

Wisconsin Towns Association

Spring Road School 2025

Chula Vista Resort and Conference Center - Wisconsin Dells, WI

Monday April 21 - Wednesday April 23, 2025

Agenda

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

5:00 – 6:00pm **REGISTRATION** (you must be registered to attend – thank you)

6:00 – 10:00pm **NETWORKING ROUNDABOUT**

Location: Follow Signs

This is a can't miss evening of networking opportunities with fellow local officials, road workers, and private sector transportation service providers. Join us in one of four hospitality rooms sponsored by Cedar, Sherwin Industries, Scott Construction & Contech complete with free heavy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025

6:30 – 8:00am **BREAKFAST BUFFET**

Location: Conference Rooms A through I

Freshly cut fruit, muffins and breakfast breads, orange & apple juices, freshly brewed regular and decaffeinated coffee and hot teas. Eggs, smoked bacon, sausage patties and breakfast potatoes.

8:00am **VENDOR EXHIBITS & REGISTRATION OPEN**

9:00 – 9:15am **WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

Location: Grand Ballroom

Mike Koles, Wisconsin Towns Association, Executive Director

9:15 – 9:45am **TRANSPORTATION FUNDING STATUS AND TOWN TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES (PDH'S 0.5)**

Location: Grand Ballroom

After over a decade of dismal transportation funding due to the elimination of gas tax indexing, transportation fund raids, excess borrowing, and lagging transportation specific revenue enhancements, infrastructure investment has witnessed significant attention in recent years. Several small revenue increases and heavy reliance on general purpose revenue (GPR) has resulted in more funding. Unfortunately, funding gaps are still extensive and the sustainability of relying on GPR is being questioned. Come learn about the challenges and the plan to overcome them.

Joe Ruth, Wisconsin Towns Association, Governmental Affairs Director

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025 (continued)

9:45 – 10:30am CREATING YOUR FIVE-YEAR TRANSPORTATION MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN (PDH's 0.75)

Location: Grand Ballroom

Today's high inflation environment combined with increasing road wear and tear due to heavy vehicles requires that towns pay an increasing amount of attention to getting the biggest bang for your transportation buck. Learn how to use existing data, trends, and technologies to create a five-year infrastructure plan that maximizes your financial investment.

Dennis Mack, P.E. and Russ Kiviniemi, P.E.-Cedar Corporation

10:30 – 11:15am NETWORKING INTERSECTION

Location: Conference Rooms A through I

Take a break and visit the Town Transportation Service Providers in the Vendor Exhibit Area.

11:15am – 12:00pm **OPTION A ENGINEERING OR NO ENGINEERING - THAT IS THE QUESTION (PDH's 0.75)**

Location: Grand Ballroom

Town transportation program funding and circumstances have significantly and abruptly changed; however, the rules/standards for road improvements have remained the same for decades. What are the elements of a "good road?" When is engineering required? When is it a good idea even when not required? When can you get away without it?

Dave Pantzlaff and Craig Schuh, P.E. – AYRES Associates

11:15am – 12:00pm **OPTION B TRANSPORTATION SERVICE PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT (PDH's 0.75)**

Location: Upper Grand Ballroom

This session will feature Subsurface, Inc. Joe Baratka will highlight the innovation on "no dig" culvert rehabilitation. Please join Joe in this modern and unique technology for trenchless solutions.

Joe Baratka, Subsurface, Inc.

12:00 – 1:30pm LUNCH AND VENDOR VISITS

Location: Conference Rooms A through I

Visit with vendors after enjoying sauteed chicken breast, lightly dusted with Italian herbs and topped with Parmesan and marinara. Served over fettuccine.

1:30 – 2:15pm **OPTION A LRIP AND TRANS 206 (PDH's 0.75)**

Location: Grand Ballroom

LRIP has become one of the important town transportation funding sources, and the amount of funding available has substantially expanded in recent years. Maximizing your opportunity requires that towns take advantage of the right program for the right road application at the right time. This session will help you discern what is right and what is being done to improve the program given its significance to town transportation funding.

Mike Koles, Wisconsin Towns Association, Executive Director

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025 (continued)

1:30 – 2:15pm **OPTION B CHIP SEAL SOLUTIONS ON TOWN ROADS (PDH's 0.75)**

Location: Upper Grand Ballroom

Should we crack fill? Should we single chip? Double chip? Let the road go to heck and start over in a few years? This session will consider several different maintenance techniques and if and when they should be used in order to create your town's best infrastructure system.

