



Looking Ahead

Key initiatives moving forward



BY JAKE FARRELL, SR/WA

What a great conference. It was so good to be back in person while and keeping our international and remote friends close with the virtual component. Thank you to our volunteers, members and staff for making the conference a success. I will forever remember San Antonio! Let us use the momentum we feel from the conference to grow IRWA. I have challenged the Association to double its membership within three years. This goal should be achievable if we all work together.

This year is going to be a year focused on alignment and growth. I want to concentrate our individual efforts toward a few common goals for the Association. The International Executive Committee (IEC) had its annual in-person workshop in August, and the International Governing Council (IGC) has its annual in-person meeting in September to discuss and align on strategic planning. We need to move the Association, as one, on some common directives. Accountability to our volunteer leaders and staff on these goals is paramount to the long-term sustainability of the IRWA.

In addition, our website is getting some much-needed updates. We are modernizing the website's content to reflect "who we are." Videos from members of the IEC around

specific topics related to the IRWA and the right of way industry will be uploaded regularly. The IGC will be recording a short video from each region regarding what IRWA means to them. This video will be posted later in the year.

To have consistent governance at IRWA, the IEC is working on Board Linkage and Governance Processes. This written document will help guide the roles and responsibilities of all our volunteer leaders and senior staff. This will lay out the authorities and the delegated powers from the IEC to the executive director. It will be the guiding document for how the IRWA Board of Directors, IGC and IEC govern themselves.

As stated in my speech to the Board of Directors, all of us need to pursue the best versions of ourselves. When we are all at our highest potential, individually and collectively, we are better. Together, we will leave this Association better for us and all of those who follow us.

Thank you again for being a part of IRWA. Please reach out if you have any questions or thoughts. Looking forward to an amazing year! 🌟