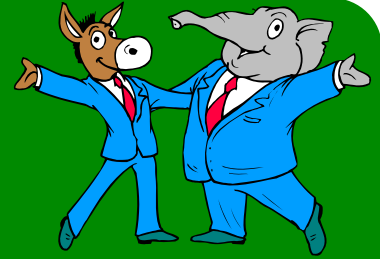


# FACERS News



HAPPY PRESIDENT'S DAY

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## FACERS News

Editor and Chief—  
Carolyn Steves



Next Edition  
March 2011

Submission Deadline for  
the next Issue is 2/15/11

VOLUME 1 EDITION 4

JANUARY 2011



## A Message from the President

We have just entered a new year and this is the time when we reflect on past events and look with optimism to the future. We make plans to improve on what we can and reminisce about the things that we did well. If the 2010 Legislative Conference is an omen of things to come, then we have done great and most definitely look forward to continue in 2011 during these tough times.

I look back at 2010 and reflect. Three Florida County Governments have lost three great engineers and leaders. Bob Gordon of Hillsborough County and John Goodknight of Marion County by retirement and Danielle Slaterpryce decided to take on new and exciting challenges with Kimley-Horn & Associates. I am grateful they have all declared that their participation with FACERS will continue. Amy Blaida became an expectant mother. Brian Barnes

has not been volunteered for anything without his knowledge and Ramon's sir name was spelled correctly on every single document. Todd Buckles received and had the distinct honor of adorning his home with the coveted FACERS Annual Christmas Ornament. A tradition that he started. I quote Bob Gordon, as he passed the ornament back to its creator, "Pay back time!" I am sure the wild life around his home will love it. He is the only person I know that lives in the sticks but is still within 5 to 10 minutes of a major shopping mall and highway entrance. What a lucky guy!

If you did not get a chance to join us at the Legislative Conference then you really missed a great program. You may view some of the presentations on our website. This was the first time we had a webinar thanks to Janet Degner and T<sup>2</sup>. We had many interesting, vibrant and informative presentations varying from the highly technical to new and innovative methods to do more with less - a theme that will certainly carry onto 2011. We were even honored by Mayor Teresa Jacobs' participation. As I am sure you all know Mayor Jacobs was recently elected to lead Orange County. The FACERS organization wishes her great success.

Our social was a hit! It was cold but the hosts made sure we were kept warm, fed well and thirsts quenched. One of the highlights of the social was a roasting of Bob Gordon by Amy Blaida and Todd Buckles. They both did an outstanding presentation. John Newton had a few things to add to the roasting and said things about Bob that confirmed how much he will be missed at Hillsborough County. Many thanks to RS&H, EJ Brennemen, APS, and Kimley-Horn and Associates. There is not enough that we can say about their dedication to FACERS.

So, as we look to 2011 with hope for better times ahead, we ask that you stay connected by visiting the FACERS website, volunteering to join committees or give presentations, and attending the conferences. Good luck in 2011 and may you all have a prosperous New Year!

*Hector*

# **FACERS 2010 Legislative Conference**

## **Recap**

WOW ! What a conference. Perfect weather, wonderful setting, informative agenda, great social night, and a web cast to boot!!! Who could have asked for anything more?

FAC selected a tropical island setting on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean between the mouth of the St. Johns River and the Georgia state line. The meeting was held at the Amelia Island Plantation November 17, 18 and 19, 2010.

The conference started off with the entire agenda webcast to all the members who were not able to travel to Amelia Island. Both those members in the room and on the web were able to see and hear what was going on at the meeting as well as ask questions. We cannot express enough gratitude to Janet Degner, Jaime Carreon and the T2 Center for providing the equipment, expertise and background support back in Gainesville to put FACERS on the web.

During the Wednesday webcast we learned about how Florida Cultural Resources can impact our public works projects if we don't plan for them, what is the state of the art in pavement preservation and restoration, possible impacts of Senate Bill 360 / Multi-Modal Impact Fees, and how FDOT is working hard to make the LAP process more manageable for the counties.

Thursday was backed with great information like an effort by the County Purchasing Directors to change the CCNA to utilize procurement pricing; what's up with a move to change the utility relocation requirements for public works projects. Eric Poole, FAC gave us an update on the happenings in Tallahassee with the various legislative committees preparing for the 2011 Legislative Session; a real eye opener on what's going on with the federally mandated TMDL we all must address, and a lively discussion on the latest trends on the Public vs. Private issues. The day finished up with a round table discussion of how each county has been impacted by the recent economic downturn and what we have done to combat the dwindling revenues.

Friday was filled with a very informative discussion with the President of the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association and the Chairman of the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers. We also held the General Membership Meeting (see minutes on page 4 -7) before adjourning just before 11:00 AM, which gave us time to get home at a decent time on Friday night.

## FREE Memberships return for 2011

It was decided at the General Membership meeting to offer new members a one year free membership for 2011. The effort in 2010 brought in several new members who can help the diversity and collective knowledge which is one of the major strengths of the FACERS organization.

The more Counties and Cities we can get involved within the FACERS Organization the stronger FACERS will be. By banding together, we have affected FDOT policy and funding. FACERS is the organization both the Florida Association of Counties and FDOT looks to for input on many state issues and policies.

