KIRK T. STEUDLE IS THE 2015 W.N. CAREY, JR., DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

In recognition of his outstanding service to TRB and transportation research, Kirk T. Steudle is the 2015 recipient of the W. N. Carey, Jr., Distinguished Service Award. Steudle is Director of the Michigan Department of Transportation and Immediate Past Chair of the TRB Executive Committee. The Carey Award—named in honor of W. N. Carey, Jr., the Board’s Executive Director from 1967 to 1980—recognizes individuals who have given leadership and distinguished service to TRB.

In addition to chairing the Executive Committee during a pivotal year, Steudle has served as chair or vice chair of six other TRB committees, panels, and task forces, including the Oversight Committee for the second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2), the Committee on SHRP 2 Implementation, and the Transformative Technologies Task Force. He is an active member of the Subcommittee for National Research Council Oversight; the Task Force on Mastering the Management of Transportation Research and Training Program; the Oversight Committee for Use and Oversight of SHRP 2 Safety Data, Phase I; and the TRB Executive Committee.

During his tenure as Executive Committee Chair, Steudle helped oversee the development and adoption of a new strategic plan, enhanced coordination of TRB’s efforts promoting research into connected and automated vehicles, oversaw the move of the TRB Annual Meeting from the Marriott
Wardman Park and other Connecticut Avenue hotels to the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, and participated in the selection of Neil J. Pedersen as the successor to longtime TRB Executive Director Robert E. Skinner, Jr.

As chair of oversight and implementation activities related to SHRP 2, Steudle oversaw advances in the state of knowledge and practice in the areas of safety, capacity, renewal, and reliability. During his watch, SHRP 2 successfully conducted the Naturalistic Driving Study, the largest collection of data on driving behavior ever attempted. Steudle has helped foster the development of Kirk T. Steudle knowledge transfer processes to prepare TRB’s partners at the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials and at the U.S. Federal Highway Administration for the delivery and implementation of SHRP 2 products.

A National Associate of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Steudle received a Bachelor of Science degree in construction engineering from Lawrence Technological University and serves on the Advisory Board of the university’s College of Engineering.

Approximately 13,000 policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions are expected to attend the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 95th Annual Meeting, in Washington, D.C., January 10-14, 2016. The meeting, held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, includes more than 5,000 presentations in more than 800 sessions and workshops covering all aspects of transportation.

The mission of the Transportation Research Board is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal. TRB facilitates the sharing of information on transportation practice and policy by researchers and practitioners; stimulates research and offers research management services that promote technical excellence; provides expert advice on transportation policy and programs; and disseminates research results broadly and encourages their implementation. A major focal point of TRB’s activities, the Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for transportation professionals from all over the world to exchange information of common interest.

Organized in 1920, TRB is part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, which provides independent, objective analysis and advice to the nation and conducts other activities to solve complex problems and inform public policy decisions. The Academies also encourage education and research, recognize outstanding contributions to knowledge, and increase public understanding in matters of science, engineering, and medicine.

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