

**TO:** Mayor John Stokes and Bellevue City Councilmembers

**FROM:** Dave Berg, Transportation Director

**DATE:** October 3, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Annual Institute of Transportation Engineers Transportation Achievement Award

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On August 15<sup>th</sup>, the City of Bellevue was presented the annual Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Transportation Achievement Award in Operations at the 2016 ITE International Annual Meeting in Anaheim. ITE is a leading professional organization for transportation engineers, planners and researchers, consisting of 13,000 members in 90 countries. Bellevue was selected for this award as a result of the successful deployment of our SCATS Adaptive Traffic Signal System.

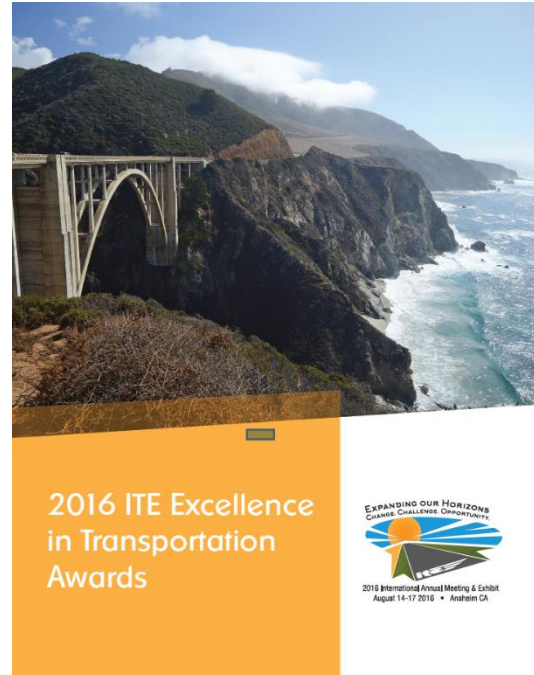
Staff from our Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) group within Traffic Engineering prepared the award application in March of 2016. The award is presented annually to the agency, consultant, private business or academic institution that best represents “excellence in the advancement of transportation to meet human needs.”

The following are a few of the highlights of our application, showing the outstanding benefits of our Adaptive Traffic Signal System deployment:

- 20 to 30% reduction in traffic signal cycle lengths
- 20 to 40% reduction in travel time during the PM peak period
- Clearing of traffic following the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Downtown Celebration in less than an hour
- First use of Transit Signal Priority with the SCATS adaptive system
- 215,000 hours saved annually from efficiencies gained with Flashing Yellow Arrows (FYA)
- First agency in the region to develop adaptive control of FYAs

The following is the description of Bellevue's project included in the program from the ITE awards banquet:

*"ITE's 2016 Transportation Achievement Award for Operations is presented to the City of Bellevue, Washington, USA. With current and anticipated growth, Bellevue has focused on utilizing existing infrastructure more efficiently by investing in smarter traffic signal system to meet the challenge. To quote TIME online, "The largest concentration of adaptive signals is in Los Angeles, a city that has long struggled with congestion. Nearby Orange County, Calif. has the second largest, followed by Utah, where about 80% of the state's traffic signals are adaptive. **But the frontier of adaptive traffic management may be in Bellevue, according to transportation policy experts.**" "*



The Transportation Department is pleased to share this accomplishment and appreciates the support of the past and present councils to accomplish SCATS and establish our ITS program.

*The SCATS project (CIP: PW-R-155) is substantially complete and cost \$5.5 Million. Transportation plans to maintain and update SCATS through our ongoing ITS program.*