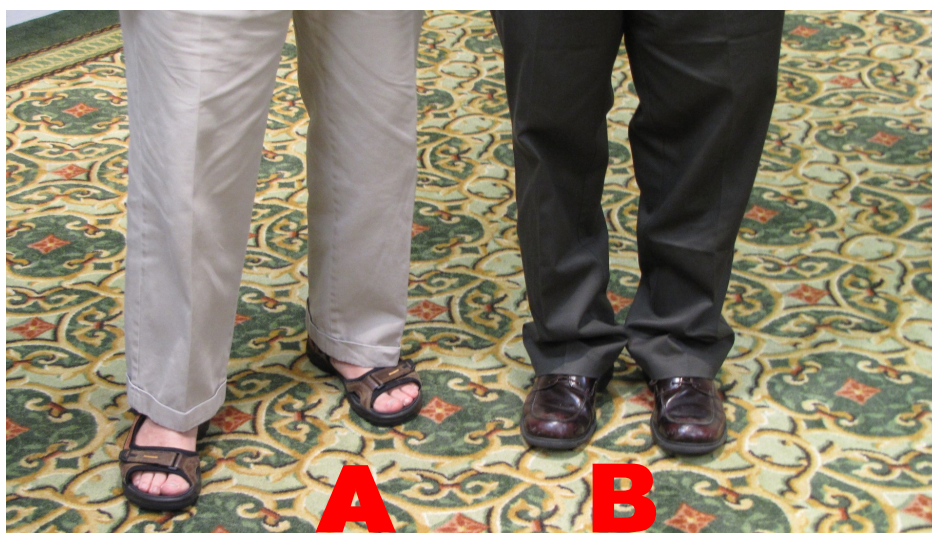
To encourage our City counterparts to join, the general membership voted several years ago to create a special membership category for municipal members. Currently there are membership categories for consultants, County members, and City members.

So why not go out and invite a neighboring County or City to join FACERS this year?? Membership applications can be found on the FACERS website [www.facers.org](http://www.facers.org) or by e-mailing John Newton, Hillsborough County at [NewtonJ@HillsboroughCounty.org](mailto:NewtonJ@HillsboroughCounty.org).

Below are \_\_\_\_\_ the feet of  
an engineer and a planner.

Can you  
which one is

guess  
which?



# **FACERS Legislative Conference**

## **General Membership Meeting**

**FACERS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Amelia Island Plantation, Cumberland Ballroom C**  
**Fernandina Beach, FL 32034**  
**November 19, 2010**

### **Board Members Present**

Hector Bertran – President \*

Fred Schneider – Vice President \*

Jonathan Page – Secretary \*

John C. Newton – Treasurer \*

Todd Buckles – Director \*

Ramon Gavarrete - Director\*

George Webb – State NACE Director

\* Current Board Members

With a quorum present, Hector Bertran called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Hector stated that the first order of business would be a presentation from representatives of the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association (FEPA). Fred Schneider introduced Jerry Smith, the Emergency Management Director from Lake County. Jerry distributed a brochure about the organization and encouraged the membership to get familiar with it. There was then a general discussion of each County's interaction between our Public Works personnel and our Emergency Management Departments. It was noted that we need to work more together and we were all invited to attend the FEPA meetings in the future. It was discussed that a big limitation of Public Works Departments' ability to help more in an emergency was training and equipment to deal with hazardous materials. This gap in training and materials costs money. Jerry noted that there could be no guarantee for dollars but hoped there may be some funding opportunities through Homeland Security dollars. Jerry then discussed the recent initiative of the Regional Planning Council to acquire LiDAR for the state and that there was a lot of issue taken with the data particularly in South Florida because the data and model predictions were fairly dire in nature. Those counties want to get to the "truth" of the data and it is still under much discussion. The group then discussed the ramifications of the State's plans for contra flow and the affect on the adjacent northern counties. The FEPA was reviewing these plans and trying to come up with something that will work for all counties in the State

# General Membership Meeting

## (continued)

Following the presentation from Jerry, Fred introduced Paul Foley with the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers (FICE) and John Kilgore also with FICE. These gentlemen stated that in the past FICE had coordinated their activities with FDOT but they also work for Counties and would like to work more closely with FACERS. They stated that they represent more than 400 engineering firms around the state and get together to review the projects and selection procedures being used by FDOT, Counties, and Municipalities. They stated that one large initiative for FICE is the removal of personal liability for cases involving negligence. The group discussed how devastating this can be for an engineer and can even be extremely unfair in cases such as when the speed limit is raised following design and construction of a project. The gentlemen also stated that the consulting industry does not fully understand the LAP process and is frustrated by that fact. The gentlemen from FICE requested that FACERS consider more dialogue between the two groups and suggested having some training sessions regarding the LAP process.

Fred brought up the procurement procedures required by the CCNA and asked how FICE felt about the initiative of the FAC to revise the procedure. Fred also asked the FICE representatives how the group felt about the new water quality mandates from the EPA/DEP. The representatives from FICE stated that they were meeting with various WMDs throughout the state but that FICE did not see it as a huge problem yet for their transportation designers.

