

## **Gerry Harter P.E. PTOE for Secretary/Treasurer - SDITE**



I have been in the transportation engineering and planning fields for over 30 years and an active participant in ITE during my entire career. My career started out in Florida as a consultant where I was able to go to my first ITE National Conference in Boston during the Big Dig (1997) and I was honored to serve recently as the President of VASITE (2016). I would like to continue serving our great professional organization in the capacity of Secretary/Treasurer for SDITE. I believe my experience being both the Secretary and Treasurer for VASITE as well as treasurer for other organizations gives me the expertise I need to serve well in this role.

I was humbled to accept the VASITE Outstanding Individual Activity Award in 2013 and the Distinguished Service Award in 2018. I have also published technical papers and given numerous presentations at ITE meetings during my career. I won the Best Paper and Presentation Award at the Transportation Research Board's Planning Applications Conference for my paper entitled "An Integrated Transportation

Information System – A Florida Example". Most recently I was a co-presenter for a presentation entitled "Sinai Road Pedestrian Lane Project – Halifax County, Virginia" which was given at the VASITE Annual Conference in 2021.

While my prior experience helps me serve in this role, more importantly I am excited to be presented another opportunity to serve a great organization and work with the best professionals in the industry to further our cause in making transportation safer and more efficient for all modes of travel. I would be both humbled and honored to receive your vote to serve in this important position.

### **Short Bio**

Gerry Harter P.E. PTOE has over 30 years of experience in the transportation engineering and planning fields. He currently is the District Traffic Operations Director for the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) in the Lynchburg District where he is responsible for improving traffic operations and safety for a ten county region. Prior to his service at VDOT, he was the City Traffic Engineer for the City of Lynchburg for ten years where he managed the traffic engineering and maintenance operations for the City. During his tenure at the City, he also served as Vice-President of the Board for the Greater Lynchburg Transit Company. Gerry was also a transportation engineering consultant with several firms in Florida. During this time in Florida, he performed transportation engineering and planning work for such clients as Walt Disney, the Orange County Convention Center, the Ice Palace Arena (Tampa Bay Lightning) and numerous MPOs throughout the state.

He received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of South Florida and is a licensed Professional Engineer and Professional Traffic Operations Engineer. Gerry resides in Central Virginia where he lives on a small farm with his wife. In his spare time he likes to visit grandkids and go sailing.

# Gerry L Harter

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## Experience

**2022-Present**

**Va Dept. of Transportation**

**Virginia, VA**

***District Traffic Operations Director***

- Responsible for traffic operations and safety within the ten county area of the Lynchburg District.
- Responsible for incident management response from an operations standpoint. Assisted with the development of the Traffic Operations Center at the District.
- Responsible for improving safety within the District by implementing the Highway Safety Improvement Program, performing safety studies, and participating in multimodal studies.
- Plans and programs traffic projects to include safety, ITS, maintenance and capacity improving projects. Also manages \$8m operations budget.
- Responsible for maintenance of signs, signals, pavement markings and ITS devices.

**2020-2022**

**Va Dept. of Transportation**

**Virginia, VA**

***District Maintenance Engineer***

- Managed maintenance operations for the Lynchburg District. This involved managing a \$100M budget that included traffic operations, bridge, road maintenance, and equipment.
- Responsible for bridge and structures program in the District.
- Responsible for traffic operations and safety.
- Responsible for leading and directing the equipment shop for the District.

**2011-2020**

**Va Dept. of Transportation**

**Virginia, VA**

***District Transportation Engineer***

- Manages traffic engineering operations for 10 county region in Central Virginia. Duties include speed limit studies, traffic studies, safety studies, and traffic signal, sign and pavement marking design.
- Manages Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant and highway traffic maintenance program totaling over \$5,000,000 per year. Projects include roundabouts, shoulder widening, and dynamic flashers, to name a few. Maintenance program includes guardrail, pavement markings, signage and traffic signals.
- Responsible for project and administration budgets. Participates in statewide committees to develop policies and standards. Works with incident manager to develop both event and emergency operations plans for the District. Supervises other Professional Engineers and technicians.
- Responsible for maintaining and installing traffic control devices such as signs, signals, pavement markings and messages. Directly supervises the District Operations Maintenance Manager who is responsible for the day to day maintenance of traffic operations.

