

OCTOBER 2021

PHOTO BY: ANDREW COOP ON UNSPLASH

# *The Mile High Newsletter*

## International Right of Way Association

# CHAPTER SIX

DENVER, COLORADO

**Chapter President**

Tom Clark  
City of Aurora

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LW Survey

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Northern Water

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TRS

**Newsletter Editor**

Darrell W Burkhardt, SR/WA  
USROW Co.

[For more information  
click here for our  
Chapter Six Website](#)

## October Meeting Speaker

**Pete Gomez – Xcel Energy**  
**Advanced Grid & Renewables Overview**

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# OCTOBER CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday, October 12th

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Noonan's Event Center in Aurora

13521 E Iliff Ave, Aurora, CO 80014

[Click here to in-person RSVP](#)

[Click here for Simulcast Teams Meeting Log in](#)

Chapter Board Meeting begins at 5:00 pm  
Happy hour at the bar - begins 5:30 or as soon u get there!

## 2021 - 2022 COMMITTEES

### Events

Richard B. Pittenridge, SR/WA  
TRS Corp  
720.689.6080

### Professional Development

Jon Vaughan, SR/WA  
CBRE

Jim Struble, SR/WA  
Northern Colorado Water

The Kevin Shea, SR/WA  
Western Area Power

### Membership

Amber Mendoza, RWA  
United Power

### Environment

Darrel Vanhooser, SR/WA  
Vanhooser Consulting, LLC

### Public Relations

Doug Nitzkorski, SR/WA  
Associated Value Consultants

### Relocation

Tawana Kelly SR/WA, R/W-RAC  
Right of Way Program Manager  
FHWA-NV Division

### Transportation

Jeff M Hanna, SR/WA  
ATKINS

### Communications

Darrell W Burkhardt, SR/WA  
U.S. ROW Company

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear IRWA Chapter 6 Members,

Happy Fall! I don't know about all of you but I find this time of year in Colorado to be the absolute best. I hope you're all getting a chance to get out in the beautiful weather and enjoy the trees turning and the leaves falling. Hopefully you joined us in Glenwood Springs for the Region 9 Fall Forum and had a chance to take in the fall season in all its glory in Glenwood Canyon.

We had a great first in-person meeting in September. The Board and many members gathered at Noonan's Event Center in Aurora and enjoyed hearing from Susan Fraser of TXDOT. Susan shared her experiences with the Mobility35 Project.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at Noonan's Event Center. Board meeting at 5:00pm followed by Dinner at 6:00. If you are able to make it in person, we look forward to seeing you! If not, we hope you will join us virtually via a Teams meeting link.

Looking forward to a great year ahead.

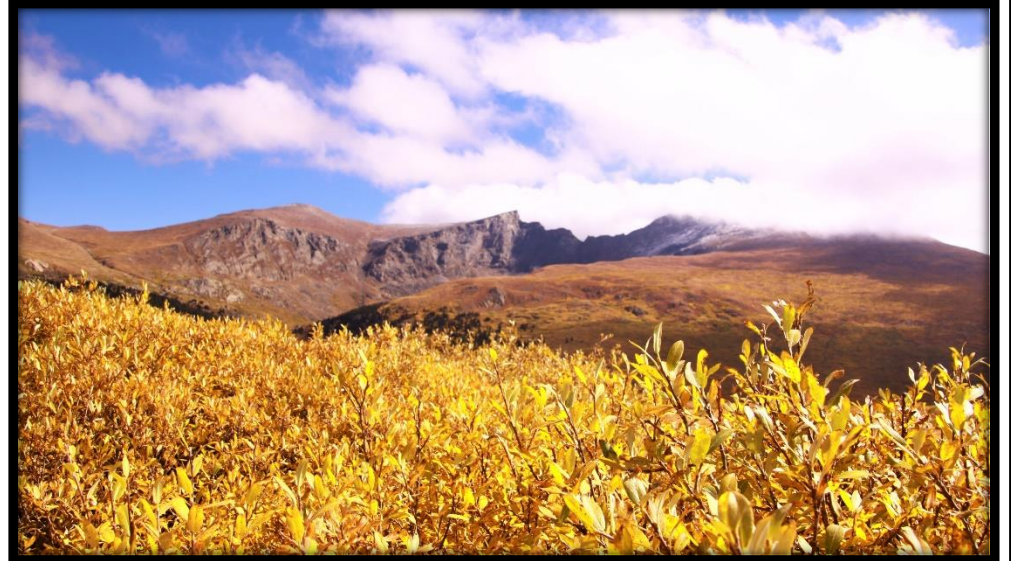
Thank you,  
**Tom Clark**  
IRWA Chapter 6 President