**Secretary's Report:** Jonathan Page presented the minutes from FACERS Board of Directors meeting held August 27, 2010 in Orlando, Florida. Minutes were discussed and approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** John Newton presented the Treasurer's report. The report showed a balance of \$24,198.38 in checking and \$4,604.40 in investments for a total balance of \$28,802.78. John stated that since June we had spent some dollars on conferences such as the FACERS conference held in June 2010. It was discussed that the numbers looked like a downward trend right now but he would work on tracking the dollars so we could stay ahead of the trend and be proactive and not reactionary. It was also noted that the renewal process would begin soon and should help the balances. It was agreed that FACERS needs the NACE Convention in 2014 or 2015. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

### Committee Reports:

#### Membership: John Newton

It was noted that we had a couple of new members and there was some discussion of whether Amy Blaida was a new member or not. We have approximately 50 County, 25 Municipal, and 15 sustaining members.

We discussed keeping Bob Gordon on the active membership list and he is to provide new contact information soon.

There was also discussion of the membership list. John is the official keeper of the list and will work on getting it cleaned up and accurate.

There was discussion of whether or not to keep the free membership for a year program intact. After some discussion of the pros and cons of this procedure (mostly pros) a motion was made and approved unanimously to keep the free for a year membership program in place.

There was some discussion of changing the name of the organization to make it more inclusive of the municipal people. It was agreed that this topic would be brought up again in the future but we should remember we are FAC affiliated and that is a part of the FACERS by laws.

#### Scholarships: Bob Gordon

Bob inquired if we had members going to the award of the scholarships and taking photos, etc. Bob asked that the board appoint someone to go to the awards ceremonies, take pictures and be the face of FACERS. We could then get this information in the newsletter.

Bob stated that he had recently met with Mandy Alexander from USF and they are keeping money in the account and sometimes awarding two \$1,000.00 scholarships. He asked if the group wanted to raise the amount of the award or award multiple scholarships with \$1,000.00 being the minimum. It was unanimously decided to continue this topic at a future meeting as more financial analysis needs to be done.



# General Membership Meeting

## (continued)

The group also must decide if our primary goal is to get the FACERS name out, get the recipients involved in government engineering or simply to facilitate the creation of more engineers in the state.

We discussed the fact that we are not doing a great job tracking where the recipients of the scholarships go to work, when they graduate or involving them in our organization. The group discussed potentially adding them as free student members until they graduate which would keep them on the mailing list and involved with the organization.

### **NACE:** Ramon Gavarrete

NACE is looking for a new executive director and should be conducting interviews in March 2011. NACE hopes to have a new Director in place for the NACE Conference in Minnesota on April 17-21, 2011.

There was some general discussion about bringing the NACE Annual Conference to Florida. It was determined that Florida should continue to pursue the meeting for 2014 in Daytona, but that we should be prepared to resubmit in the following years. It was discussed that we don't need to have a large group go this year but we should be ready and willing to support those that plan to attend. Potential attendees were encouraged to review their current budgets and determine what level of assistance FACERS would be requested to provide.

### **T Square Updates:** Janet Degner

The TRB sponsors a symposium on Low Volume roads and this is the first time they suggested sponsors and exhibits. Janet handed out information and asked the group to pass it out to our vendors for consideration.

T2 has a retro-reflectometer loan program and Janet passed out information regarding the program to the members.

Janet distributed the latest T2 workshop schedule. T2 was awarded a "safety shoe" to be used on resurfacing projects which creates a safe edge. John Goodknight's organization would be the first to use the one awarded to T2.

"Everyday Counts" presentations are occurring on an invitation only basis. 150-250 people are attending.

The group thanked T2 for broadcasting the technical presentation over the web for the first time. The group discussed purchasing some additional equipment to enhance the broadcasts in the future. Janet will get a list of necessary equipment and some pricing for those items.

### **Awards:** Janet Degner

It was noted that there was no award category for projects that required State and Local agency collaboration. The group unanimously approved a motion to create that award category and Janet asked that we please submit projects for possible awards.

### **GreenBook:** Fred Schneider

The main update regarded Chapter eight "Pedestrian Facilities". The issue coming up is regarding bike lanes. The committee would like to make paved shoulders and/or bike lanes a requirement. There are plenty of FDOT and special interest groups that want this to change from a "should consider" installation to "shall install". It was discussed that a voting member list should be provided to FACERS membership since we only have a small number of voting members on the committee but may know some of the others. It was noted that the committee is not being comprised of a "rural" and an "urban" member from each District as intended by the state. Ramon mentioned the push for "specs" with the Green Book similar to FDOT's Plans Preparation Manuals. It was noted that this is supposed to be a technical manual but policy decisions are being made. It was noted that there are two T2 courses for the Greenbook that our membership could benefit from.

# General Membership Meeting

## (continued)

### **.Newsletter:** Brian Barnes

Noted that the FACERS Newsletter has been sent out. It was also noted that anything the members wanted to be included needs to be written up and he would be happy to accommodate. The next newsletter will be coming out in December and we need articles and volunteers for the member spotlights. Additionally, if we have any accomplishments of which we are proud, we need to write them up and send them in.

### **Legislative Issues:** Ramon Gavarrete

Ramon stated that these were addressed during the week's sessions and included Utilities, FAC's CCNA position, Water Quality rules, etc.

### **Old Business:** John Newton

Most old business was discussed during the previous sessions of the week. It was noted that the National Center for Pavement Preservation is starting training in different areas. John stated the sessions would begin soon and he would get the dates out to the members.

