CAMPO ROUND TABLE

On November 14th, YPT-Austin members had the opportunity to sit and discuss current affairs with Ashby Johnson, the Executive Director of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). Mr. Johnson discussed what the future of transportation looks like for the six-county Central Texas region and presented CAMPO’s 2045 Plan. The 2045 Plan is a long-range Regional Transportation Plan that addresses multimodal transportation needs over the next 25 years in Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties. This multimodal plan includes a variety of transportation modes including driving, walking, biking, transit, and emerging technologies. YPT-Austin members were able to listen, ask questions, and have compelling discussions with Mr. Johnson regarding the region’s transportation needs and network.

SUPER BOWL ROUND TABLE

On January 15th, YPT members joined Lance Ballard from Kimley Horn in the Center for Transportation Research to discuss his experience with designing a transportation plan for the week of the Superbowl last year in Atlanta! Lance explained some obstacles that he and his team overcame including escorting coaches, players, and celebrities safely to the stadium while allowing regular traffic in the area to flow smoothly. Lance also described the technology in Atlanta that helped allow for such advanced transportation planning and how the technology here in Austin compares to it.
**YPT SOCIAL**

YPT-Austin celebrated Halloween with a Happy Hour at Adelbert’s Brewery! Attendees mingled with their peers, drank craft beer and enjoyed appetizers provided by YPT. Part of the festivities included guessing the amount of candies in a jar, and two participants walked away with gift cards as prizes!

**YPT GIVES BACK**

On December 10th, YPT celebrated the holiday season and the end of a great year at Dart Bowl with the Blue Santa Toy Drive and some friendly competition. With everyone dressed in their favorite tacky sweater, members got the chance to compete on the lanes and in the laser maze! Thanks to our generous members, YPT was able to collect a total of 13 gifts for less fortunate children. Congratulations to Alex Goff for winning the best tacky sweater award!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Did you know? Austin is now officially the 4th biggest YPT chapter in the United States! Come join us at our upcoming events!

- **Joint Happy Hour with ASCE YMF**
  - When: February 17th
  - Location: Abel’s on the Lake
  - Time: 5:30-8PM

- **Roundtable with Gary Hudder**
  - When: March 10
  - Location: CTR
  - Time: 11:30-1PM

- **Austin B-Cycle Tour**
  - When: March 2
  - Time: TBD
1. **Tell us about yourself!**
   I’m Alex and I work for WGI on our mobility team! I moved to Austin about a year and a half ago from Platteville, Wisconsin. I earned my B.S. in civil engineering with an emphasis in construction from UW-Platteville and played on the Women’s Soccer team for four years while earning my degree. I grew up in a southwest suburb of Chicago (The Village of Plainfield) before moving to Wisconsin for school. I have family and friends who live all over Texas, so seeking a job in Austin seemed like a great fit!

2. **What inspired you to pursue a career in transportation?**
   In college, I had the opportunity to study abroad in The Netherlands and learn about mobility from the Dutch perspective. We collaborated with students from Zwolle, and traveled to several other cities including Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Utrecht and a few others. The course was titled Cycling in The Netherlands and focused around cycling infrastructure. The course was very interactive; most days we biked over 30 miles! This once in a lifetime trip peaked my interest in the transportation/traffic field from a design perspective.

3. **What has been your favorite YPT event?**
   My favorite YPT event thus has been the ASCE/YPT networking barge party trip. I’m still relatively new to Austin, so it was a great opportunity to meet people within my field. Boating on the beautiful Lake Travis was of course a bonus of the event as well.

4. **What has been your favorite project to work on?**
   My favorite project I’ve worked on with WGI is a recent traffic study my coworker and I completed in Honolulu, Hawaii. We were given the opportunity to travel to Waikiki and observe traffic operations surrounding a mall located in a touristy area. We used the observations and data we collected to recommend mitigations benefitting multimodal transportation in the area.

5. **What’s the biggest challenge you have faced as a young professional in transportation?**
   What I have found to be challenging is working with all different kinds of developers, cities, counties, advocacy groups and other municipalities. Everyone has different wants, needs and priorities and learning how to balance those to create the perfect mix of mitigations/solutions has been challenging, but it also keeps things interesting!

6. **What do you like to do for fun in Austin?**
   In my free time I enjoy being outside and hitting up Zilker Park or Onion Creek Greenbelt with my blue heeler mix puppy, Rijker! I also enjoy listening to country music/attending local concerts. Although it’s not Austin, Gruene Dance Hall is one of my favorite places to hangout and listen to music!
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*Eva Magazine, 2019
**In engineering & construction by Fortune Magazine, 2019

Jacobs Austin is a strong supporter of YPT with a Platinum Level Corporate Sponsorship at the local level and a long history of active participation in YPT Austin. While numerous employees are members of YPT, several of Jacobs members have served and still serve in a leadership role. Wylder Conoly is currently serving as the Vice Chair for Programs and Administration for the Austin Chapter and Emily Weigand is currently serving as the Director of Chapter Development on the International Board and previously served as the Vice Chair for Programs and Administration for the Austin Chapter.
A big thank you to our newest YPT-Austin sponsor, WGI! WGI is a national design and professional services firm with an office in East Austin.