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## **ITS AMERICA APPOINTS SHAILEN BHATT AS NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO Bhatt adds deep experience as DOT Executive Director and Technology Innovation Leader**

(Washington, DC) – The Board of Directors of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America, the nation’s leading association dedicated to the development and deployment of intelligent transportation technologies, has named Shailen Bhatt as President & Chief Executive Officer. Bhatt joins ITS America with an extensive background in promoting and advocating for intelligent transportation, most recently as the Executive Director of Colorado Department of Transportation.

“Shailen Bhatt is uniquely positioned to drive the mission of ITS America forward as intelligent transportation and connected and autonomous vehicles are poised to dramatically alter the transportation landscape by increasing safety, equity, sustainability and economic opportunity in states and cities across the nation,” said ITS America Board Chairman Chris Murray, CEO of Kapsch TraffiCom North America. “The Board of Directors is pleased to welcome Shailen to ITS America.”

Bhatt also focused on deploying transportation technology, creating the RoadX program and making Colorado a national innovation leader. By teaming with the private sector to shape our transportation future, he launched such efforts as:

- Being selected as one of 10 global finalists and moving forward with a first-of-its-kind feasibility study to build Hyperloop, a new rapid speed travel infrastructure;
- Partnering with OTTO/Uber Trucking to complete the world’s first commercial delivery by a self-driving truck;
- Deploying the world’s first Autonomous Impact Protection Vehicle to protect work zones from distracted drivers;
- Partnering with Panasonic to build the world’s first commercial grade, licensable, Connected Vehicle Ecosystem (CV Ecosystem) and also with HERE to enable vehicle to everything communications.

Bhatt brings a rich portfolio of management and public policy expertise to ITS America through his prior service as cabinet secretary of Delaware DOT and as an Associate Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration. Bhatt has also played a leadership role on the national stage for transportation policy through his board service on the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Chair of the National Operations Center of Excellence (NOCoE), and Chair of the Vehicle to Infrastructure Deployment Coalition (V2IDC). Bhatt holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Western Kentucky University.

“Technology is transforming transportation at a breathtaking pace. Our vision for ITS America is to be the foremost thought leading organization for the 21<sup>st</sup> century around intelligent transportation,” said Bhatt.



Bhatt was selected after an intensive nationwide search, succeeding David St. Amant, who has served as interim President and CEO since August 1, 2017.

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#### **About ITS America**

ITS America is the nation's leading advocate for the technological modernization of our transportation system by focusing on advancing research and deployment of intelligent transportation systems. Its unique membership brings together all key stakeholders in the intelligent transportation movement—including established and emerging private companies, public agencies and state DOT officials as well as leaders in the academic and research communities.

For more information, please visit <http://itsamerica.org/>