The group thanked Janet Degner and the T2 center for the terrific work on the updated website. It was discussed that we might like to have the history of FACERS as a link on the website. Additionally the group made a motion and it passed unanimously to create a FACERS Facebook page and have Amy Blaida set up and update the page.

### **New Business:** Hector Bertran

Regarding video presentations, Hector noted we need feedback and recommendations from T2 on items needed to continue and improve the webcasting of the presentations. Ability to hear the discussions of the group was pointed out as a relative weakness.

The next general membership meeting will be held in Orlando on June 22-24, 2011. We discussed a possible field trip to the new Amway Center which is a platinum LEED certified facility candidate. The group was very interested in having a look at this facility as energy savings seem to be making LEED practices a viable building alternative.

We receive a lot of complaints on the questions FACERS puts out to the membership for responses. Brian Barnes thought this was likely due to the fact that we don't have one person who could receive the questions, log them and then submit the answers to the inquirer. Mr. Barnes volunteered to be that person and log the question, answers and provide them to the inquirer. In return the inquirer would then have to tell us why they asked the question and what valuable information they got from the responses. He also discussed using the blind copy method and thereby hopefully eliminating people who don't want to get the questions from getting them. This would also *eventually* eliminate the erroneous e-mail addresses that populate those response lists that seemingly live on forever. It was briefly discussed that we may be able to do this through the Facebook page but the group determined Mr. Barnes's approach to be the best for a variety of reasons.

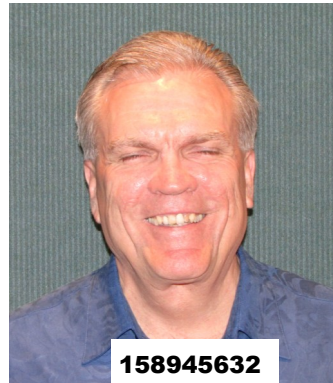
Mr. Bob Gordon bestowed the Christmas decorations honors on Mr. Todd Buckles. It was noted that members who had not received this honor should be excited as there would not be repeat awards to the same member.

The last order of business was for the membership to present Mr. Bob Gordon with a plaque for his continual membership and active involvement in FACERS for more than 12 years.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

## Member Spotlight

*Bob Gordon*



## Have you seen this man?

**This person of interest was last seen in the Offices of the Hillsborough County Public Works Director. He has reportedly failed to show up at his normal offices and is feared to be retired. There has been unconfirmed reports this person may be holding up in a new office, the Public Works Director of Temple Terrace. The FACERS Detectives will continue to track down this rumor down and report back.**

Actually Bob Gordon retired as Public Works Director of Hillsborough County last year and took the position of Temple Terrace Public Works Director. Bob began his public service career with the Southwest Florida Water Management District where he worked for 6 years prior to coming to Hillsborough County in 1986. Starting as the manager of the Stormwater Management section in Hillsborough County, he worked his way up through a number of management positions culminating in his appointment to Public Works Director in 2003. Bob retired as Public Works Director for Hillsborough County in September of 2010. He currently serves as the Public Works Director for his hometown, the City of Temple Terrace, FL. Bob is a graduate of the University of South Florida engineering college (1980) and is a registered professional engineer in the State of Florida.

Bob had supervisory oversight of the County's 5-year transportation and stormwater capital improvement program from 1992 to 2010. During his tenure, Bob received an accommodation from the Chamber of Commerce for a work simplification initiative that dramatically improved the capital program delivery process, saving the county money and significantly reducing construction claims and litigation. He also instituted the "Partnering" concept to capital project delivery and formed an industry forum of construction contractors and engineering consultants to receive feedback on how to make contracting more competitive and to improve county contracting procedures to reduce costs. Bob also served as the County's representative on the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, a multi-jurisdictional agency which has been very successful in improving the water quality of Tampa Bay. Bob was also responsible for leading the Public Works Department through the APWA Accreditation process, becoming the first County in Florida to become accredited with the APWA.



## **The Saga of Bob Gordon (cont)**

Bob currently is in his second term as National Chairman of the APWA Accreditation Committee. He is a member of a number of other professional associations including APWA, NACE, and ITE. Bob is also a member and Past President of the Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS).

Bob enjoys hunting and fishing and spending time with his family and grandchildren. He is married to his wife of 37 years, Judy, and has three children, Amy, Matthew, and Nathan. Before the February issue of this newsletter is distributed, his grandchildren count will be up to five as Amy is expecting his fifth grandchild in late January. Life is good.



***ALL OF US WITH FACERS WISH BOB THE BEST AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE NEW TEMPLE TERRACE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR!***

# Did you miss the FACERS Webcast ?????

## Video of FACERS Technical Sessions Available on FACERS Website

The Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS) 2010 Legislative Conference was held in Amelia Island, November 17 - 19. Because of travel restrictions that face many agencies, the first day of the technical sessions was broadcast live via the web and recorded for playback in your browser. You can view the full meeting agenda and select technical presentations, which were interactive, at <http://www.facers.org/?p=334>

Sessions include:

