

June 28, 2010

Dear Colleague:

The Georgia Section of ITE has organized an exciting five-day international technical tour to London and Birmingham, England. The tour is scheduled for the week of September 20, 2010 and will visit: the agency that manages traffic congestion in downtown London (note that they utilize congestion pricing by time of day); the Highways Agency; the London Borough of Ealing; and Transport Research Laboratory. Tour participants will gain first-hand knowledge of how they are innovatively addressing congestion, freeway management, roundabouts and traffic calming.

The cost is about \$2,800 per person. This includes a group rate on the hotel at about \$140/night. We are beginning to get a head count of those planning to go on the tour. We hope we can include you.

The idea of the tour was first conceived at the Southern District ITE Leadership Training held in September 2009 in Atlanta. Naveed Jaffar, who had worked in London for twelve years before moving to the US, and I were discussing our experiences overseas.

Naveed's experience in England had given him unique perspective in dealing with congestion and with roundabouts in particular. Roundabouts are very relevant as more and more are being implemented in the US. In the United Kingdom, many roundabouts have become so congested that they need to be signalized. Also, London is so congested that they have taken extraordinary measures such as congestion pricing.



With these in mind, Naveed and I thought it would be cool to contact our counterparts in London and ask them to give us a tour. On a visit to London in November 2009, Naveed met with John Smart, BSc, CEng, FCIHT, MICE of the Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation (IHT) and began developing the program. There is no ITE in the United Kingdom, but IHT is the equivalent of ITE in the UK. IHT is a learned society concerned specifically with the planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation of land-based transport systems and infrastructure with over 12,000 members. <http://www.ciht.org.uk/>

If you have any questions regarding our trip, please contact Naveed at (770) 428-0157 njaffar@flohut.com or me at (770) 594-6422 dlow@roswellgov.com. If you think of others that might be interested, perhaps consultants that specialize in roundabouts, please let us know and we will contact them about the tour.

On behalf of Georgia Section ITE, I am delighted to offer this exciting opportunity and hope you will consider joining us.

Sincerely,

David Low, P.E., PTOE
President, Georgia Section ITE, Inc.