

**TDF** Transportation  
Development  
Foundation  
American Road & Transportation Builders Association

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



[artbafoundation.org](http://artbafoundation.org)

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

# 40 Years Building Safer Transportation Infrastructure & Brighter Futures

As I look back on our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I am struck by how powerfully the ARTBA Foundation's work connects people—across generations, across disciplines, and across every mile of America's transportation network.

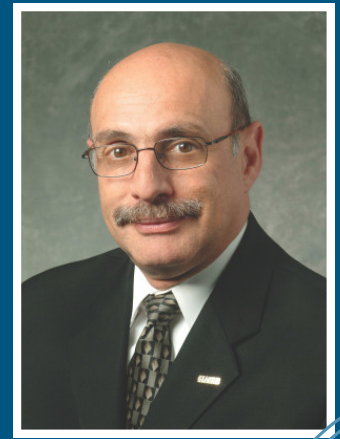
Through our new **Work Zone Safe** Initiative, we are reaching teen drivers before risky habits take root, helping them understand that behind every cone, flag, and flashing light is a real person, and a family. It is a simple idea, but one that can save countless lives.

At the same time, our **safety training and online education programs and the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse** continue to serve thousands of professionals with the latest tools and best practices for keeping roadway construction zones safer. Every class taught, every question answered, and every new safety standard shared moves us a little closer to a substantial reduction of deaths and injuries on America's roadways.

The Foundation's work does not stop there. We are investing in people at every stage of their careers—providing **scholarships to the children of industry workers killed or permanently disabled** on the job, thereby turning dreams into degrees; delivering **financial aid to university and graduate students pursuing careers in transportation design and construction**; and developing the **30 emerging professionals and future ARTBA leaders** who completed this year's Industry Leader Development Program. Each of these efforts strengthens the future of our industry, one person at a time.

Finally, through our awards and recognition programs, we honor those who are setting the standard for innovation, safety, and mentorship in our industry. Their stories remind us why this work matters.

None of these achievements would be possible without the generosity of our donors, volunteers, and ARTBA members who share our mission to make the transportation construction industry safer, stronger, and more resilient. Thank you for being part of this four-decade journey.



**Paul Yarossi**

HNTB  
New York, N.Y.

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# Donors

**A heartfelt thanks to the following for their generous support  
of the ARTBA Foundation during 2025:**

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# Work Zone Safe Initiative

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for teenagers in the U.S., and inexperienced drivers pose the greatest risk in work zones.

That's why the Foundation partnered with Oklahoma-based *Work Zone Safe*, which promotes an innovative curriculum ensuring that every new teen driver understands one critical truth: they hold another's life in their hands every time they take the wheel.

*Work Zone Safe* addresses this risk head-on through a mix of online lessons and in-person experiences. Teen drivers walk through an actual work zone alongside safety professionals to learn the real-world risks and how to safely share the road with workers, trucks, and equipment.

ARTBA's state chapter affiliates and *Work Zone Safe* are also collaborating with state legislatures to require that work zone safety be included in all teen driver education programs.



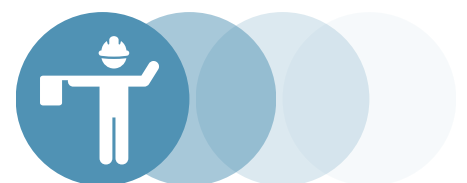
## **Work Zone Safe Mission:**

**Every new teen driver to learn there is a face and family behind every flag, cone, and flashing light.**

## Safety Training & Services

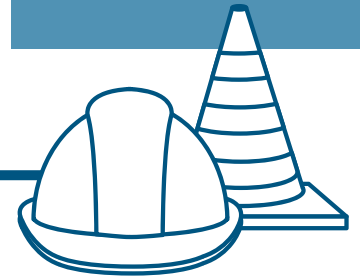
The Foundation provided in-person, virtual and online training via federal government contracts for nearly 3,500 industry professionals. Popular courses included:

- OSHA 10-Hour Course for the Roadway Construction Industry
- Preventing Runovers and Backovers, Overexertion, and Heat Stress
- Trenching and Excavation Safety
- Applying the Americans with Disabilities Act to Work Zones
- Flagging on Low Volume Roads
- Traffic Incident Management for Work Zones
- Temporary Traffic Control Devices

