2026 NCITE SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Below is a summary of the North Central Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (NCITE) activities in 2025 and ongoing efforts in 2026.

Overview

NCITE is an active section throughout its footprint, and we have continued to be thoughtful of where and when events are planned. NCITE's annual initiatives are closely aligned with ITE's initiatives looking to build on the international brand refresh started at the international level. Several of these efforts have been on-going from year to year. Of note:

- NCITE has an active younger member and student group. They have planned 5 events in 2025 including Top Golf, Ice Skating Happy Hour due to late rink closure, Earth Day Clean-Up, a Bike and Brew Tour, and a pre annual meeting happy hour. The group also works closely with our student chapters for fundraising, meetings, and STEM activities.
- We continued our focused effort on fundraising at our 2nd Annual Scholarship Golf Event and Annual Meeting for the Great Lakes Endowment fund and for student scholarship awards.
- Roadshows, social media, and hybrid meeting capabilities are commonplace for NCITE to ensure a strong section throughout our footprint and to stay connected with our members when we might not be able to in-person.
- Our meetings provide a diverse breadth of the industry, from planning aspects, bike and safety projects, ethics, and diversity/inclusion. Last year's technical meetings covered an array of topics, attracting new members and maintaining interest.

In 2025, NCITE hosted monthly Executive Board Meetings, 6 Section Meetings, Summer Social, 2nd Annual Scholarship Golf Event, Annual Meeting, Past Presidents Dinner, and other events planned by our 10 committees.

Regular Meetings

Date	Topic	Speaker(s)	Location	In-Person | Virtual
January 17	Hwy 41 Reconstruction in Chaska	Nate Kabat (Chaska) Bob Meurer (BMI) Jake Bongard (BMI)	Jax Cafe, Minneapolis, MN	58 | 5
February 18	MnDOT Metro District Program Update	Khani Sahebjam (MnDOT)	MnDOT Waters Edge, Roseville, MN	74 | 10
April 24	Gold Line Bus Tour	Nik Costello (Washington County) Morgan Abbott (Metro Transit)	Various Locations	33 | 0
May 13	Joint NCITE and Wisconsin ITE – Using the power of Vehicle Telematics to Improve Real-Time Traffic Operations	Xiaopeng Li, Ph.D., P.E.	University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee	0 | >50
July 22	MSES, WTS, ITS MN, SAME, NCITE Summer Outing	-	Saint Paul Saints Game	>150 | 0
September 11	MnDOT London Road Project	Tom Lamb (MnDOT)	University of Minnesota - Duluth	29 | 0
October 9	NCITE/CTS Transportation Symposium	Various	McNamara Alumni Center, Minneapolis, MN	79 | 0
November 4th	Minnesota Infrastructure Carbon Estimation and GHG	Chris Berrens (MnDOT) Paul Morris (SRF)	Surly Brewing, St. Paul, MN	39 | 6
November 14	NCITE Annual Meeting	-	Smash Park, Roseville, MN	60 | 0

In May 2025, the Wisconsin Section hosted a joint virtual Section Meeting with NCITE. This virtual event included a networking piece for NCITE and Wisconsin members to meet and interact with each other, as well as a presentation on the power of using vehicle telematics to improve real-

time traffic operations.

A continued initiative of NCITE is to host at least one “roadshow” meeting each year with presenters or presentations focused on topics outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. We continued this tradition in 2025 with our September Section Meeting hosted by the University of Minnesota Duluth. The event was held after the career fair to encourage student participation. The presentations were live streamed to NCITE membership throughout the section.

Student Support

NCITE has three Student Outreach Coordinators who manage the student scholarship programs, attend student career fair events, participate in the Great Lakes District Student Activities Committee, and serve as a liaison for ITE Student Chapter groups to coordinate funding opportunities, participate in District annual meetings, and interact with ITE headquarters. These coordinators are responsible for interacting with the student chapters within NCITE, presenting on Engineering careers to students, and administering the annual scholarship program. In addition to the traditional outreach activities, Joe DeVore and AJ Fischer presented to the University of St. Thomas chapter to help spread the word of NCITE and continue to help support their student organization get off the ground. The group meets weekly about various topics within the engineering world.

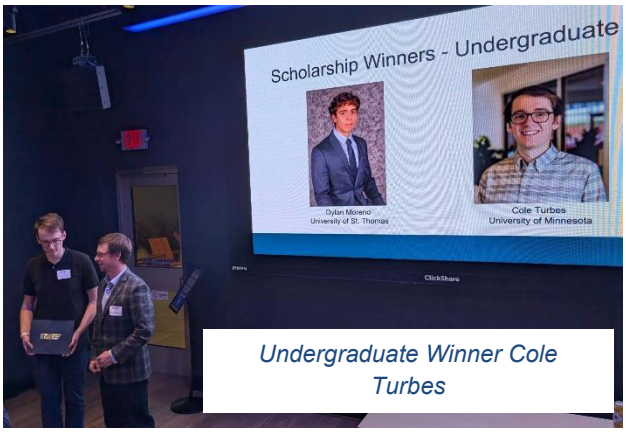




South Dakota State University Student Chapter had a very busy start to their semester. The first meeting had three student led presentations about their summer internship experiences. The photos above were take by Ben Whie on the SD 44 Bridge Replacement project over the Missouri River.

