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AVAILABLE TRAINING

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### **TxLTAP June Newsletter**

June 2025 Volume 3 | Issue 9

#### **Featured Articles**

#### Making Work Zones Safer for Big Rigs

Work zone lane shifts are a regular part of road construction, but they can be especially difficult for commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers—leading to lane encroachments, sideswipes, and barrier crashes. This FHWA fact sheet highlights a simple yet effective method to make these transitions safer.

By rethinking how tapering is laid out, one state has found a way to give larger vehicles more room to maneuver—without major redesigns. It's a small change with big safety benefits.

If you're involved in work zone planning or roadway design, this is a must-read.



#### **Read More**

#### **Heat Illness Prevention**

Texas summers aren't just hot—they're dangerous. Heat-related illnesses can sneak up fast, even on days that don't hit heat advisory levels. Whether your crews are patching roads, trimming trees, or directing traffic, heat stress is a serious risk—and it doesn't always take triple



digits to be deadly.



OSHA points to two major sources of heat danger:

- The environment (sunlight, humidity, air movement, and temperature)
- The workload (how hard your team is working and what they're wearing)

Sweating it out in the sun? That might not be enough. Protective gear, enclosed spaces, or heat-reflective surfaces like pavement can all raise body temperature to dangerous levels—sometimes even when it's under 90°F outside. Let's keep our crews cool, safe, and on the job this summer.

#### Learn More

### EDC Spotlight: Enhance Concrete Durability with Internal Curing (EPIC<sup>2</sup>)

Looking to boost the durability of your concrete projects? The FHWA's resource on Internally Cured Concrete highlights how this method helps reduce shrinkage cracking and extend the life of roads, bridges, and repairs. Learn how this proven, cost-effective approach is being used nationwide to improve infrastructure performance.

**Read More** 

# TxDOT Districts Awarded for Clean Safety Record

Eight TxDOT districts—including Atlanta, Abilene, and San Antonio—were honored with the Texas Bluebonnet Safety Award after achieving zero employee incidents in 2024. Through the Mission Zero initiative, TxDOT continues to foster a culture where safety is intentional, consistent, and always the top priority.

**Read More** 

#### **Texas County Voice**

Looking for real conversations about the issues that matter to Texas counties? Texas County Voice, the official podcast from the Texas Association of Counties, dives into the people, policies, and programs shaping Texas communities. It's a great way to stay connected with what's happening across the state—one episode at a time.

Listen to Texas
County Voice

## Looking for Workforce Development?

Resources to Build and Strengthen Your Public Works Team

In today's competitive job market, it's more important than ever for Texas cities and counties to develop strategies that attract, grow, and retain skilled public works professionals. TxLTAP's Workforce Development page is your go-to resource for practical tools to support that mission.

From sample job descriptions and helpful FAQs to training trifolds and more, these downloadable materials are designed to help agencies build a strong workforce pipeline and meet current and future demands.

Visit the page to explore workforce solutions that support long-term success and service excellence.

Visit Our Website Today!

# Help Us Plan Our Next Road Safety Champion Trainings!

The Road Safety Champion Program (RSCP) is a nationally recognized certificate program designed to equip transportation, public works, and safety professionals with the knowledge and skills to improve roadway safety. Through a series of foundational courses, participants build expertise in areas such as traffic control, work zone safety, and emergency response coordination.

**Plans are underway** to schedule the next round of RSCP courses. To help guide course selection, we're gathering input on which trainings are of most interest for potential in-person sessions at UT Arlington.

View LTP Course Descriptions Here: TxLTAP - Training - Training Catalog

Which course would you be most interested in attending?

LTP 100: Work Zone Safety - Temporary Traffic Control

LTP 300: Flagger Training

LTP 401: Work Zone Construction Site Safety

LTP 700: Traffic Management for First Responders

Expand Your Expertise: Explore Open Enrollment Courses from PWI

Did You Know?

TxLTAP and the Public Works Institute (PWI) work together to bring high-quality training across Texas. As part of the University of Texas at Arlington's Extended and Extended Campus, TxLTAP offers free training to eligible city and county agencies, while PWI makes those same top-notch courses available for purchase—perfect for contractors, private-sector professionals, and others looking to grow their skills.

