

TECHNOLOGY *eXchange*

For more information, visit our website:
<http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/ltap.html>

LA LTAP in 2005: New Classes and Programs!! LTAP Is at Your Service



Call us now to schedule your next training program, to access information, or request technical assistance.

conferences and seminars of interest to local road and public works personnel. In addition, we will be improving our lending library and enhancing our

LTAP has plans to expand the services offered to our customers in 2005. A number of updated Roads Scholar and Road Master classes will be offered along with some new, special topic classes. LTAP will co-sponsor several

technical assistance capabilities. Our web site will be upgraded to include more information in a user-friendly format. Several events planned for the upcoming year are highlighted below. *Please note that you can schedule specialized training and access technical assistance with a phone call to our office. We want to hear from you. Call Marie Walsh at (225) 767-9184.*

Roads Scholar and Road Master Training Programs and Classes: LTAP offers regularly scheduled training classes at eight convenient training locations as part of the Roads Scholar and Road Master programs. Classes are held approximately every three years, or as requested. Over 2,000 individuals attended these classes in 2004.

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Traffic Help for Small Towns and Parishes

Louisiana Highway Safety Commission Executive Director Jim Champagne has recently announced a program to assist communities and parishes that do not have a traffic engineer but need some traffic engineering services.

“We at the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission realize that the issue of traffic safety is not limited to the larger cities and parishes in our state. Traffic crashes impact everyone across the state—men and women, older and younger people, city residents and rural families,” Champagne said. “Every effort must be made to see that all of our citizens have the same opportunity to drive on safe roads and streets.”

In the new program, a traffic engineer from the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission will be available to consult with any community or parish about that area’s specific problems. To maintain the program’s continuity, the request for assistance must come from a community or parish official.

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LA LTAP in 2005: New Classes and Programs!!, Continued from page 1

The following classes are planned for 2005:

- Drainage (March)
- Bridge Inspection for Parishes
- Basics of a Good Road
- Road Surface Management
- Work Zone Safety, Part II
- Supervisor Skills
- [Your Roads Scholar Class here](#)

Is there a Roads Scholar class not on this schedule that your agency or area needs? Let us know! Call Marie Walsh at (225) 767-9184.

Special Topic Classes: LTAP periodically offers special topic classes in response to requests or interest.

In 2005, the following classes are planned:

- Sign Installation and Maintenance
- Customer Service/Dealing with the Public
- [Your special topic class here](#)

Do you have a particular training need? Let us know and we'll see if we can help. Call Marie Walsh at (225) 767-9184.

On-Site Safety and Mini-Workshops: LTAP will bring safety training and other mini-workshops directly to your workplace or job site upon request and free of charge. This is a great way to enhance your safety training programs with no extra cost. In 2004, LTAP conducted mini-workshops for 30 different agencies. Over 665 public works employees participated. These 30 agencies took advantage of this free and convenient service that provided their employees with training to improve safety and increase productivity. Popular topics included:

- Work zone safety
- Flagging
- Defensive driving for large vehicle operators
- Lifting and back safety
- Safety for the public works employee
- [Your mini-workshop here](#)

Do you need a mini-workshop, presented free of charge at your worksite? Call David McFarland at (225) 767-9118.

Seminars and Conferences: LTAP is working with its professional partners and other organizations to organize more professional development opportunities for local transportation and public works professionals. Workshops in 2004 included regional meet-

ings on concrete use and advances as well as a major pavement conference.

The schedule for 2005 includes:

- Traffic Safety Summit and Local Road Safety Workshop – March 3-4, 2005
Co-sponsored with LADOTD Safety, LA Highway Commission and FHWA. Location: Baton Rouge
- Asphalt Technology Conference – February 23-24, 2005. *Co-sponsored with LTRC. Location: Shreveport*
- Spring and Fall Louisiana Parish Engineers and Supervisors Association Professional Development Seminars

Lending Library: LTAP maintains a lending library of videos, publications, and other resources that can be used in employee training or as technical references. The Louisiana LTAP also has access to resources maintained by the national LTAP program and can obtain additional resources through other national partnerships. Call Bob Breaux at (225) 767-9117 for resource catalogs or check our web site at <http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/ltap.html>

Technical Assistance: LTAP offers our local customers technical assistance in finding solutions to road and transportation related problems. We are located in the LA Transportation Research Center, which is comprised of researchers and experts in all types of pavement design, construction, and maintenance. They are ready and willing to assist with difficult problems and questions. LTAP can also put our customers in touch with an experienced traffic engineer to consult with you on specific traffic safety and engineering problems at no charge. In addition, LTAP can help research problems and questions. We have access to many other resources at both the state and federal levels.

