design Forum

David Yocca is a landscape architect and certified planner motivated principally by the desire to cultivate healthy, sustainable communities that inspire their residents. He is encouraged by the potential for building both new places and retrofitting existing ones with the quality and characteristics that connect people with the place where they reside as a way to sustain that place for the generations that follow. David has served as the planning consultant for several rapidly growing communities in the Chicagoland area, developed land use master plans for conservation villages and urban neighborhoods, and participated in the visioning, design, entitlement, and implementation process for numerous ecologically-based sites, neighborhoods, and communities located primarily in the Midwest. He is fluent in a wide range of green building and site development strategies, and in his role at CDF, collaborates regularly with similarly aligned design professionals and clients. David routinely presents at workshops and conferences on sustainable development topics.

Professional Biography

Linda Huff, P.E.

Huff & Huff

Ms. Huff has been President of Huff & Huff for 27 years and is a registered professional engineer in Illinois, Indiana and Kansas. Prior to forming Huff & Huff, Ms. Huff was an independent consultant and worked at IIT Research Institute and the US Environmental Protection Agency. Her environmental experience extends over 34 years and covers many aspects of environmental analysis (industrial waste, remediation, risk assessment, and water quality). Ms. Huff has managed the environmental analysis of numerous transportation-related projects for H&H for 19 years including responsibility for overseeing technical reports relating to wetlands, noise, water quality, endangered species, and natural resources issues. Projects that included consideration of stormwater and natural resource issues include I-355 South, South Lake Shore Drive relocation and reconstruction, US 41 South, Fox River Bridges, Prairie Parkway, I 80/94 widening, Tollway improvements on 294 South, 294 North, I-88, and I-90. Ms. Huff has prepared numerous technical reports addressing economic impacts of environmental regulations in Illinois and addressing cost/benefit analysis as well as local and regional impacts of pollution control expenditures, industrial losses, and indirect economic impacts. All of these studies were presented to the Illinois Pollution Control Board for hearing and rule-making. Site characterizations and analysis of remedial options for industrial sites in eight states addressed issues related to soil contamination, groundwater characterization, and public water supply issues. Ms. Huff has directed projects assessing the human health effects and environmental issues related to chemical releases in various states.