

1 November 2008

# The OTC Radar

News from the Ontario Traffic Conference

## Upcoming Events

Future Committee meeting dates (open to all OTC members—Please RSVP in advance):

Legislation & Enforcement: TBA

Parking: November 17, Precise Parklink office

Traffic Engineering: November 14, MMM offices, Markham

Transportation Planning: November 21, Region of Halton offices, Oakville

## Get in touch with the OTC Radar

Marco D'Angelo  
Executive Director  
Ontario Traffic Conference

Email: [marco@otc.org](mailto:marco@otc.org)

Phone: (647) 346-4050

Fax: (647) 346-4060

Please email to receive future issues of Radar. Don't forget to add colleagues and others who are interested in OTC activities.

## Urban Streetscaping Workshop

Urban Streetscaping can have a significant effect on how people perceive and interact with their community. If street-scapes are safe and inviting to pedestrians, people are more likely to walk and attract visitors to a community.

The OTC and ITE Toronto are offering a full-day workshop on November 20 on Urban Streetscaping which will cover topics ranging from Street Furniture to Urban Design to Improving Main Streets.

Where: Holiday Inn Yorkdale, 3450 Dufferin Street, Toronto (TTC & GO Bus - Yorkdale)

Price: OTC or ITE Members: \$165 / Non-Members: \$195

Get the program and register here: <http://www.otc.org/workshops.cfm?eventid=36>

## Book 7 Training in your town

The OTC will be offering a full-day training session on Book 7 on November 10 in Windsor and on November 28 in Oakville.

More information: [http://www.otc.org/training\\_book7.cfm](http://www.otc.org/training_book7.cfm)

Book 7 Training will be available across the province in 2009.

If your municipality would like to host a session, please contact [marco@otc.org](mailto:marco@otc.org).

## Legislation Banning Cell Phone Use in Cars Proposed in Ontario

Last week, Ontario's Minister of Transportation introduced legislation which would ban on the use of hand-held devices to talk, text or e-mail while driving.

If passed, the legislation would make it illegal for motorists to use hand-held wireless communication devices or any hand-held electronic entertainment devices while driving. This legislation would also prohibit drivers from using portable video games or viewing DVD players while driving.

Under the proposed legislation, drivers who text, type, email, dial, or chat using a prohibited hand-held device could face fines of up to \$500. Emergency calls, such as 911, would not be affected.

Transport Canada estimates that driver distraction is a contributing factor in about 20 per cent of all collisions. Drivers who use cell phones are four times more likely to be in a crash than a driver who is focused on the road.

The proposed legislation would bring Ontario in line with similar laws in Quebec, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland

and Labrador, several U.S. states and about 50 countries worldwide.

[http://ogov.newswire.ca/ontario/GPOE/2008/10/28/c2333.html?lmatch=&lang=\\_e.html](http://ogov.newswire.ca/ontario/GPOE/2008/10/28/c2333.html?lmatch=&lang=_e.html)



## Trans. Impact Study Workshop

The OTC is offering a full-day of intensive hands-on Transportation Impact Study training, led by expert instructors. The workshop will take place on November 26 at the Holiday Inn Burlington Conference Centre.

This workshop will help to identify the additional traffic contribution of a particular site development and provide a basis for estimating roadway improvements attributed to a proposed development to maintain a satisfactory level of service, while ensuring that the recommendations are compatible with the local jurisdiction's road policy.

More info: <http://www.otc.org/workshops.cfm?eventid=35>

## Advertise with OT Magazine!

Ontario Traffic Magazine is a cost-effective way to communicate with over 1500 transportation professionals from across the province.

The OTC is pleased to offer the opportunity to advertise in the Dec issue of OT Magazine which will be distributed to the OTC membership as well as our broader list of contacts at municipalities and organizations throughout Ontario.

Our e-magazine is permanently available on the OTC website (which registered 9100 visits last month) and is the most affordable advertising available in the traffic industry. Call Marco D'Angelo at 647-346-4050 to reserve space today.