The Bottom Line: The bottom line is this—LTAP offers a wide array of training and other resources that can be accessed with a simple phone call or e-mail to any member of our staff.

Don't let 2005 pass by without taking advantage of these services.

Fax Back Request Form - LTAP Is at Your Service

LTAP FAX-BACK REQUEST

Fax to (225) 767-9156

Attn: Bob Breaux

For additional classes, technical assistance, or resources, please complete the form below and fax back to LTAP.

_____ Yes, I would like to take advantage of the free training offered through LTAP. I am interested in the following mini-workshops:

_____ • Work Zone Safety

_____ • Flagging

_____ • Safety for the Public Works Employee

_____ • Defensive Driving for Large Vehicle Operators

_____ • Defensive Driving

_____ • Other Topics _____

Yes, I have a need for technical assistance. Please describe below:

_____ I need more information from LTAP about:

Your name: _____

Agency: _____

Position/title: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

e-mail: _____

Date Received (office use only)



Local Technical Assistance Program

Louisiana's LTAP National Program, Local Focus

The Louisiana LTAP is one of 57 similar programs in the United States. Each is jointly funded by a state department of transportation (DOT) and the Federal Highway Administration. Some programs are housed in universities, some in state DOTs, and others, like Louisiana's, are a joint effort between Louisiana State University and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

(LADOTD). Several Tribal Technical Assistance Programs (TTAP) also provide services on a regional basis.

Each LTAP is challenged to meet the needs of the local transportation communities within their state. As a result, the type of training and other services offered differs according to the population density, miles of local roads,

geography, weather, etc. For instance, Louisiana does not deal with the winter maintenance on mountainous roads that many northern states face. In spite of the potential differences, all LTAPs share these common focus areas:

- Safety
- Infrastructure maintenance
- Workforce development
- Value delivery to the customer

These common focus areas offer Louisiana's LTAP and our customers the opportunity to access resources and assistance from national experts in these fields.



More Free Learning Opportunities: Click, Listen & Learn

LTAP is pleased to offer the American Public Works Association's (APWA) "Click, Listen & Learn" courses to our local agency customers free of charge. The series offers a new, cost-effective way to learn and share information via the telephone or a computer with web access. Programs average two hours in length and feature live question and answer sessions. Listed below are the upcoming "Click, Listen & Learn" programs. Visit www.apwa.net/education/CLL for more details on each topic. If your organization is

interested in participating in any of the listed programs, please contact Marie Walsh, LTAP Director, at (225) 767-9184, to arrange a program at your site.

Jan. 13, 2005

The Great Escape: How Recruitment and Succession Planning Can Be Your Greatest Public Works Legacy!

Feb. 3, 2005

Self Assessment: A Checklist for Improvement

Feb. 24, 2005

Get on the Same Page! Operations Manual to the Rescue

Mar. 23, 2005

Tracking Public Works Technology: GPS, AVL, RFID

Mar. 31, 2005

Target Legal 1 – Hidden Liabilities

Louisiana Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Summit



The first statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Summit held in New Orleans on August 19, 2004, was an enormous success. Over 230 citizens, engineers, planners, law enforcement officers, educators, health care personnel, and injury prevention officials attended.

The program included sessions on education, engineering, enforcement, and urban programs. Topics included pedestrian education and outreach, bicycle safety for colleges and universities, and bicycle safety for schools. The engineering session addressed safe routes to school programs, engineering streets for kids, and designing for safety. The urban programs session included presentations on bike and pedestrian improvements for East

Baton Rouge Parish, and an explanation of a spatial analysis of crash data for the New Orleans region.

According to Karen Parsons, Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator for the Regional Planning Commission, "Participants learned that bicycle and pedestrian safety requires a combination of solutions: totally designed infrastructure, knowledgeable law enforcement, and an increased public awareness for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians about how to operate safely while sharing the road."