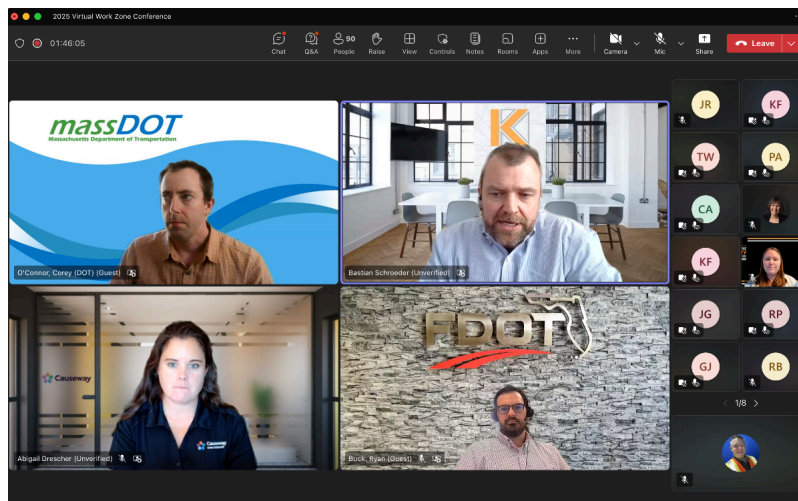


# National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse

The Clearinghouse ([workzonesafety.org](http://workzonesafety.org)) via a cooperative agreement between ARTBA, the U.S. Federal Highway Administration and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, provided services and fulfilled **180,000 information requests**, with updated information on safety training, industry guidance, state regulations, laws, and flagger requirements.



## National Work Zone Management Conference



Nearly **300 industry professionals** from across the country participated in the National Work Zone Management Conference, held Oct. 7-9. With **18 sessions and nearly 50 speakers**, it focused on topics such as speed safety cameras, the role of artificial intelligence, automated flagger assistance devices, and roadway incident risk and liability. This annual event is hosted by the Clearinghouse.

# Transportation Construction Worker Memorial Scholarship

The “Lanford Family Transportation Construction Worker Memorial Scholarship” program provides post-high school financial assistance to the children of highway workers killed or permanently disabled on the job. The Board of Trustees directed nearly \$70,000 in financial aid to the following students for the 2025-26 academic year:

- Bailey Edwards, Auburn University
- Christopher Hutt, University of Tennessee
- Katie Hutt, University of Tennessee
- Breana Jones, Winthrop University (South Carolina)
- Amy McNeil Stepan, Texas Woman’s University
- Toxey Voudrie, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Zoe Watts, University of Central Arkansas



## Supporting Industry Careers

The Foundation provided \$35,000 in direct financial aid to the following university scholarship programs for students pursuing transportation design and construction careers:

- Florida A&M University
- Penn State University
- Colorado School of Mines
- San Jose State University’s Mineta Transportation Institute
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Texas Tech



*“My research at Penn State focuses on the relationship between highway design elements and crash outcomes. Specifically, I am exploring how the attributes of passing zones on two-lane roads affect crash outcomes, and this scholarship will help me continue my work that aims to reduce fatalities and injuries on our roads.”*

**Prakash Poudel**, Penn State civil and environmental engineering undergraduate



# Industry Leader Development Program

Thirty industry executives participated in the annual Industry Leader Development Program (ILDP), held May 6-8 in conjunction with ARTBA's Federal Issues Program and Transportation Construction Coalition Fly-In.

The ILDP provides participants with a solid understanding of industry economics, how transportation work in the U.S. is funded and financed, how actions by the federal government impact the industry, and how they—and their company or agency—can become politically engaged. Attendees also met with their members of Congress to discuss opportunities to continue to grow investments in surface transportation.

Nearly 900 graduates from over 300 industry firms and public agencies have completed the ILDP since 1996. HNTB, one of the world's leading infrastructure firms, is the program's exclusive sponsor.

The 2025 class included:



- Eduardo Luis Acosta, Jr., Texas Department of Transportation
- Kevin Allen, Zachry Construction Corporation
- Richard Barrett, RK&K, LLP
- Len Becker, HNTB Corporation
- Allison Scott Berkheimer, RK&K, LLP
- Thomas Boals, Vulcan Materials Company
- Jenna Brose, AECOM
- Skye Gentile Bush, Parsons Corporation
- Joseph Cole Denney, J&D Specialized Equipment Hauling
- Eric Dues, GFT
- Raymond Farcas, Parsons Corporation
- Jay Gabrielson, Parsons Corporation
- Wilson Gebhart, SIMON, A Colas Company
- Isabel George, ARTBA
- Todd Hubbard, Idaho Transportation Department
- Brian Kelso, Delta Companies, Inc.
- Andy Kowske, HNTB Corporation
- Aldo Madrid, Texas Department of Transportation
- Casey Potts, RS&H, Inc.
- Andre Guzman Rocha, Duit Holdings, Inc.
- Rajeev Shah, Parsons Corporation
- Gregory Siebers, Parsons Corporation
- Sarah Silberstein, AGC of Texas
- Jessica Smith, GFT
- Cheryl Ashley Spatz, Psomas
- Rodney Paul Svec, Texas Department of Transportation
- Timothy Adam White, Terracon Consultants, Inc.
- Alexis Williams, STV, Inc.
- Heather Wills, STV, Inc.
- Jennifer Wood, Parsons Corporation