Whether you're with a public agency or working independently, these programs cover public works, transportation, safety, and management—helping you stay sharp and advance your career. **Transportation Training and Services**Homepage - UTA EEC Division for Enterprise Development



# Enhance your Skills with ARI: Hands-On Training for Roadway Excellence



Build your skills and broaden your knowledge with the **Advanced Road Inspector (ARI)** Certification & Workshops. Whether you're just getting started or already experienced in highway construction inspection, this program dives deep into essential topics like materials, techniques, and compliance standards. From asphalt to drainage to signage, you'll gain practical insights and training to help ensure safe, high-quality roadways across Texas.

#### **Advanced Road Inspector**

# Build Your Knowledge with PWI's 2025 Aviation Short Course Series



Take your understanding of airport operations to new heights with PWI's expert-led **Aviation Short Courses**. Whether you're new to aviation projects or a seasoned professional, these trainings offer practical, up-to-date insights into essential topics like airport pavements and airside design. Develop the skills to meet today's airport infrastructure demands, earn CEUs/PDHs, and stay ahead of industry standards. Explore available sessions and stay tuned!

#### Airport Short Course Series

#### Discover PWI's Professional Development Programs

Looking to grow your skills in public works, safety, or transportation management? The Public Works Institute (PWI) at UT Arlington's Extension and Extended Campus offers a full catalog of professional training courses—now available for purchase by individuals, contractors, and agencies.

These courses are the same high-quality classes offered through TxLTAP, but open to anyone looking to advance their knowledge and career.

- Open Enrollment opportunities
- Expert instructors
- Industry-relevant topics

Explore all that PWI has to offer - visit their website today!

# We're On the Road! Catch TxLTAP at These Events...

If you're attending an event or conference, be sure to stop by the TxLTAP booth to meet our team, learn about our free training and resources, and see how we can support Texas cities and counties!

While you're there, pick up some **TxLTAP** swag, including:

- TxLTAP bags,
- Glass breakers,
- Other exciting items!

Be sure to visit our booth this summer!





#### Texas APWA Annual Conference

☐ June 9–11, 2025

☐ McAllen Convention Center |700 Convention Center Blvd., McAllen, TX

The Texas Chapter's Annual Conference is multi-day educational and networking event with a program tailored to public works employees, including directors, supervisors, and field staff, as well as the consultants, vendors, and manufacturers who support and do business with them. The Annual Conference is one of the Texas Chapter's most important events and represents one of the primary funding sources used to support its continued operation.

#### **Texas APWA Annual Conference**



Check Out Our Summer Schedule!

## More to Explore!

#### Share Your Innovation!

Got a smart fix or time-saving tool on the job? The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) **Build A Better Mousetrap (BABM)** competition highlights simple, creative solutions from city and county crews like yours. Whether it's a custom-built device, safety improvement, or a better way to get the job done - **share your idea and get recognized nationwide.** 

#### Submit your entry thorugh TxLTAP today!



#### Get the Resources You Need! Bring Safety to the Field with Tailgate Talks

Looking for quick, effective ways to keep safety top of mind? Tailgate Talks are designed for field supervisors to share important safety topics with their crews. With a wide range of topics, this resource makes it easy to keep safety conversations fresh and relevant.

TxLTAP - Innovations - Tailgate Talks

Read About Heavy Equipment Hazards & Safety



Build a Better Mousetrap (BABM) program by the FHWA showcases innovative solutions to everyday challenges faced by local and tribal transportation professionals.

Learn More about BABM



The Every Day Counts (EDC) initiative by FHWA promotes innovations to accelerate highway project delivery, improve safety, and reduce costs with support for strategies.

Subscribe to EDC News!



Texas has lost at least one person every day on Texas roads since Nov. 7, 2000." Join TxDOT and Texans on ending the streak of daily deaths on our Texas roads. #EndTheStreakTx

TxDOT Safety
Campaigns



Contact Us: 817-272-2581 TxLTAP@uta.edu TxLTAP.org







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