- **Florida Cultural Resources and How they Relate to Your Public Works Project** – Brent Handley, Environmental Services, Inc.
- **Best Practices – Pavement Preservation & Rehabilitation. “Are you Diversified?”** – Bob Siffert, APS & Chris Evers, EJB
- **Quality Based Roads Program; Pavement Solutions for State, County, and Municipal Infrastructures** – Matthew J. LaChance, VHB
- **SB 360 and Multi-Modal Impact Fees & Efficiently Managing a Street Lighting System** – Bob Wallace/ Demian Miller – Tindale Oliver
- **FDOT LAP Community of Practice Efforts** – Duane Brautigam, FDOT
- **CCNA Reform** – Steve Carnell, Collier County/FAPPO
- **Changes to Florida’s Water Quality System and Standards & Potential Impacts**–Doug Manson & Laura Donaldson, Manson Law Group

The website also has tips for viewing the recordings. Several other PowerPoint (only) presentations are also available on the site:

**CCNA Reform** – Steve Carnell, Collier County/FAPPO

**Changes to Florida’s Water Quality System and Standards & Potential Impacts**–Doug Manson & Laura Donaldson, Manson Law Group

The Florida T<sup>2</sup> Center provided the technical assistance to broadcast the sessions.

FACERS would like to express our appreciation to the T2 Center for making the webcast possible.

## FACERS Annual Meeting

Remember all roads lead to Orlando June 21thru 24. Because that's where we will hold our 2011 Annual Meeting in conjunction with the Florida Association of Counties (FAC). Go to the FAC website [www.fl-counties.com](http://www.fl-counties.com) to book your room at the Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek and register for the conference. Don't delay; it **will** sell out!

**See Ya in Orlando!**



In this issue of FACERS News, Hector Bertran, sent in the "What Were They Thinking?" picture.

Keep an eye out and send us a picture of a sign you feel somehow just did not quite hit the nail on the head.

[carolyn.steves@rsandh.com](mailto:carolyn.steves@rsandh.com) or [brian.barnes@charlottefl.com](mailto:brian.barnes@charlottefl.com)



Using the same logic, if they closed the last lane they would completely eliminate congestion!

I will bet these are the same guys who call the time of day when no cars move on the freeway "RUSH HOUR"!

## E – Verify

### What is the Impact on You?

Under the new administration in Tallahassee, FDOT has informed some of our members that the Counties will be impacted by the E-Verify requirements. These requirements are included in the Governor's executive order #11-2. So far I have only heard this from District 4, but the rest will most likely have the opinion.

District 4 has sent out the following information:

FDOT has confirmed that the e-verify requirement will apply to the Agency's new hires during the contract period as well as contractors/subcontractors. In this case, all new hires by the County within the timeframe of each LAP, JPA, etc.

The standard LAP agreement has been amended as follows:

#### **13.16 E-VERIFY**

*The Agency shall utilize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system, in accordance with the terms governing the use of the system, to confirm the employment eligibility of:*

*All persons employed by the agency during the term of the contract to perform employment duties within Florida; and*

*All persons, contractors, including subcontractors, assigned by the Agency to perform work pursuant to the contract with the Department.*

Similar language will be incorporated into our boilerplate joint participation agreements (JPAs, CIGPs, TRIP, etc). Let me know if you have additional questions.

Stacy L. Miller-Novello, PE.  
District Program Management Office  
FDOT District 4  
3400 W Commercial Blvd.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309-3421  
[stacy.miller@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:stacy.miller@dot.state.fl.us)  
(954) 777-4429 office  
(954) 777-4074 fax

*George Webb, Palm Beach County wrote to FDOT to challenge their interpretation of the Governor's Executive order based on the information he received, above. If we follow the FDOT's interpretation, all county employees (librarians, water meter readers, etc.) would have to be screened with e-verify during the life of the LAP agreement. FDOT District 4 will be getting back to George as to who is the proper contact as per my question to them below.*

*George would welcome any thoughts or comments if you are addressing this issue within your county (or city). George can be reached at [GWebb@pbcgov.org](mailto:GWebb@pbcgov.org)*



## Answers the Shoe Question



You guessed it! The sandaled feet belong to the one and only Bob Gordon (the Engineer). The other person is Demian Miller with Tindale Oliver (the Planner) who gave a presentation on SB 360 Multi-Modal Impact Fees at the November 2010 FACERS Legislative Conference.

Based on this picture, the FACERS Detectives believe Bob had retirement on his mind in November!



## The T2 Center's Available Classes

The following are the available classes through the T2 Center. Contact Celio Alessandro Ramos, Workforce Development Coordinator Florida Technology Transfer (T<sup>2</sup>) Center [cramos1976@ufl.edu](mailto:cramos1976@ufl.edu) or 352.273.1670

Course	Start Date	End Date	Location
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	1/7/20 11	1/8/201 1	Tampa
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	1/10/2 011	1/10/20 11	Cantonment
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	1/11/2 011	1/13/20 11	Cantonment
Pilot/Escort Flagging	1/12/2 011	1/12/20 11	Orlando
Safe Mobility for Life Program: Planning and Designing for our Aging Population	1/13/2 011	1/13/20 11	Ocoee
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	1/17/2 011	1/17/20 11	Tallahassee
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	1/18/2 011	1/20/20 11	Tallahassee
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	1/18/2 011	1/18/20 11	Gainesville
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	1/19/2 011	1/20/20 11	Gainesville
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	1/24/2 011	1/24/20 11	Tampa
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	1/25/2 011	1/27/20 11	Tampa
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	1/25/2 011	1/25/20 11	Naples
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	1/25/2 011	1/25/20 11	Orlando
Mobile Equipment and Internal Work Zone Safety	1/25/2 011	1/25/20 11	Pompano Beach
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	1/26/2 011	1/27/20 11	Naples
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	1/26/2 011	1/27/20 11	Orlando
Florida Green book	1/27/2 011	1/28/20 11	Tallahassee
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	2/1/20 11	2/1/201 1	Pompano Beach
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	2/2/20 11	2/4/201 1	Pompano Beach
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	2/8/20 11	2/8/201 1	Gainesville
Pilot/Escort Flagging	2/8/20 11	2/8/201 1	Gainesville
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	2/9/20 11	2/11/20 11	Gainesville