NCITE, by policy, supports student attendance at section meetings by reducing the meeting cost to $5. For the Section Annual Meeting, the cost for a student was only $10 compared to the $80 for full member registration cost. The board also provided free registration for one of the students who were able to accept their scholarships at the event.

NCITE awarded $5000 to five students via scholarship in 2025, awarding 2 undergraduate, 2 intern, and 1 honorary Robert Green Scholarship which was started in 2023.



Undergraduate Winner Cole Turbes

- Undergraduate Scholarship: Dylan Moreno – University of St. Thomas
- Undergraduate Scholarship: Cole Turbes – UMN Twin Cities
- Intern Scholarship: Naveena Srinivasan – UW - Madison
- Intern Scholarship: Ella Vorhees – Tufts University
- Robert Green Scholarship: Daniel Georgioff – UMN Twin Cities

Younger Member Support

NCITE also includes a very active Younger Member Committee. The purpose of the Younger Member Committee (YMC) of NCITE is to connect young professionals in the diverse field of transportation and create opportunities to build relationships and grow professionally. These opportunities are provided through social and educational events held throughout the year. This committee additionally seeks to fulfill the following goals:

- Promote engagement in the NCITE mentorship program, which aims to assist younger members as they progress through their careers.
- Connect with university students and build relationships with individuals who are potential future members of NCITE.
- Promote engagement in the NCITE Technical Committees to encourage professional development and provide opportunities for younger members to share their ideas.


NCITE's Younger Member Group at Top Golf

The YMC was started in 2018 and continues to remain a very active committee with bimonthly in-person meetings, which include both social and technical events. NCITE has remained dedicated to helping offset cost for Younger Member Committee (YMC) events creating a yearly budget Stipend of $650. YMC events in 2025 included Top Golf, Ice Skating, Earth Day Clean-Up, a Bike and Brew Tour, and a pre annual meeting happy hour. The YMC has been a great way for younger members to get leadership experience and we encourage younger committee members to continue with leadership roles within ITE:

- Jeremy Melquist, 2023 NCITE President (2018 YMC Chair)
- Phil Kulis, 2024 NCITE President (2017 YMC Chair)
- Jack Olsson, 2025 NCITE Treasurer (2021 YMC Chair)
- Olivia Polinsky-Rose, 2025 NCITE Director (2025 TMC Chair)

LeadershipITE

NCITE has a strong commitment to LeadershipITE with six past alumni and one member accepted for the 2026 list:

- Scott Poska, 2018 NCITE President (LeadershipITE Class of 2017)
- Jeff Preston, 2019 NCITE President (LeadershipITE Class of 2019)
- Tyler Krage, 2021 NCITE Vice President (LeadershipITE Class of 2020)
- Natalie Sager, 2022 NCITE President (LeadershipITE Class of 2021)
- Morgan Nelson, 2024 GLITE District Representative (LeadershipITE Class of 2023)
- Sarah Peterson, 2025 NCITE Treasurer (LeadershipITE Class of 2025)
- Caitlin Andress, 2025 NCITE Driector (Leadership ITE Class of 2026)

All LeadershipITE alumni have served or are currently serving on the NCITE Executive Board and are active leaders in the Section. Recognizing the benefits to the Section of having its members participate in LeadershipITE, it is the policy of the North Central Section to offer financial assistance for participation in the program up to $750 each for up to three Section participants per annual LeadershipITE class.

NCITE Committees - Application of Technical Knowledge

NCITE members and volunteers work daily to ensure that motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians can safely and efficiently complete their daily trips. For our quarterly newsletter, the INCITER, our technical committees are asked to submit an article on technical subjects on a rotating basis. Also, paying advertisers for our section are provided the opportunity to contribute one technical article per year. A total of 13 technical articles were published in 2025.

Our section meetings always include a technical presentation. Most often, we look to our members or their colleagues to provide these presentations. These presentations are typically posted to our YouTube channel for later viewing.

