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An Update from ITS Heartland

February 2015



### ITS Heartland Annual Meeting -- Coming Soon to a State Near You

The ITS Heartland Board of Directors has a great lineup of informative and entertaining sessions for our Annual Meeting coming up April 27 - 29 in Omaha.

The [agenda](#) is full and available for your review.

A pre-conference event is scheduled for the morning of Monday, April 27. A Traffic Incident Management training session will bring emergency responders together to learn about improved operations at incident scenes. After the training, lunch and a panel discussion will be held by the ITS Heartland Operations Working Group.

[Registration](#) is also open. And don't forget to [book your hotel room](#) at the conference rate.

Vendor and Sponsor packages are now available and the latest report is that over half of the vendor booths have been reserved. The deadline for vendors and sponsors to have their promotional materials included in conference packets in April 3 (but don't wait!).

Nominees for recognition in the [3rd Annual Best of ITS Awards](#) are due March 20 so act now. There are three categories: Best Project, Best New Product and a Service or Recognition award.

Our annual [Student Competition](#) will look a little different this year. Students will present their current research topics in a poster session on Tuesday, April 28. The best three will receive cash prizes. Deadline for students to enter is March 20.

And don't miss the social event on opening night (Monday) -- it will be magical!



#### [ITS Heartland](#)

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Webinar



We are saddened by the news that Barb Blue passed away on February 26. Barb worked with the Kansas Department of Transportation since 2001 where she was the ATIS coordinator and 511 program manager. She was instrumental in creating a 511 telephone traveler information system in Kansas and was recognized as an authority on traveler information.

Barb also served on the ITS Heartland board of directors for many years and was elected president in 2012. She devoted a great deal of time and effort to make ITS Heartland an award

winning chapter. We will miss her very much.

### Nominations are Due March 6

The ITS Heartland Board of Directors has openings for Vice-President, Secretary, Consultant Sector Director, Academic Director, Missouri State Director, Kansas State Director, Vendor Sector Director and Communications Director. Electronic voting will take place March 10 - 24. Notify [Amy Lucke](#) of nominations. Position descriptions are outlined in our [Bylaws](#).

### Great Titles from the Annual Meeting Agenda

- Look Who's Talking: Iowa Partners with Waze to Improve ATIS
- Leveraging Highly Granular Real-Time Data to Improve Road Network Performance & Incident Detection
- Work Zone ITS & Traffic Critical Projects
- Managing Maturing ITS Infrastructure in Kansas
- NDOR's Year of Living Dangerously
- Bringing Social Media into Traffic Management Centers is No Small Feat
- Matt Volz's Experiences in Abu Dhabi
- And the highly anticipated... State Updates!!!



The director of U.S. Open Data, Waldo Jacquith, will explain the general efforts for open data, what makes data 'open' and the history of open data initiatives. He'll also report on the state of open transportation data and its future.

U.S. Open Data  
Thursday, March 5 at 1 pm CT

Registration:

<http://www.itsa.org/events/webinarseries>



The ITS Joint Program Office has released the **ITS Strategic Plan 2015-2019**. It outlines the US DOT's plans for the future of ITS research.

[Download or view it](#)

SAVE THE DATE



Contact the ITS Heartland Board President at [jtheisen@nd.gov](mailto:jtheisen@nd.gov)  
Contact the Pulse editor at [hein@ksdot.org](mailto:hein@ksdot.org)  
Visit the ITS Heartland website at [www.itsheartland.org](http://www.itsheartland.org)

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