



## CANDIDATE STATEMENTS/BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer

## Ashley C. Licklitter, PE



### Candidate's Professional Biography

- **Education:** Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering, Magna Cum Laude, Virginia Tech, 2001
- **Career:** Twenty (20) years of multimodal transportation industry experience at Kimley-Horn
- **Registrations:** PE in the Commonwealth of Virginia
- **Membership:** ITE Member since 2000 and actively engaged in ITE service to Section and District since 2010

### ITE Service Summary

- SDITE: LAC Chair for 2019 SDITE | MCDITE Joint Annual Meeting, Sponsorship Chair for 2019 SDITE | MCDITE Joint Annual Meeting, Annual Meeting (SPAM) Team (2017–2019), Information, Communication, & Outreach (IC&O) Team (2013–2014)
- VASITE: Immediate Past President (2020–2021), President (2019), Vice President (2018), Secretary (2017), District 5 Representative (2013–2014), Director ITE (2010–2011), Annual Women's Power Breakfast (co-leader)

### Other Volunteer Service

- Annual James River Regional Cleanup (2011–Present); Bike Walk RVA Volunteer (2015–Present); Celebrate Engineering Ingenuity Day at the Science Museum of Virginia (2017–Present)

### Discussion Points

- **Reasons for running for office:** I am excited for the opportunity to represent SDITE members in the role of Secretary/Treasurer. I greatly appreciate the professional and personal relationships I've made through my involvement in SDITE. I have been fortunate to partner with many SDITE members on a variety of transportation projects throughout the Southeast. I am proud of the positive impacts we make in our communities. I have seen firsthand how our projects provide safer access to jobs, to education, and to basic necessities, particularly during the pandemic. I am excited about the many resources ITE provides for our members, which in turn help our members to best fulfill their roles in our vital industry. I have a passion for serving ITE, our members, and our communities.
- **Discussion of the candidate's goals and priorities as a member of the executive board:** I have three key priorities if elected as Secretary/Treasurer:
  1. **Encourage participation:** I will never be able to thank enough an early supervisor who encourage my participation in ITE beyond attending meetings and social events—that

encouragement changed my career in so many ways. I want to ensure that SDITE meetings remain affordable and open to professionals at all career levels. I want to ensure that committees are covered by people of all ages, professional interests, and geographies. We are strongest in our diversity of backgrounds and opinions and even stronger when everyone has the ability and opportunity to participate. It is important that activities and opportunities for engagement are well communicated, both at the District and the International level, to our members.

2. **Promote SDITE and our industry:** We are fortunate to work in an industry that has a tremendously positive impact on the communities we serve. The strength of SDITE is our people—who care daily about bettering our industry, implementing cutting-edge technologies, improving safety for all, working with our peer society partners, collaborating with our amazing Associated Business Division, and helping each other professionally and personally. I will work to promote the benefits of our incredible organization and profession both inside and outside of ITE.
  3. **Engage our youngest members:** Our young members are the future of SDITE and its Sections. I feel strongly that our legacy comes through our efforts to develop future leaders. Behind each of our successes is the sponsorship, scholarship, and mentorship of past leaders. We should fully invest in providing opportunities to our student members and young members.
- **Discussion of how the candidate anticipates accomplishing his/her goals:** Achieving goals is truly a team effort. In support of the Executive Board and SDITE membership, I will bring my past VASITE and SDITE experience to the role of Secretary/Treasurer. I have a strong focus on proactive communications, desire for collaboration with the Executive Board and our talented committee leaders, and passion for our industry and our organization. Through communication, collaboration, and passion, I feel optimistic about achieving my goals. I look forward to serving and supporting our members and providing opportunities for their professional growth at all career levels.
  - **Discussion of the challenges and opportunities the candidate believes the profession will face in the coming three years:** Funding new infrastructure and maintaining and operating existing infrastructure is the greatest challenge facing our industry. Funding will always be limited; therefore, transportation professionals must guide and support our policy makers and political leaders in best allocating funds to the greatest benefit of our communities. Extensive project work in multimodal transportation and the pandemic conditions we've experienced during the past year have given me renewed passion for equitably funding all modes of travel and for providing choices to our friends and neighbors to walk, roll, stroll, take transit, carpool, or drive. Our true professional opportunity is to ensure that every member of our community has access to safe and affordable transportation options.
  - **Discussion of the challenges and opportunities the candidate believes the sections, district, or international ITE will face in the coming three years:** As with many organizations, sustaining and growing our membership will be key to our future. There are numerous opportunities for professional engagement within our industry. With limited time and agency financing for participation, it is important that ITE stands out from its peer professional societies by providing value to our members. I believe we can continue to do so by providing strong technical programs, hosting outstanding SDITE annual meetings that are personally and professionally rewarding, and providing service and leadership opportunities. I also strongly believe that engaging our youngest members early and often in their professional careers and encouraging the inclusive sharing of ideas between members of all ages, backgrounds, and professional interests will be key to securing our future as a leading transportation organization.