Ahmad Jabari, Director of Community Affairs for the city of New Orleans, stated that Mayor Ray Nagin fully supports comprehensive improvements for bicyclists and pedestrians, and he highlighted the event by presenting the Bicycle Action Plan signed by Mayor Nagin. The plan is an international memorandum of intent to support bicyclists endorsed by the Conference of Mayors and facilitated by the League of American Bicyclists. New Orleans joins Berlin, Germany; Brentwood, California; and Dublin, Ireland, in signing this document.

The free, day-long event was sponsored by the Regional Planning Commission, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, and the Federal Highway Administration.

For more information on bicycle and pedestrian safety issues, visit the following Web sites or contact us at (225) 767-9184.

U.S. Department of Transportation sites:

<http://www.tfhr.gov/safety/pedbike/resources/resources.htm>

http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/ped_bike.htm

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/fourthlevel/bike.htm>

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/factsheets/b-ped.htm>

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tfhr/safety/pubs/99035/intro.htm>

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/index.htm>

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/walk/order/order3.htm>

National Public Works Week: May 15 - 21, 2005

It's Not Too Early to Plan!

“National Public Works Week (NPWW) is a celebration of the tens of thousands of men and women in North America who provide and maintain the infrastructure and services collectively known as public works” (APWA, 2004).

First initiated in 1960 by the American Public Works Association, NPWW calls attention to the importance of public works in community life. The NPWW helps to enhance the prestige of our public works employees, who are often unsung heroes serving the public every day with quiet dedication.

This year's NPWW is scheduled for May 15-21, 2005. LTAP encourages public works directors, managers, and employees to consider how they can use the special week to better publicize their agencies' good work and honor their employees. The APWA provides a step-by-step guide to starting a local

Public Works Week that may include a variety of activities. Along with a calendar and media tips, the guide has creative ideas that can be incorporated in both simple and large-scale events. Access this informative guide at <http://www.apwa.net/About/npww>.

Don't miss this opportunity to publicize your department and honor your employees as part of a national campaign!



Drainage: The Key to Roads That Last

Roads Scholar #3

“If you can drain it, you can maintain it.” This popular slogan describes a common thought about road maintenance and drainage. This newly updated and revised class addresses drainage problems faced by local public works agencies in Louisiana. This course will be taught by Ed Foreman, former Director of the LTAP Center. Foreman's 35-year highway engineering career included all aspects of roadway planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation as well as years devoted specifically to drainage facilities. LTAP is pleased to welcome Ed back to our classrooms. The class schedule is as follows:

- March 1 – Jefferson (Lafreniere Park)
- March 2 – Slidell (Rec Hall)
- March 8 – Port Allen (WBR Extension)
- March 15 – Bossier City (Holiday Inn)
- March 16 – Ruston (Civic Center)
- March 17 – Alexandria (City Public Works Complex)
- March 22 – Lafayette (Lafayette Utilities System)
- March 23 – Sulphur (Post Oak Pavilion)

Traffic Safety Summit and Local Road Safety Workshop

Louisiana's second annual Traffic Safety Summit will be held on March 3 and 4, 2005, in Baton Rouge. LTAP is proud to be co-sponsoring the summit with the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, LA DOTD, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as well as other state and local partners. This is the first workshop to focus so heavily on local issues. The summit will provide a detailed look at the critical nature of Louisiana's traffic safety problem and the financial and social costs to Louisiana. Workshop participants will learn ways to implement safety improvement programs in their own communities. In addition, tools, resources, and possible funding sources available to local communities will be shared. The summit's primary objective is to provide information and resources to allow local agencies to begin the steps to improve their local and regional traffic safety problems and to encourage networking between local, state, and federal partners in the traffic safety community.

References and Resources

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) Offers LISTSERV

The MUTCD 2003 Edition, with Revision No. 1 incorporated, is available online in a convenient, fully searchable form. In addition, you can sign up for a LISTSERV that notifies subscribers of new information posted on the MUTCD website. For example, when a new Federal Register Notice is published or a new Interim Approval is issued, a broadcast message will be sent by email to each subscriber. For the manual, visit <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/HTM/2003r1/html-index.htm>; to subscribe to the LISTSERV, go to <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/ser-listserv.htm>.