Technical Committee	2025 Technical Events (bulleted)
Geometric Design	Establishes a forum for NCITE members to share, discuss, and explore the traffic operations and safety effects of roadway design elements.
Intersection Traffic Control	A forum for NCITE members to discuss issues related to traffic signal design and operation. • City of Madison Traffic Signal Operations • Roundabout Operations • FYA and POOFYA • MnDOT LPI Study • How are agencies planning on maintaining the cat tracks as part of dual left turn lanes at signalized intersections • 494/35W Design Build Presentation
Emerging Technologies in Transportation (ETT)	The ETT Committee provides a forum for participants to address technical issues related to developing technology in the industry (ITS, CAV, Big Data, etc.) and to share lessons learned. This Committee works jointly with ITS-MN. • How MN is leading the charge on CAV • LRRB Red Light Running Research Project and Red-Light Running Warnings with Connective Vehicle Technology • US 14 Pilot Project – Connected Workers and Digital Speed Limits • Harnessing Probe-Based Signal Performance Measures • Leveraging Big Data and Data Analytics in Signal Optimization
Complete Streets and Safety (CSS)	A forum for NCITE members to discuss issues related to improving safety and mobility for everyone, with an emphasis on vulnerable road users (VRUs), transit riders, and multi-modal transportation systems.
Planning Methods & Applications	The purpose of this committee is to discuss and author NCITE standards of practice relating to issues in the transportation planning field.
Traffic Operations and Maintenance	A forum for operations and maintenance staff to discuss best practices, tips, and ideas. • Street Smart Rental Nation Workzone Safety Week Open House
Simulation & Capacity Analysis (SimCap)	A forum for analysis methods with the intention of developing best practices for traffic modeling in our region. • Recent Updates to the Highway Capacity Software

Networking Events
Offering our membership networking opportunities is a priority for all NCITE events, as highlighted in the bullets below.

- All five of the six **Section Meetings** in 2025 were held as a hybrid meeting with both in-person participation and virtually. The one virtual only joint meeting with ITE Wisconsin had over 50 attendees while most attendees were virtual for our roadshow section meeting in Duluth, MN. NCITE looks to provide a mix of meeting style and location for its section meetings annually.
- For our annual **Summer Social**, we once again held a joint networking event with the Minnesota Surveyors and Engineers Society (MSES), Women in Transportation Studies (WTS) Minnesota, and ITS Minnesota. In addition to the usual organizations, NCITE also partnered with the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). The group attended a Saints baseball game at CHS Field in St. Paul, MN with over 200 attendees for the 3rd consecutive year.
- Our **Annual Meeting** was held at Smash Park in Roseville, MN. A happy hour, which was planned by our Younger Member Committee, took place for an hour before the meeting. The first part of the event included check-in and networking, a heavy buffet spread, a presentation summarizing the section's activities in 2025, and announcement of award winners and election results for our 2025 board. The presentation was followed by a pickle ball tournament and various activities including darts and karaoke.



NCITE 2025 Board Enjoying another Successful Year



60 attendees at the annual meeting played darts, yard games, and pickleball

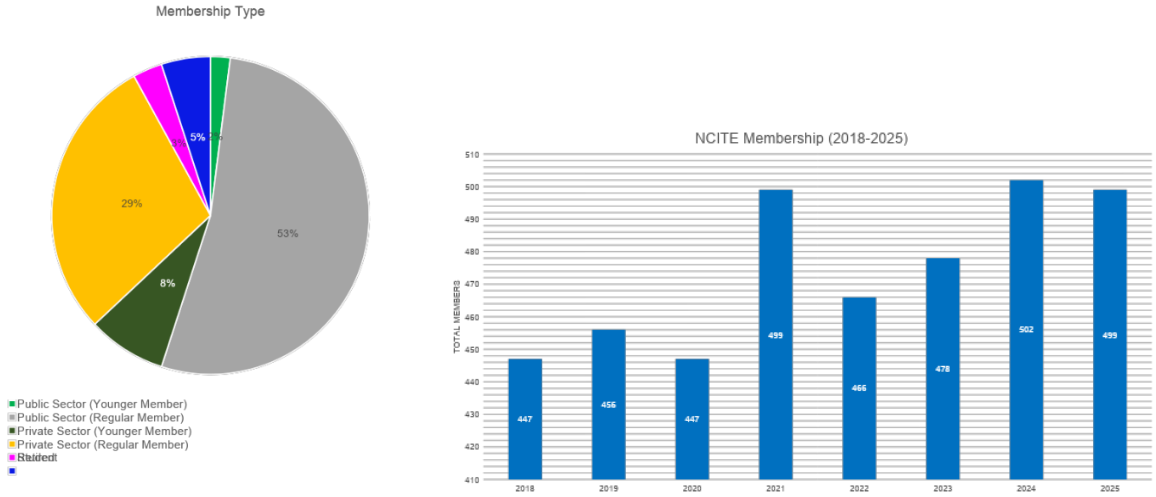
K-12 STEM Outreach

NCITE typically participates in several K-12 STEM outreach events each year. Typical events include Civil Engineering Day at the Minnesota Science Museum, high school career fairs, the Minnesota Future City Competition, and the Minneapolis STEM Expo.

