

Hardik Shah, PE, PTOE - Statement of Interest for TPCB Discipline Director

Throughout my career, I have been passionate about advancing the transportation profession, through the projects I deliver, by mentoring professionals, building high-performing teams, and promoting technical excellence across our industry. Serving as a Discipline Director on the TPCB would provide an opportunity to give back to a profession that has significantly shaped my career while helping ensure that TPCB certifications continue to represent the highest standards of competence, professionalism, and ethical practice. Over the past two decades, I have had the privilege of working on a diverse range of transportation projects across multiple states, leading multidisciplinary teams in traffic engineering, transportation planning, safety, and traffic operations. My experience spans both technical and organizational leadership, giving me a broad perspective on the needs of our profession and the competencies required for today's transportation professionals.

I would bring a balanced combination of technical expertise, strategic leadership, and a collaborative approach to board service as I did in my various leadership roles with ITE in over the years. I understand the value that professional certification provides as a recognition of technical competency, as well as a commitment to lifelong learning and professional ethics. I believe TPCB plays a critical role in maintaining public confidence in our profession by establishing certification standards that evolve alongside changing transportation priorities and the increasing complexity of our industry. The Board's role in governing these certifications and representing certificate holders across the transportation disciplines is an important responsibility that I would be honored to help fulfill.

I would focus on several priorities. First, I would work to strengthen awareness and recognition of TPCB certifications among employers, public agencies, and the broader transportation community. Second, I would advocate for maintaining rigorous certification standards while ensuring that certification programs remain relevant to the evolving transportation landscape. Third, I would support initiatives that encourage younger professionals to pursue certification early in their careers by highlighting the value of professional development, mentoring, and continued education. Finally, I would work to improve certification renewal rates, encourage more ITE members to pursue TPCB certifications, and represent certificate holders with integrity, transparency, and work collaboratively with fellow Board members to advance TPCB's mission.

I have always believed that leadership is about service. Throughout my career, I have been fortunate to benefit from the mentorship and guidance of many outstanding professionals and ITE members, and I view this opportunity as a chance to give back by helping shape the future of transportation certification. I am committed to bringing energy, professionalism, sound judgment, and a forward-looking perspective to the TPCB Board, and I would be honored to serve on the board as a Discipline Director.