Chase Brockman, Scott Construction and Josh Lorenzen, Thunder Road

2:30 – 3:15pm **OPTION A UTILITY ACCOMODATION POLICY (PDH's 0.75)**

Location: Grand Ballroom

Most work in the right-of-way requires written permission from the town, which can take the form of a permit. Towns have the ability to enforce reasonable regulations in the use of the right-of-way and in order to obtain a permit. Come learn about utility accommodation policy and the recent sample policy tailored to towns that is available from the WTA.

Larry Konapacki, Stafford Rosenbaum Law Firm

2:30 – 3:15pm **OPTION B INVASIVE AND NOXIOUS WEEDS: WHY YOU SHOULD BE CONCERNED AND WHAT YOU CAN DO (PDH's 0.75)**

Location: Grand Ballroom

Brush control costs a lot of time, energy, and money. Learn about effective methods for general brush control, including the most common and regulated invasive species in Wisconsin and what to use to control them.

Lee Shambeau, 4Control and Rick Schulte, Nutrien

3:30 – 5:00pm **TRANSPORTATION SERVICE PROVIDERS RECEPTION**

Location: Conference Rooms A through I

Welcome and introduction to local government transportation service providers complete with hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.

5:00 – 6:00pm **WTA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE PROVIDERS AUCTION**

Location: Grand Ballroom

Have a ball and support the WTA Scholarship Fund through your engagement in this live auction. Participation can of course be through bidding, but we also encourage local governments to donate items for the auction.

Dave Bell Auctions, LLC, and Cedar Corporation

ADJOURN - DINNER ON YOUR OWN

6:00 – 10:00pm **NETWORKING ROUNDABOUT**

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

6:30 – 7:45am **BREAKFAST BUFFET**

Location: Conference Rooms A through I

Freshly cut fruit, muffins and breakfast breads, orange & apple juices, freshly brewed regular and decaffeinated coffee and hot teas. Eggs, smoked bacon, sausage patties and breakfast potatoes.

7:45 – 8:30am **OPTION A PASER & WHY YOU CAN'T IGNORE THIS (PDH's 0.75)**

Location: Grand Ballroom

Rating your roads accurately and in a timely manner has always been a requirement; however, with town official turnover there has been a decreasing emphasis on this. Unfortunately, that comes at a time when the data is increasingly being considered as part of transportation legislative advocacy, grant funding, and the development of capital improvement plans. Come learn how to effectively use PASER to advance your town's infrastructure and all town's funding chances.

Ben Jordan, P.E., WI LTAP, Staff Engineer

7:45 – 8:30am **OPTION B WORKER SAFETY: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

Location: Upper Dells Ballroom

TBD

8:30 – 9:00am **NETWORKING INTERSECTION**

Location: Conference Rooms A through I

Take a break and visit the Town Transportation Service Providers in the Vendor Exhibit Area.

9:00 – 10:00am **6 - 20 FOOT SMALL BRIDGE INVENTORY & INSPECTION PROGRAM UPDATE (PDH's 0.5)**

Location: Grand Ballroom

The inventory phase of the new small bridge program is complete and the inspection process has started. What has been found so far and what are the next steps? When the inspections are completed, what will this all mean for how we advocate, what we need to advocate for, and why?

Josh Dietsche and Dave Bohnsack, WisDOT & Debby Jackson, TDA Executive Director

10:00 – 10:45am **GETTING YOUR GRANT REIMBURSEMENTS: TIPS, TRICKS, & TRAPS (PDH's 0.75)**

Location: Grand Ballroom

You have been awarded a TRI, TRID, TRIS, or ARIP. Learn what must be done to obtain your reimbursement. What is required, when is it required, how do you go about submitting the information? Also, hear about the "Lessons Learned" and the Mistakes made from last year or requests for reimbursement.

Mark Servi, Paladin Program Management Group LLC

10:45 – 11:00am **BREAK** (Please remember to check out of your hotel room.)

11:00am – 1:00pm **WISDOT CERTIFIED FLAGGER TRAINING (PDH'S 2.0)**

Location: Grand Ballroom

Obtain your original flagger certification and your two-year required flagger refresher certification.

Gary Kennedy, DOT Certified Flagging Instructor & DJ Fedderly P.E.;P.L.S. Paladin Program Management Group LLC

1:00pm **ADJOURN - LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**