# National Awards & Recognition

The Foundation celebrated excellence in individuals and industry firms with these recognition programs:

## Hall of Fame

Established in 2010, the Transportation Development Hall of Fame honors “individuals or families from the public and private sectors who have made extraordinary contributions to U.S. transportation development and demonstrated exceptional leadership over their lifetime.”

**Innovators:** Honors men and women who discovered or created a “game changing” product or process that significantly advanced transportation design.

Two innovators were elected this year:



**Patrick J. Hanratty (1931-2019)** is widely known as the “Father of CAD/CAM” — computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing. It is widely believed that over 70 percent of today’s 3-D mechanical CAD/CAM systems trace their roots directly back to his original code.



**Philip E. Rollhaus, Jr. (1934-2001)** revolutionized highway safety by inventing the first crash cushion in 1969 through Energy Absorption Systems—a legacy that lives on today as Valtir, which continues to advance and supply roadway-safety technologies worldwide.

## Leadership Impact Awards

The Leadership Impact Awards, presented Sept. 29 at ARTBA’s National Convention, honor graduates of the Industry Leader Development Program (ILDLP) by recognizing their contributions to national, state, or local transportation design and construction associations or professional societies; proven track record displaying visionary thinking, driving change, or solving problems that helped improve operational performance; serving as a mentor to firm/agency colleagues or industry peers; and driving efforts to promote diversity and inclusion.

The 2025 winners included:



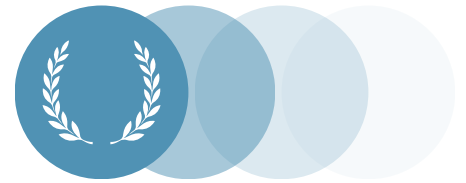
**Jaime Franchi**, director of communications and government relations, Long Island Contractors’ Association, Inc. (2023 ILDP Class)



**Ben Lehr**, director of transportation, Chen Moore and Associates (2014 ILDP Class)

## Women Leaders

The Women Leaders in Transportation Design & Construction Awards were presented Sept. 29 at ARTBA's National Convention in these categories:

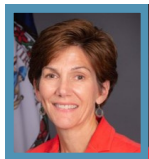


### Ethel S. Birchland Lifetime Achievement

**Award:** Named for ARTBA's executive director from the mid-1920s and given to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, long-term service in the industry's public or private sectors and dedication to the advancement of innovation and other women leaders.



**Michelle Dippel**, president, west region, HNTB



**Catherine McGhee, P.E.**, chief deputy commissioner, Virginia Department of Transportation

**Excellence in Academia Award:** Honors at least one woman in academia or a research institution who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, mentorship, and significant educational and/or research contributions in the transportation industry.



**Dr. Amy Epps Martin, Ph.D.**, professor, Texas A&M University



**Dr. Elham (Ellie) Fini, Ph.D.**, associate professor, Del E. Webb School of Construction, Arizona State University



## Contractor Safety

The Contractor Safety Awards recognize companies with outstanding safety programs and performance. Finalists are selected based upon their accident and injury rates as reported to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), their Experience Modification Rates (EMRs) as determined by their insurance carriers and their written safety programs. Finalists competed before a panel of judges and winners were announced Sept. 29 during ARTBA's National Convention. Winners included:

- Less than 500,000 personnel hours = **J. Banicki Construction, Inc.**, Phoenix, Ariz.
- 500,000-1 million = **KE&G Construction Co.**, Tucson, Ariz.
- 1 million-2 million = **Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction**, Draper, Utah
- Over 2 million = **Austin Bridge & Road**, Coppell, Texas

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# About the Foundation

Established in 1985, the ARTBA Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt entity designed to “promote research, education and public awareness” about the impacts of transportation investment. It supports educational scholarships, awards, management and education programs, roadway work zone safety training and certificate programs, special economic research, and an exhibition on transportation at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Corporate and personal contributions to support the activities of the Foundation may be tax-deductible. The Foundation’s Federal Tax Identification Number is 52-6283894.



Transportation  
Development  
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