## **PHOENIX LIGHT RAIL COLLISION STUDY AND RESULTS**

Thursday, February 14, 2019 12:00 - 1:15 PM (US Arizona) College Avenue Commons (CAVC) Room 559 (Parking)



## Mr. Paul Basha, PE, PTOE Transportation Director City of Scottsdale, Arizona

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## About the Talk

Light Rail operation in metropolitan Phoenix began in December 2008. In the first eight months of operation, in the City of Phoenix, there was a light-rail-vehicle-personal-vehicle collision every 9 days. The City of Phoenix was concerned about this apparently high collision experience. They hired a traffic engineering consultant to thoroughly analyze the collision experience to determine if this was an unreasonably high collision experience. If this was an unusually high collision experience, then they would direct the traffic engineering consultant to recommend modifications to reduce the collision frequency. The City of Phoenix selected Paul Basha (who was employed with Morrison-Maierle at the time) for this extensive collision analysis due to his vast experience and expertise. Paul, assisted by five other Morrison-Maierle employees, accomplished the analysis. Incidentally, two of the five people had previously been students of Paul in the ASU course, CEE372: Introduction to Transportation Engineering. The team performed a preliminary review of 31 other rail systems in the United States, and an examination of collision experience at four other rail systems in the United States. Also included in the report were nine system-wide recommendations, specific recommendations at 21 intersections, and recommendations for no changes at 4 intersections. A high majority of the recommendations were implemented by the City of Phoenix, resulting in an 80% reduction in the most common collision type and a 35% reduction in all light-rail-vehicle-personal-vehicle collisions. The presentation will explain the analyses and many of the recommendations.

## About the Speaker

Paul E. Basha, PE, PTOE is the Transportation Director for the City of Scottsdale. He is also a Faculty Associate at Arizona State University. His bachelor's degree is from Michigan Technological University and his master's degree is from Michigan State University. He completed his coursework for a doctorate at Arizona State University. Paul has conducted three webinars for the Institute of Transportation Engineers. He has published five articles in the ITE Journal, and provided 25 presentations to professional organizations with 4 more presentations scheduled for Spring 2019. Two of his presentations were at meetings of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and two were at district meetings of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. He has received six awards from professional organizations. Paul served on the review committees for the Third Edition of the Trip Generation Handbook, the Tenth Edition of the Trip Generation Manual, and the Fifth Edition of the Parking Generation Manual. He is a member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and the Women in Transportation Seminar.

This seminar is webcast live to a worldwide audience by ASU Engineering – Global Outreach and Extended Education (GOEE). To access the live webcast and archive of previous seminar recordings, please visit: <u>http://links.asu.edu/ASU-Transportation-Seminar</u>

Light refreshments will be served. Event is open to the public.