**2000-2011                      City of Lynchburg                      Virginia, VA**  
***City Transportation Engineer***

- Direct responsibility for traffic operations for City. Duties include: traffic timing and phasing optimization, intersection safety and warrant studies, signal and sign/marketing maintenance, traffic signal and roadway design, procures traffic products, review of traffic impact studies, placement of signs and traffic signals, parking studies, and capacity analyses. Supervises both traffic signal and sign shops totaling 12 employees.
- Responsible for traffic budgets and transportation vision plan for City. Serves as project manager for transportation projects. Prepares and delivers presentations to Council and citizens. Served on Technical Review Committee (TRC).
- Served as the Chairman for the MPO's Technical Transportation Committee and Vice-President of the Greater Lynchburg Transit Company's Board of Directors.

**1998-2000                      TCG/HDR Engineering                      Orlando, FL**  
***Senior Transportation Engineer***

- Direct responsibility for supervising several engineers and technicians. Served as Project Manager for several municipalities' continuing services contract. Projects included signal warrant studies, timing and phasing optimizations, transportation planning studies, interchange justification reports and intersection safety studies.

**1995–1998                      Dames & Moore                      Tampa, FL**  
***Project Engineer***

- Developed GIS based road inventory system used by the FDOT and other local agencies. Was project engineer on a corridor study that received the highest grade up to that time from the FDOT District IV. Project included capacity analyses, alternative testing, safety reviews and priority setting. Was on project team that obtained approval of the first triple left-turn lane in FDOT District VII (Tampa, Florida).

**1993–1995                      Tindale-Oliver & Associates                      Tampa, FL**  
***Transportation Engineer***

- Was responsible for technical analyses on six long-range transportation plans. Technical analyses included capacity studies, alternative testing and priority setting. Also performed numerous traffic impact studies.

**1991-1993      Center for Urban Transportation Research      Tampa, FL**

- Assisted with research regarding the paratransit industry.

**Education**                      1997                      University of South Florida                      Tampa, FL

- MS, Civil Engineering.

1993                      University of South Florida                      Tampa, FL

- BS, Civil Engineering.

**Professional  
Registration**                      Registered Professional Engineer, FL (Retired)  
Registered Professional Engineer, VA  
Registered Professional Traffic Operations Engineer

**Professional  
Organizations**                      Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)  
Virginia Section Institute of Transportation Engineers (VASITE)

**Publications and Presentations**

- "Sinai Road Pedestrian Lane Project – Halifax County, Va" VASITE Annual Meeting, 2021. Co-Author
- "Traffic Management and Planning for Outdoor Events: Lockn' Music Festival, VDOT Land Use Summit, 2015
- "Going in Circles: The Facts about Roundabouts" Presentation to bi-annual HDR Transportation Conference, 2000.
- "Quantitative Assessment of Available Roadway Capacity for Various Convention Center Events – Orange County Convention Center" Paper and Presentation for Transpo2000, 2000.
- "Future Tools for Analyzing Highway Capacity", Highway Capacity Manual Roundtable Discussion, Florida ITE Chapter Meeting, 1998.
- "An Integrated Transportation Information System – A Florida Example" Transportation Research Board Planning Applications Conference and ITE National Conference Annual Meeting, 1996. Won Best Paper and Presentation Award.
- "Winning Approval for the First Triple Left-turn Lane", ITE National Conference Annual Meeting, 1995. Co-author.

**Professional Training/Awards**

- Outstanding Team Award (HDR), 2000
- Best Presentation Award (ITE)
- Selected into the HDR Leadership Training Program, 2000
- Virginia Certified Advanced Work Zone Traffic Control
- Highway Capacity and MUTCD Training
- 2013 Outstanding Individual Activity Award – VASITE (Virginia Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers)
- Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President and President of VASITE (2011-2016)
- 2018 Distinguished Service Award - VASITE

**Personal**

- Varsity Basketball Coach
- President, Residential Road Committee
- Cubmaster and Scoutmaster, Unit Leader Award
- Church Board Member
- Community Builders Award for work with Boy Scouts