Florida Green book	2/9/20 11	2/10/20 11	Gainesville
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	2/15/20 011	2/15/20 11	Orlando
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	2/16/20 011	2/18/20 11	Orlando
Pilot/Escort Flagging	2/16/20 011	2/16/20 11	Fort Myers
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	2/22/20 011	2/22/20 11	Cape Coral
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	2/22/20 011	2/22/20 11	Port Charlotte
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	2/23/20 011	2/24/20 11	Cape Coral
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	2/23/20 011	2/24/20 11	Port Charlotte
Roadside Maintenance Safety	2/23/20 011	2/23/20 11	Pompano Beach
Pilot/Escort Flagging	3/5/20 11	3/5/20 1	Tallahassee
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	3/8/20 11	3/8/20 1	Tallahassee
Pilot/Escort Flagging	3/8/20 11	3/8/20 1	Orlando
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	3/9/20 11	3/11/20 11	Tallahassee
Plans Reading Fundamentals	3/9/20 11	3/9/20 1	Naples
Bucket Truck Safety/Hands-on	3/10/20 011	3/10/20 11	Gainesville
Forklift-Powered Industrial Truck - Safety/Hands-on	3/11/20 011	3/11/20 11	Gainesville
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	3/15/20 011	3/15/20 11	Gainesville
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	3/15/20 011	3/15/20 11	Orlando
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	3/16/20 011	3/17/20 11	Gainesville
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	3/16/20 011	3/17/20 11	Orlando
Plans Reading Fundamentals	3/16/20 011	3/16/20 11	Naples
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	3/29/20 011	3/29/20 11	Tampa
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	3/30/20 011	4/1/20 1	Tampa
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	4/5/20 11	4/5/20 1	Port Charlotte
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	4/5/20 11	4/5/20 1	Naples
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	4/6/20 11	4/8/20 1	Port Charlotte
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	4/6/20 11	4/7/20 1	Naples

Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	4/12/2011	4/12/2011	Gainesville
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	4/13/2011	4/15/2011	Gainesville
Bridge Maintenance	4/18/2011	4/22/2011	Tallahassee
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	4/19/2011	4/19/2011	Pompano Beach
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	4/19/2011	4/19/2011	Port Charlotte
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	4/20/2011	4/22/2011	Pompano Beach
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	4/20/2011	4/21/2011	Port Charlotte
Front-end Loader Safety/Hands-on	4/26/2011	4/26/2011	Gainesville
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	5/10/2011	5/10/2011	Orlando
Pilot/Escort Flagging	5/10/2011	5/10/2011	Gainesville
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	5/11/2011	5/13/2011	Orlando
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	5/17/2011	5/17/2011	Cape Coral
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	5/17/2011	5/17/2011	Gainesville
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	5/17/2011	5/17/2011	Orlando
Pilot/Escort Flagging	5/17/2011	5/17/2011	Fort Myers
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	5/18/2011	5/19/2011	Cape Coral
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	5/18/2011	5/19/2011	Gainesville
Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic	5/18/2011	5/19/2011	Orlando
Integrating Pavement Preservation Practices and Pavement Management	5/24/2011	5/24/2011	Gainesville
Bucket Truck Safety/Hands-on	5/25/2011	5/25/2011	Naples
Pilot/Escort Flagging	6/4/2011	6/4/2011	Tallahassee
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	6/7/2011	6/7/2011	Pompano Beach
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	6/8/2011	6/10/2011	Pompano Beach
Chainsaw Safety/Hands-on	6/8/2011	6/8/2011	Gainesville
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	6/14/2011	6/14/2011	Gainesville
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	6/15/2011	6/17/2011	Gainesville
Chainsaw Safety in Disaster Recovery	6/15/2011	6/15/2011	Pompano Beach
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher	6/20/2011	6/20/2011	Tallahassee
Advanced Maintenance of Traffic	6/21/2011	6/23/2011	Tallahassee
Pilot/Escort Flagging	6/21/2011	6/21/2011	Orlando

## CTT Classes

Course	Start Date	End Date	Location
Asphalt Paving Level 1	2/8/2011	2/8/2011	Jacksonville
Asphalt Paving Level 2	2/9/2011	2/11/2011	Jacksonville
Qualified Aggregate Sampler	2/16/2011	2/16/2011	Gainesville
Limerock Bearing Ratio	2/17/2011	2/18/2011	Gainesville
Asphalt Paving Level 1	2/22/2011	2/22/2011	Chipley
Concrete Batch Plant Operator	2/22/2011	2/22/2011	Orlando
Concrete Lab Inspector Specification	2/22/2011	2/22/2011	Orlando
Asphalt Paving Level 2	2/23/2011	2/25/2011	Chipley

