



## Hi, I Have A Question ...

The Ohio LTAP Center is glad to provide technical assistance and answer questions whenever it is feasible to do so. Listed below are responses to some of the Frequently Asked Questions local agencies have submitted to our office during the past few months.

### **“Is funding available to help with traffic sign upgrades?”**

This has been a popular question in light of the new national requirements for maintaining traffic sign retroreflectivity at or above specified minimum levels for nighttime visibility. At this time, the main source of possible funding we are aware of is the CEAO/CSTP Sign Upgrade Program. This annual program is specifically for county (and some township) roads, and the funding applications must be submitted by Ohio County Engineers. <http://www.ceao.org/CSTPpage/CSTPLBRinfo.htm>

LTAP learned last year that some of the 19 Ohio Public Works Commission districts administer funding for local projects. However, it was unclear whether or not these funds could be used for sign upgrades. It might depend on the specific type of funding program and the eligibility requirements per each OPWC district. <http://www.pwc.state.oh.us/>

### **“Is LTAP planning to offer the Traffic Sign Retroreflectivity Inspection (TSRI) course again?”**

Yes. Between August and December of 2011, Ohio LTAP conducted 14 sessions of the TSRI course at locations throughout the state. We are planning to offer additional sessions later in 2012.

### **“Which LTAP workshops qualify for CPD credit for engineers?”**

Registered professional engineers in Ohio must complete at least 30 hours of continuing education during each two-year license period. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours for engineers shall be relevant to the practice of engineering and must include technical, ethical or managerial material. The State of Ohio Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors administers the licensing and renewal requirements.

Licensed engineers occasionally contact Ohio LTAP to ask if a particular workshop or course “qualifies” for CPD credit. The answer to this question is that **the responsibility rests with each engineer** to make sure the courses they take meet the requirements specified in Ohio Revised Code Section 4733.151. The registration Board does not pre-approve CPD courses or CPD providers, but does provide guidance regarding the types of training that would qualify.

Presumably, Ohio LTAP workshops/courses that meet the engineering CPD requirements described by the Board should be deemed acceptable by the Board in the event of a future audit of the engineer’s CPD documentation. Engineers are encouraged to review the requirements online at: <http://www.peps.ohio.gov/ContinuingEducation.aspx>

### **“Is LTAP planning to offer equipment-related courses in 2012?”**

Yes – provided that we still have access to the excellent ODOT equipment trainers who teach these courses. Assuming no major changes occur within the next few weeks regarding staff availability, Ohio LTAP is planning to distribute equipment course announcements by the end of January. Although we will not be able to offer most of the previously available 4-day courses (such as Backhoe, Grader and Trackhoe), the 1- and 2-day equipment courses should be available starting in late April.

The best way to find out about our training opportunities right away is to subscribe to our free LTAP ‘ListServ’ email distribution list. For details, please check out the Subscribe feature on the Ohio LTAP website.