New Member Recruitment

Over the course of 2025 NCITE held our membership constant with a total of 499 members. This was just below the all-time record of 502 in 2024. All Section Meetings and many technical committee meetings have had a virtual option with a reduced cost to attend (often free) to encourage attendance and reach a wider geographic area. The Executive Board and Communications Group made a coordinated push in 2025 to create a series of 1-page flyers that were shared with Public Agencies and Student Organizations to help members get more involved with committee groups and become active members within the Section, District, and ITE.

The Executive Board and Membership Chair are committed to ensuring that members see and feel value in being a part of ITE International and NCITE. The goal of bringing value to members was accomplished in the various activities and initiatives NCITE accomplished in 2025. NCITE's Membership Coordinator also sends out our new member interactive flyer to all new NCITE members to help them understand the many benefits of NCITE/ITE and how to get more involved with the organization.



2025 membership shows a strong public agency presence in total numbers, but a 2025 initiative is to increase active participation in committees and section meetings through better benefits communication.

Training/Professional Development

NCITE offers Professional Development Hours (PDH's) for all of our section meetings, which always include a technical presentation. In 2025, there were six section meetings with a total of 6 PDHs. In addition to the section meetings in 2025, NCITE hosted the Transportation Symposium, which was held on October 9th, 2025, at McNamara Alumni Center on the UMN Twin Cities campus. This conference featured 14 presentations throughout the day, with 79 attendees including several UMN students. This event provided a total of 7 PHD's.

NCITE collaborated with Women in Transportation Studies (WTS) to offer a two-hour ethics course in May 2024 offering an Ethics Game Show for Planners & Engineers.

Funding Support

In addition to the scholarship funds and Leadership ITE stipends that NCITE provides, NCITE supports its members in many other financial ways. Upon receipt of a written request and documentation of expenditures, the Section Treasurer is authorized to pay travel and/or registration expenses as described below to support district and international meeting attendance:

What is Funded?	Who is Funded?
Great Lakes District Annual Meeting	• Section President and Past President: Up to $500 each. • Section Vice President shall be eligible for up to $500 if either of the officers noted above is unable to attend. No more than two Section officers shall be eligible for reimbursement. • Great Lakes Executive Board (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Past President): Up to $500.
Great Lakes District Fall Workshop	• Current and Incoming Section Representative: Up to $1,000 each.
ITE International Annual Meeting	• Section President and Vice President: Up to $800 each. • Section Secretary and/or Past President: Up to $800 if one of the officers noted above is unable to attend. No more than two Section officers shall be eligible for reimbursement.
Great Lakes District Annual Meeting OR ITE International Annual Meeting	• The recipient of the Young Transportation Professional of the Year Award (Award): Up to $650 within 12 months of receiving the Award. • NCITE student chapters: Up to $750 per school. An NCITE student chapter that wins the GLITE Traffic Bowl shall be eligible for an additional $750 in travel expenses to attend the competition at the ITE International Annual Meeting.
ITE Student Leadership Summit	• NCITE Student Chapters: $150 once annually to each Chapter that attends an ITE Student Leadership Summit and provides NCITE with a written summary of the event for publication in the NCITE section newsletter.

Advocacy

As an agency NCITE is proud to advocate for the transportation industry through education, networking, and service. We are a growing organization who will continue to support the advocacy of ITE. Respectfully Submitted,



Joe DeVore, P.E., PTOE, RSP2
2026 NCITE President



Justin Sebens, P.E.
2026 NCITE Vice President



Nik Costello, PE
2026 NCITE Past President



January 2025 Section Meeting – Jax Café



February 2025 Section Meeting – MnDOT Waters Edge



April 2025 Section Meeting – Gold Line BRT Tour

The Institute of Transportation Engineers – **Wisconsin Section**

A Community of Transportation Professionals

Joint NCITE & ITE Wisconsin Section Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Time: 12:00 pm **Place:** Virtual – Teams Meeting

Agenda:
1. Opening Remarks & Business Updates
   - Eric Frailing, ITE WI Section President
   - Niklas H. Costello, NCITE President
2. Breakout sessions/Section mixer
3. Feature Presentation

Topic: Using the Power of Vehicle Telematics to Improve Real-Time Traffic Operations

Speakers: Xiaopeng Li, Ph.D., PE
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Tom Shi, Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Pei Li, Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin-Madison

May 2025 Section Meeting – Virtual Joint Meeting with Wisconsin ITE



September 2025 Section Meeting – UMD Road Show



November 2025 Section Meeting – Emissions Impact



2025 NCITE Transportation Symposium