Course	Start Date	End Date	Location
Asphalt Plant Level 1	2/23/2011	2/25/2011	Gainesville
Concrete Field Inspector Specification	2/23/2011	2/25/2011	Orlando
Qualified Aggregate Sampler	2/28/2011	2/28/2011	Ft. Myers
Asphalt Paving Level 1	3/1/2011	3/1/2011	Orlando
Asphalt Paving Level 2	3/2/2011	3/4/2011	Orlando
Nuclear Density Gauge Safety	3/7/2011	3/7/2011	Jacksonville
Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 1	3/8/2011	3/9/2011	Jacksonville
Final Estimates Level 1	3/9/2011	3/9/2011	West Palm Beach
Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 2	3/10/2011	3/11/2011	Jacksonville
Final Estimates Level 2	3/10/2011	3/11/2011	West Palm Beach
Drilled Shaft Inspection	3/14/2011	3/16/2011	Ocoee
Final Estimates Level 1	3/14/2011	3/14/2011	Lakeland
Asphalt Plant Level 2	3/15/2011	3/17/2011	Orlando
Final Estimates Level 2	3/15/2011	3/16/2011	Lakeland
Concrete Field Inspector Specification	3/22/2011	3/24/2011	Tampa
Concrete Field Inspector Specification	3/28/2011	3/30/2011	Miami
Nuclear Density Gauge Safety	3/28/2011	3/28/2011	Ponce de Leon
Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 1	3/29/2011	3/30/2011	Ponce de Leon
Quality Control Manager	3/31/2011	4/1/2011	Miami
Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 2	3/31/2011	4/1/2011	Ponce de Leon
Pile Driving Inspection	4/4/2011	4/6/2011	Orlando
Quality Control Manager	4/6/2011	4/7/2011	Lake City
Asphalt Plant Level 1	4/6/2011	4/8/2011	Miami
Asphalt Paving Level 1	4/12/2011	4/12/2011	Davie
Final Estimates Level 1	4/12/2011	4/12/2011	Gainesville
Asphalt Paving Level 2	4/13/2011	4/15/2011	Davie
Final Estimates Level 2	4/13/2011	4/14/2011	Gainesville
Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 1	4/18/2011	4/19/2011	West Palm Beach
Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 2	4/20/2011	4/21/2011	West Palm Beach
Concrete Field Inspector Specification	5/9/2011	5/11/2011	Jacksonville
Quality Control Manager	5/12/2011	5/13/2011	Jacksonville
Drilled Shaft Inspection	5/16/2011	5/18/2011	Sarasota
Asphalt Plant Level 1	5/18/2011	5/20/2011	Gainesville
Asphalt Paving Level 1	5/23/2011	5/23/2011	Ft. Myers
Asphalt Paving Level 2	5/24/2011	5/26/2011	Ft. Myers
Nuclear Density Gauge Safety	6/6/2011	6/6/2011	Orlando
Pile Driving Inspection	6/6/2011	6/8/2011	Gainesville
Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 1	6/7/2011	6/8/2011	Orlando
Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 2	6/9/2011	6/10/2011	Orlando
Asphalt Plant Level 1	6/15/2011	6/17/2011	Gainesville
Concrete Field Inspector Specification	6/20/2011	6/22/2011	Davie
Qualified Aggregate Sampler	6/23/2011	6/23/2011	Davie
Limerock Bearing Ratio	6/23/2011	6/24/2011	Gainesville
Asphalt Mix Designer	6/27/2011	6/30/2011	Gainesville

## Using Social Media by Public Agencies: Don't Get Left Behind

It's no secret that public agencies are getting on board with social media, with more agencies joining every day, including public works and transportation departments at local, state and federal levels. Twenty-two percent of all Internet time is spent on social networking and blog sites (June 2010 -Nielsen). In an environment where people now have a choice of the medium they wish to receive their news: radio, TV, Internet, newspaper, and now social media, it can only benefit an agency to share information in multiple venues.

Social media can help public works and transportation departments spread the word, become part of the conversation, help shape public perception, stay current and improve internal efficiencies. Social media sites currently being utilized by agencies include Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

### Facebook

Facebook is the most popular social networking site with over 500 million active users (Facebook.com). Facebook is free to use, and agencies can create organizational profiles or "pages" where they can post information, photos, videos and links about events, projects, public meetings/hearings, job openings, emergencies, road closures, controlled burns, etc., for others to see. Individuals have the option to become a fan of the agency's page, enabling users to receive all the latest news and announcements in real time.

Two public works departments that are successfully utilizing Facebook are the City of Burlington, VT [www.facebook.com/pages/Burlington-VT/City-of-Burlington-Public-Works/368680935799](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Burlington-VT/City-of-Burlington-Public-Works/368680935799) and the City of San Francisco, CA [www.facebook.com/sfdpw](http://www.facebook.com/sfdpw). The City of Burlington consistently posts about its projects: the location, dates, and specifics. The City of San Francisco not only posts about its projects, but acts as its own cheerleader. For example, one post includes photos of a construction crew working over the weekend to fill over 125 potholes! The department also posts numerous other pictures and articles featuring its Clean & Green Trucks Program, Community Clean Team, Spruce Up by Sun Up Campaign, Sunday Streets San Francisco, Urban Gleaning Program, etc.