AASHTO Task Force on Transportation Security

The terrorist activities of September 11, 2001, and subsequent potential threats to the nation's transportation systems have led state Departments of Transportation and other transportation agencies to review the vulnerability of their critical infrastructure assets along with their ability to respond to the mobility needs of the nation in the event of major incidents on and off the transportation system. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has recently made available their series of projects and guides for infrastructure security. The website offers reports, studies, surveys, and important guides to help ensure infrastructure security. Visit this important website at <http://security.transportation.org/index.html>.

Rural Road Safety

The UC-Berkeley Traffic Safety Center's new online newsletter examines the changing nature of rural traffic demands and new ways to improve safety. The lead article looks at rural-road crashes and the demographics of the victims of such crashes; road safety issues in the rapidly growing rural areas located on the fringe of developed areas; the problems that face more traditional, remote rural areas; a sampling of interventions that have demonstrated some success; a special look at farm workers; and, finally, challenges to reducing emergency medical services response times (http://www.tsc.berkeley.edu/html/newsletter/summer04/Rural_Roads.html). A related article in the same issue, "Changing Rural Driver's Minds and Actions," shows how to use full spectrum community-based tools to do just that (<http://www.tsc.berkeley.edu/html/newsletter/summer04/programs.html>).

Traffic Help for Small Towns and Parishes, continued from page 1

The program is intended to assist with problems at specific locations, which can be on or off of state routes. When state routes are involved, the engineer will coordinate any changes that might be needed with LADOTD engineers. Because of limited staff capability, a traffic engineer can not evaluate an entire community or parish. Nor will the assistance include looking at major projects, such as widening long road sections. "We recognize that we do not have the staff for large projects and that professional consulting engineers can provide this type of service on a larger scale," according to Champagne.

In many cases, the assistance will consist of recommending specific ways to address traffic safety issues to city and parish officials. While the traffic engineering assistance program will not provide funding for solutions to problems, it will assist participants in seeking funds from state or federal agencies for traffic safety improvements. In some cases, the assistance may include simply putting local officials in contact with the appropriate state or federal engineers to coordinate and implement projects. Local officials who are not familiar with the various traffic control materials available for signs, signals, or striping will be provided appropriate guidance. "There are a wide variety of materials on the market, and, with limited budgets, local officials need to spend their money wisely to ensure that they get a quality product for the dollars they spend," Champagne said. "This is the first program of its kind in Louisiana to provide this type of assistance that has long been needed."

For more information or assistance, you can contact Bob Canfield at RRCBRLA@AOL.COM (preferred method of communication). You can also fax a request to him at (225) 293-5647 or call him at (225) 293-9609.

Mark Your Calendar

SPECIAL INTEREST

Child Passenger Safety Week, February 13-19, 2005, <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cps>

LTRC Asphalt Conference, February 23-24, 2005, Shreveport, <http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu>

Traffic Safety Summit, March 3-4, 2005, Baton Rouge (see page 6)

Work Zone Safety Week, April 3-9, 2005 <http://www.safety.fhwa.dot.gov>

National Bike Month <http://www.bikemonth.com>

National Public Works Week, May 15-21, 2005 (see page 6)

Publication Statement

Technology Exchange is published quarterly by the Louisiana Transportation Research Center. It is the newsletter of the Louisiana Local Technical Assistance Program. Any findings, conclusions, or recommendations presented in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of LSU, LADOTD, or FHWA.

The Louisiana Local Technical Assistance Program was established at the Louisiana Transportation Research Center on the LSU campus in 1986. The purpose of the center is to provide technical materials, information, and training to help local government agencies in Louisiana maintain and improve their roads and bridges in a cost-effective manner. To accomplish this purpose, we:

- ◆ publish a quarterly newsletter,
- ◆ conduct seminars, workshops, and mini-workshops covering various aspects of transportation,
- ◆ provide a lending library service of audio/visual programs on a variety of transportation topics,
- ◆ provide technical assistance through phone and mail-in requests relating to transportation technology,
- ◆ and undertake special projects of interest to municipalities in Louisiana.

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