Pedestrian Safety Assessment Program Receives “Best Program” Award at ITE Annual Meeting

BERKELEY — The Technology Transfer Program at the University of California, Berkeley’s Institute of Transportation Studies accepted the Transportation Planning Council Best Program Award for their Pedestrian Safety Assessment Program at the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) 2009 Annual Meeting and Exhibit, held August 9–12 in San Antonio, Texas.

The California Pedestrian Safety Assessment Program was selected for its far-reaching applications for public agencies across the country. The Transportation Planning Council found the program’s safety enhancements to be comprehensive and concise and completely transferable to other agencies.

The project was initiated by Chris Murphy, director of the California Office of Traffic Safety, which funded the UC Berkeley project. “Well-designed communities can encourage people to walk—but only if they feel safe walking,” said Murphy. “This program addresses the engineering issues to help create thriving communities and save lives.”

Each year ITE sponsors an awards program to honor outstanding achievement in transportation engineering and distinguished service to ITE. The awards bestow international recognition upon the recipients and increase the public's awareness of the role and responsibilities of the transportation professional.

The ITE Transportation Planning Council Best Program Award is given to a new program that has been implemented or an existing program that has been improved and/or expanded to better serve the transportation community. A program is not a one-time study, report or research document; rather it is a transportation service or application of a transportation service that can be advanced by a public agency.

ITE is an international educational and scientific association of transportation professionals who are responsible for meeting mobility and safety needs. ITE facilitates the application of technology and scientific principles to research, planning, functional design, implementation, operation, policy development and management for any mode of ground transportation.

The Technology Transfer Program, a division of the UC Berkeley Institute of Transportation Studies, provides professional training, workshops, conferences, technical assistance and information resources in the transportation-related areas of planning and policy, traffic engineering, project development, infrastructure design and maintenance, safety, and the environment.

Tech Transfer’s Pedestrian Safety Assessment has also won the American Planning Association (APA) Statewide and Northern California Section 2009 Best Practices Awards.

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