

**INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS**  
**PUERTO RICO SECTION CHARTER**

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**ARTICLE I – PREAMBLE**

Section 1.1

As authorized by the Constitution of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the Institute, District 10, hereinafter referred to as the District, as recorded in the minutes of the District Board meeting on January 21, 2005, and as approved by the Board of Direction of the Institute as recorded in the minutes of its meeting on February 26, 2005, grants this Charter for the Puerto Rico Section of the Institute, hereinafter referred to as the Section.

Section 1.2

This Charter shall be effective immediately upon Institute approval and shall remain in effect, including any amendments, until rescinded by the District.

Section 1.3

On the date it becomes effective, this Charter shall supersede any previous Charter or constitution of a Section enrolling members from the designated area and shall annul any By-Laws of such a Section that may be in conflict with it.

**ARTICLE II – AREA AND PURPOSE**

Section 2.1

The area designated as that of this Section shall be the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or as the area shall be established from time to time as an outcome of amendments to the area designated as the District by the Board of Direction of the Institute.

Section 2.2

The purpose of this Section shall be to:

1. Advance the objectives of the Institute.
2. Foster a closer association of Institute members.
3. Encourage members to prepare or discuss papers.
4. Prepare suggestions on matters of policy to the Board of Direction of the Institute.
5. Consider local transportation engineering problems.

6. Cooperate with other local engineering groups on matters of common interest.
7. Present the transportation engineering point of view consistent with established Institute policies.
8. Encourage the introduction of transportation engineering courses in colleges, universities, and technical schools in the Section.

### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

#### Section 3.1

Any Institute member who resides within the area designated for the Section, and who is in good standing with the District, is a member of the Section.

#### Section 3.2

Any Institute member may become a member of the Section, without residing in the Section area, upon approval of the Puerto Rico Section Board of Direction (Section Board) and upon payment of Section fees and dues.

#### Section 3.3

The Section may adopt one or more types of Section Affiliation for persons who are:

1. Not eligible to be voting members of the Institute, but who are accumulating experience toward Institute membership.
2. In sub-professional work in the transportation engineering profession.
3. Students in a recognized transportation engineering school or related program.
4. Professionally engaged in related fields.
5. In a position to work with and assist transportation professionals by virtue of official positions or commercial employment.

#### Section 3.4

All persons who are affiliated with the Section as provided in Section 3.3 and who are not members of the Institute shall be clearly identified as "Section Affiliates" and not as members of the Section.

#### Section 3.5

The Section By-Laws shall establish the manner in which persons may apply for or be invited into Section membership or affiliation as well as

the manner in which such membership or affiliation may be terminated. However, no restrictions on Section membership shall be placed on any voting member of the Institute other than those stated in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 as long as they are in good standing with the Institute.

#### Section 3.6

Members of the Section shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Section as specified in the Section By-Laws. Institute Affiliate Members, Student Members of the Institute or Section Affiliates shall be entitled to all privileges of the Section, except that they may not vote and/or hold elective office in the Section unless otherwise specifically stated in the Section By-Laws.

### **ARTICLE IV – GOVERNMENT**

#### Section 4.1

The government of the Section shall be vested in its elected officers and directors, who shall constitute the Section Board. The Section By-Laws shall specify the elective officers, as the Section desires, provided that the Elected Officers shall include a President, at least one Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer or a Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be voting members of the Institute.

#### Section 4.2

The Section Board shall manage the affairs of the Section in conformity with the provisions of this Charter, the By-Laws of the Section, the policies of the District and the policies of the Institute.

#### Section 4.3

The Section shall adopt By-Laws setting forth the structure of the Section Board and providing the manner of nominating, electing or appointing elected officers and directors of the Section and shall specify their terms of office.

#### Section 4.4

The Section shall adopt by-laws to govern appointment of committees, number and times of meetings, assessment of dues, method of amending By-Laws and such other matters as the Section may desire provided such By-Laws do not conflict with this Charter, the Constitution of the Institute, policies of the Institute, its Section Board or the District Charter and/or By-Laws.

#### Section 4.5

The By-laws of the Section may be adopted and amended after adoption, only if the proposition has been transmitted to all Section members who are qualified to vote at least thirty (30) days in advance of the date on which action is proposed. Adoption and amendment shall require a majority of those voting. Section By-Laws shall be filed with the District and the Institute within thirty days after adoption or amendment and shall take effect upon being approved and filed with the District Board.

#### Section 4.6

The Section Board may charter subsections (chapters) to meet specific needs within its boundaries upon written request of at least five voting Section members residing in the proposed Subsection area. Subsections shall adopt By-Laws that are not inconsistent with Section By-Laws and the Section Charter or the Subsection Charter. Subsection By-Laws shall be filed with the Section Board, District and the Institute within thirty days of adoption or amendment and shall take effect upon being filed with the Section Board. The Section Board may rescind a Subsection Charter by giving thirty days notice in writing to the Subsection.

#### Section 4.7

At any time the District Board may annul any part of the Section By-Laws, which it considers to be contrary to the Section Charter, the District Charter, the Constitution of the Institute or the best interests of the District and/or the Institute, by giving notice in writing to the Section Board and the Institute.

### **ARTICLE V – RELATION OF SECTION TO DISTRICT AND INSTITUTE**

#### Section 5.1

The Section shall not speak for the District or the Institute unless authorized in the particular matter in question by the District or the Board of Direction of the Institute, respectively.

#### Section 5.2

The Section shall not identify itself with national groups or organizations but may identify itself with local or area wide groups or organizations.

### Section 5.3

The names and addresses of all Elected Officers and Directors of the Section and the dates on which the terms of each begins and expires shall be reported in writing by the Section Board to the District Board, the District Administrator and to the Institute within thirty days after election or appointment.

### Section 5.4

The District and the Institute will not be responsible for debts contracted by the Section nor will it give financial assistance to the Section. The Section will not be required to pay any dues or fees to the Institute or District.

### Section 5.5

The District Board may require the Section Board to submit a written annual report on the Section's activities for the previous year. If required, the annual report shall be submitted to the District Board by no later than January 15.

## **ARTICLE VI – AMENDMENT OF CHARTER**

### Section 6.1

The District Board may amend or rescind this Charter. The District Board will notify the Section Board in writing of any proposed amendment to, or rescission of the Charter so that the Section Board may have an opportunity for a hearing before the District Board concerning the proposed amendment or rescission. An amendment, with or without change, shall be submitted by the District Board to the Board of Direction of the Institute for approval. Rescission of the approved amendment shall become effective on the date determined by the District Board.

### Section 6.2

The Section Board may petition the District Board to amend this Charter. The District Board shall meet and act on the petition within six months of its receipt. If the petition is approved, the District Board shall then petition the Board of Direction of the Institute for approval of the proposed amendment. The Board of Direction of the Institute shall act on this petition in the same manner as provided for in amending the District Charter. Amendments to the Section Charter initiated by petition from the Section Board shall become effective upon approval by the Board of Direction of the Institute.

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