### Chapter Six President

**Tom Clark**

City of Aurora



**RIGHT OF WAY** MAGAZINE  
The Voice of the Right of Way Profession

[Click Here for the latest copy of the ROW Magazine](#)



# EDUCATION

BY: **Kirsten Muncy SR/WA, RW-NAC**  
Chapter Six Education Chair

[Chapter Six, Denver, Co](#)

[March 1,2,3,4, 2022](#)

[Course 421 - The Valuation of Partial Acquisitions](#)

Instructor: Jon Vaughan, MAI, SR/WA

Coordinator: Richard B. Pittenridge

[See all IRWA Classes](#)

## Need a Job?

### [Right-of-Way Specialist](#)

Responsible for acquisition of land rights, permits, leases and/or other interests for government agencies and utility companies in the transportation sectors with a focus on Department of Transportation.



### [Western Area Power](#)

#### [CHIEF APPRAISER GS-1171-13](#)

Western Area Power Administration is seeking candidates to fill a full-time permanent position of Chief Appraiser. The position will be hired at the GS-13 level, with a duty station in Lakewood, Colorado.



## Want to get away?

Albuquerque New Mexico

**November 3-4, 2021**

Course 900: [Principles of Real Estate Engineering](#)

**Course Instructor:** Tim Solinski, P.S.

**Course Coordinator:** [Marisa Trujillo](#)

Fly: Southwest 3 non-stops daily 1hr 16 minutes

Drive: 7 Hours – all I-25

Walk: 17.5 days – gorgeous hike!

## New Chapter Six Members



Eli Lyons

Rob Gerck

David Dittmer

Courtney Wallace

Eric Voss

## Welcome

Amber Mendoza, RWA

Membership Chair

Chapter Six is grateful to welcome Amber Mendoza to Membership Chair. Amber has been a member of Chapter Six since 2019 and is a right of way agent for United Power.

Thank you for being involved!



## Share a good story!

Email it to the Newsletter Editor

Darrell W Burkhardt, SR/WA

[darrell.burkhardt@usrightofway.com](mailto:darrell.burkhardt@usrightofway.com)



# IN THE NEWS

## Virginia Messick Retires

Virginia served as Chapter Six Membership Chair for the past 17 years. She served as a board member, worked each year on the holiday party and never missed a Chapter meeting. She achieved her SR/WA designation in 2004 and has served this Chapter with dedication.

**We will miss you!!**



**COME HERE YOU BIG,  
BEAUTIFUL CUP OF COFFEE  
AND LIE TO ME ABOUT  
HOW MUCH WE'RE GOING  
TO GET DONE TODAY.**

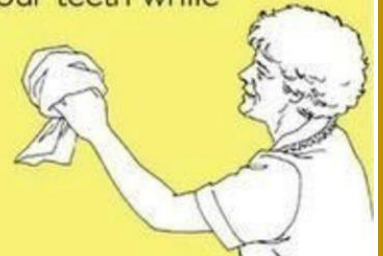
1. Open fridge. Nothing to eat.
2. Open pantry. Nothing to eat.
3. Lower standards and repeat.

## Long-term solutions for keeping I-70 safe will be costly

The safety of travelers through Glenwood Canyon on Interstate 70 will require innovative solutions to deal with the power of water and gravity for the foreseeable future. When the highway was built, sections were elevated on pylons to pass water, as well as to provide animals with access to the river underneath the roadway. But not at Blue Gulch, where the worst of the damage from the July 31 and Aug. 1 torrential rainstorms that caused mud and rocks, some the size of small cars, to come cascading down the gulch from 1,800 feet above.

[READ MORE](#)

Cleaning with kids in the house is like brushing your teeth while eating Oreos.



## October Meeting Speaker

**Pete Gomez – Xcel Energy**

**Advanced Grid & Renewables Overview**

[October 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm](#)



### Biography

Pete is currently in his 36<sup>th</sup> year with Xcel Energy and is recognized internationally as a subject matter expert in data system implementation and the development of automated applications. His knowledge and expertise in the areas of gas and electric distribution system operations as well as information technology system design and application development have made him a much sought after resource in the global information technology community.

Most recently, he was a contributing author to a book entitled *Successful Response Starts with a Map—Improving Geospatial Support for Disaster Management* sponsored by the National Research Council of the United States' National Academies of Science.

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