Here are some tips to keep pages fresh and inviting: keep your Facebook conversational (don't sound like a robot), responsive (comment on any comments you receive right away), timely (don't post information that is irrelevant or outdated), and social (two-way conversation). The Government on Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/government](http://www.facebook.com/government) and the Facebook Security page at [www.facebook.com/security](http://www.facebook.com/security) are two excellent sources for getting started.

### Twitter

Organizational efficiency is dependent on the level of communication within any agency and with its constituencies, and one of the most useful social media tools for improving this efficiency is Twitter. The micro-blog service made its mark by asking users to answer a simple question: "What's happening?" That is the same question that public works managers continually ask themselves. However, the method in which managers receive answers can either hinder or improve organization efficiency. For instance, when managers engage staff and ask the same question, the answer usually comes in a ten minute conversation, and staff may even end up resenting the inquiry. Twitter, on the other hand, limits answers to 140 characters.

When all members of an organization are engaged in sharing 140-character activity updates on a regular basis, the need for management to ask the "What's happening?" question is eliminated. This allows staff to focus on the task at hand while the management focuses its efforts on providing staff with the support they need to complete their work.



## Social Media (Cont)

Furthermore, because Twitter can be used via text messaging on a standard mobile phone, its use is not limited to office personnel. Field teams and maintenance crews can also use Twitter to continually update the organization and their constituency on their work status. This approach has been successfully used to log construction activity, as well as minor maintenance, for local agencies. Implementing it in your organization is bound to improve efficiencies and results.

### YouTube

A picture is truly worth a thousand words. YouTube also presents a platform to share information via video among staff and constituencies. Public works and transportation departments are just now beginning to fully realize the benefits of using this video-hosting site to improve communication and performance. Video communication is rapidly becoming the preferred form of sharing complex information, especially for public relations and training. As video technology becomes readily available and increasingly mobile, organizations everywhere can begin to leverage YouTube further.

One example of the effective use of YouTube is when documenting repairs to infrastructure in the field. Documentation typically takes the form of a written log; however, using smart phones and other mobile devices, a video log of these repairs can be uploaded to YouTube before a field team or maintenance crew completes its work at a particular site. This not only informs the agency's staff and management team of the work status or completion, it can also be used to notify constituencies. While this use is currently not widespread among public works and transportation organizations, its implementation has potential to significantly improve operational efficiencies.

YouTube can also be used as a public relations tool. The relative simplicity of embedding YouTube videos into an organization's website, coupled with its large user base, makes implementing YouTube to improve public image an attractive option for agencies. While this is a benefit in and of itself, the value of YouTube, like that of all social media, comes from creatively using it to meet the specific needs of each organization.

### Legal /Security Issues and Developing a Social Media Policy

While the benefits of social media are numerous, it is also important for agencies to understand the legal and security issues surrounding their use and develop a social media policy. The bottom line, however, is to use your judgment and common sense throughout the process.

Legal issues stem from the following:

- Freedom of Information Act: this Act allows public access to all government records, including those created through a public agency's social media site
- Privacy Act: public agencies should be conscious of the rights of individuals who join their social media sites
- Rehabilitation Act: per Section 508 of this Act, electronic documents must be made available in an alternative format upon request
- First Amendments rights: people have the right to post critical comments about a public agency on a social networking site
- Florida's Sunshine Laws: public officials cannot comment on another public official's social networking site about certain matters
- Public Records Law: public agencies must have a management and retention schedule for all records created by social media

Florida Attorney General Opinion: AGO 2009-19 addresses implications for a city's Facebook page <http://www.myfloridalegal.com/ago.nsf/Opinions/25F14F90483F3901852575A2004E46CB>

## Social Media (Cont)

Furthermore, those in the agency who have access to the agency's social media sites should be trained on security issues. Personnel and financial/proprietary information should never be shared. Agencies should also learn about the different forms of social engineering to recognize when a hacker is attempting to gain access to a site. To learn more, visit [http://www.cio.gov/Documents/Guidelines for Secure Use Social Media v01-0.pdf](http://www.cio.gov/Documents/Guidelines%20for%20Secure%20Use%20Social%20Media_v01-0.pdf).

Following these legal and security risks, it is important for entities to create a social media policy to use as a guideline. The policy may outline how the agency will address the above legal and risk issues, as well as identify which sites to use and how to use them. Examples of existing agency social media policies can be found at <http://socialmediagovernance.com/policies.php?f=5>.

Additional resources to assist in guiding an agency's social media direction include

Making the Most of Social Media – 7 Lessons from Successful Cities

[http://ivyridgegreen.org/media/Fels\\_socialmedia\\_final.pdf](http://ivyridgegreen.org/media/Fels_socialmedia_final.pdf)

Government-to-Citizen Communications: Utilizing Multiple Digital Channels Effectively

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/32362140/Government-To-Citizen-Communications-Using-Multiple-Digital-Channels-Effectively>

Social Networking in Government – Opportunities and Challenges

<http://www.saba.com/offers/register.aspx?sasfid=7015000000Knsv>

There are more reasons for public works and transportation agencies to use social networking than not use it. Just think of the Gov 2.0 “buzzwords:” community, collaboration, transparency, participation, information sharing, two-way communication and human interaction. We are living in a social networking age, where agencies not participating in social media sites will soon be left behind. Look around in your organization and you will surely find a social networking guru willing to champion the process.

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