



**2021 IRWA International Transportation Committee (ITC) Symposium**  
**Royal Sonesta, 300 Bourbon Street, New Orleans, LA 70130**  
**Thursday, April 1, 2021 from 8:00AM to 5:00PM**  
**Agenda**

**8:00 AM Welcome Notes and Introductions:**

Denise L. Skinner, SR/WA, PMP, Region 2 Chair

Wade Brown, SR/WA, Region 6 Chair

Sarah Riebe, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, International Transportation Committee Chair

**8:15AM Go With Your Gut: Effective Decision-Making in an Over-Thinking World**

Shelley Rowe, PE, CSP, Founder and CEO, Blue Fjord Leaders

*Summary:* Row of Way professionals constantly face complex decisions. As complexity grows, decisions can become too fast or too slow. Use neuroscience to discover the powerful internal forces that sway your decisions whether you know it or not. For optimal decisions, it's best to know. Learn to understand signals from your brain and how to interpret gut feel.

**9:15AM Moving Projects Forward during a Pandemic**

Janae Barbeau, Georgia Real Estate Services Lead, HDR

*Summary:* Our industry was put to the test when a pandemic struck us by surprise in early 2020. Teams of staff pulled resources together and became experts in the virtual and remote world of right of way. We moved critical projects forward and continued providing technical expertise to our clients around the country. What's that saying? "Right of way must go on!" We will share project specific success and lessons learned during project outreach, acquisitions, relocations and eminent domain activities. You won't want to miss this!

**10:00AM Morning Break**

**10:15AM Effective Management of the Right-of-Way Acquisition Management Process:  
Don't Let Issues Grow Stale**

Patrick A. McCallister, SR/WA, Right-of-Way Acquisition Manager - Technical Principal, WSP

Nancy Sinclair, SR/WA, Head of Property Section Eastern Region, Ministry of Transportation

*Summary:* Numerous times, parcels will be dragged down by issues that aren't dealt with in a timely manner, thus the issues grow stale. This presentation goes over examples of issues that are encountered through every phase of the right-of-way acquisition process (title research, engineering, appraisal, review appraisal, acquisition, relocation) and how these issues were resolved. Throughout the entire presentation, the emphasis is always on the need to communicate, whether it be with the client, project owner, subconsultants, property owner or internal staff. The presentation is geared towards a transportation project, but the principles of this presentation can be applied to all right-of-way acquisition. Because no matter what the little differences in the process may be, the recurring theme is to not let the issues linger, but to deal with them in a thorough and timely manner. This presentation encourages open dialog, as the best way to learn is to hear experiences others have had and how they dealt with these issues.

**11:00AM Politically sensitive projects and Right of Ways role in Environmental Justice**

Leigh Enger, SR/WA, Real Estate and Right of Way Cross Sector Director, HDR

*Summary:* With a renewed focus on social justice our right of way industry plays a role in communicating a projects overall purpose and need to affected property owners as we guide them through the acquisition and relocation process. How have we traditionally provided data to the Environmental Justice report in NEPA documents and has that changed? As Right of Way Professionals we are uniquely positioned to inform project design teams of the impacts to property owners. We are also responsible for identification and mitigation of risk associated with impacts to property owners. How are projects navigating this and is there an additional step to our process that lies somewhere in between Environmental, Public Involvement and Right of Way?



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**11:45AM America's Transportation and its effect on the disadvantaged**

Albano Mahilaj, MBA, Right-of-Way Acquisition Project Manager, ms Consultants

Summary: This presentation will discuss at a high level how our current system is not helping the disadvantaged population (inner city and rural). The presentation will include data showing where we are failing, some great initiatives and a few points on how the future can be better.

**12:30PM Lunch**

**1:30PM Right of Way Pivot Foot: How to Transition into Transportation from Other Industry Markets**

Lora Gunter, J.D. SR/WA, Vice President of Transportation, Percheron LLC

Carmelita Delgado, R/W-NAC, RWA, Manager Director, Percheron LLC

Summary: This interactive presentation will begin with an overview of the key differences in right of way acquisition in various markets, such as transportation, electric transmission, and pipeline. We will explore the chief components of a highway transportation project that makes it different from right of way acquisition in electric transmission and pipeline acquisition contexts. Then, the discussion will address how to maintain a career in the right of industry but transition from one service market to another. The dialogue will examine transition from a company's perspective on how to utilize employees in multiple sectors, as well as cover a transition from an individual's point of view.

**2:15PM 5 things landowners ask me and why they really matter.....or really don't**

Jim Turner, MAI, Managing Director, Integra Realty Resources (IRR) Jackson

Summary: Real World examples of non-compensable items that may affect real property values:

1. Loss of access or other temporary inconveniences during construction
2. Project Influence
3. Loss in Traffic Volume
4. Right to Cross / Median Access – Circuity of Travel
5. Business Loss – Profit Loss

I will provide a real-world example of each non-compensable situation, and corresponding case law decisions that uphold these police powers. I will discuss matters that are important to the property owner, but do not have a legal standing for compensation.

**3:00PM Afternoon Break**

**3:15PM Drones & Autonomous Vehicles; Changes on the Horizon for the Right-of-Way**

Frank Mundy, II, PLS Practice Leader, Geomatics, Vice President, STEWART INC

Summary: Unmanned aerial systems (UAS/Drones) and autonomous vehicles will change the way people, goods and services are delivered. As this technology becomes more the norm rather than the exception in everyday life, major changes will be required in both current and future infrastructure and the right-of-way in which they depend.

**4:15PM Planes, Trains and Automobiles: The Secret Ingredients to American Happiness**

Kristen Bennett, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, President, Blackbird Right of Way LLC / CEO, Pendulum Land Services / Co-Host, Pendulum Land Podcast

Dave Arnold, Esq., SR/WA, CEO & Eminent Domain Lead, Pender & Coward / Co-Host, Pendulum Land Podcast

Summary: Calling all Infrastructure Junkies to join us for this interactive podcast recording experience. Your hosts will explore the history and origins of the American transportation infrastructure system and its effects on our standard of living, economy, and quality of life.