# TRB Committee on Transportation and Sustainability (ADD40) Committee Meeting Agenda Monday, January 13, 2014, 8am-noon (Eastern) Hilton Hotel, Monroe Room, Washington, DC

- 1. Welcome from Joe Zietsman, with introductions from all. Announcements by Joe included the following:
  - The Strategic Plan presents the committee as an overarching committee, with four aspects: 1) advance understanding of sustainability, 2) develop research agenda, 3) communicate what we are doing and pursuing, and 4) be the go-to committee for sustainability and transportation. Focus is the triple bottom line.
  - Activities include a planned international conference in May 2015 and six subcommittees, per reports below, including the research subcommittee. During this conference, the committee held a dinner last night and a work shop on Sunday on "Reconciling Transportation and Air Quality Planning to Promote Sustainable Development". Joe described the upcoming sessions and subcommittee meetings, which include two podium sessions, one poster session, and subcommittee meetings on sustainable transportation indicators, health and transportation, planning for the international sustainability conference, research, and joint climate change.
  - Henrik Gudmundsson talked about the committee's effort for to bring Dr. Maria Josefina Figueroa to TRB, but visa problems prevented it happening. The international conference will present perhaps a better opportunity to bring her to speak.
  - Damon described summer meeting at Asilomar, with discussions on paper review, strategic plan, resiliency, and coordination with other committees. He asks for those with ideas to put their hand up and jump in. Ralph will attend a resiliency meeting (ABE40-2) at 12:15 tomorrow before the research subcommittee. Damon said that resiliency seems to be spread around in TRB, so it presents a good opportunity to connect activities across TRB. Joe said that TRB was debating where there should be another subcommittee/committee on resiliency or whether the existing ones should carry this. He thinks that we could play a role through the sustainability perspective on this. Ideas on this should go to Ralph Hall. AASHTO has a committee STEICS (Sustainable Transportation: Energy, Infrastructure, and Climate Solutions Steering Committee) on sustainability that could connect to the DOTS that this committee needs to coordinate.
- 2. TRB updates (Martine Micozzi) Martine gave awards to Joe and Damon, Ralph Hall, John MacArthur, Donna Day, Tien-Tien Chan, Nidhi Kalra, and April Marchese for their special service. Corridors to the Future—Transportation and Technology is the theme for the next year. The new venue of the convention center will be in place next year. She gave a presentation on the history of the TRB conference venues going from one hotel (Shoreham) to three. The new venue will allow most meetings under one roof at the convention center, which connects to the Marriott-Renaissance (750 rooms) through a tunnel. Committee meetings will likely be in the hotel. Joe presented a card of appreciation to Martine for her service to the committee and TRB.

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Leigh Lane and Mark Kross gave an overview of the section and group, listing the other committees in it. Leigh said she submitted the Blue Ribbon nomination on research development. She would like a list of committee achievements and where it is going in the future. She talked about the TAC meeting yesterday, which included discussion on critical issues in transportation. Other news: up to two state DOT members can be added as additional members. Some funding might come from private sources. This was a record year on papers—5,200 compared with 4,800 last year. Attendance is about the same, 11,700.

Mark announced a self-service app for committee and subcommittee chairs, which will allow better communication with members and friends within each committee. The roll out begins February 14. There is a discussion feature that should help reach out to committee members and friends.

- 3. Committee and Subcommittee business
  - a. Communications The Google groups platform allows members and friends to self-manage their contact information. We also have a LinkedIn group but it is not well used. The website itself would benefit from additional information. Ralph Hall suggests a monthly email to request material. Contact Nidhi Kalra with ideas. One suggestion was that the website could be the locus for the dialogue on sustainability. Content from other committees would help. Ralph talked about the model of the pedestrian committee, which has an organizational element tied to its research. Damon urged caution in taking on too much in terms of a commitment to produce a monthly newsletter or similar.
  - b. Paper Review (John McArthur) –24 papers were received, 14 papers accepted for presentation, and three are being considered for publication, with final reviews being finished. There were a total of 75 reviews by 24 reviewers. John says that calls for papers are necessary to direct papers to us. He would like us to build the number of incoming papers as well as friends to help review them. The committee gets such a wide range of papers that a range of disciplines is needed. He will update the reviewer matrix this summer. Damon suggested that reviewing papers is a good way for friends to get involved in the committee.
  - c. Session planning John MacArthur gave an overview of the planning this year that led to three sessions. He listed the two podium and on poster sessions.
  - d. Sustainable Transportation Indicators Todd Litman gave a report, noting that sustainability addresses a much longer time frame that most transportation planning contemplates. Part of the bias is towards resource intensive projects instead of resource efficient projects. He talked about the three data sessions last year. Todd developed a summary of the presentations that is on our web site. Another activity is developing a university level course on sustainable transportation, but it has stalled. He is looking for three volunteers to continue the work. He is meeting with a task force on performance measures that is more traditional and focused on the US rather than the wider range of indicators and international perspectives that he is negotiating for. Todd said that the SLoCaT is the only international organization trying to coordinate sustainability measures and definitions, but the US is not part of this.
  - e. International Subcommittee April Marchese said that this committee started over the last year and has about eight members. Activities include: 1) information exchange on sustainability, 2) research agenda that is focused on the intersection of international issues and research, and 3) communication. Enhancing the subcommittee's visibility on the website

is on their agenda as well, with ideas on best practices at the international scale. The conference in 2015 will be an important effort by the subcommittee.

f. Research Subcommittee Update and Social Network Analysis – Ralph Hall gave a short presentation on the "back to basics" approach to creating research needs statements (RNS). Of the 1,000 RNS, 200 of them had some mention of the sustainability, which led to an identification of the committees that have sustainability interest. He applied social network analysis to identify the links to other committees. He said that links to state DOTs are extremely important to have sponsors for the research proposals. He showed linkages between the social-behavioral and engineering technical disciplines, of which ADD40 is fourth in "betweeness" for the two groups. He sees an opportunity to develop new, collaborative research statements with other committees, with support in the DOT side. Goals include: 1) Create a sustainable "primer" to share with other committees.

2) Develop a research agenda and promote funding of research projects that further the goals of sustainability. The research subcommittee meeting will be a mini-workshop to launch the development of several research needs statements targeted at specific funding programs.
3) Effectively communicate and coordinate the committee's role and activities with internal and external stakeholders. For this, identify research statements of interest and review with relevant TRB committee (revise and resubmit).

4) Act as the "go to" committee for TRB on the issue of sustainability.

Ralph talked about the Committee Research Coordinator (CRC) workshop. The RNS database has 1,100 active RNS, with 90 added last year. The "revised" RNS form aligns with the majority of CRP submission requirements, so submitters should try to complete all fields. Future webinars planned for NCHRP Highway IDEA projects (March) and TCRP (September). There are other elements under development or consideration. He offered guidelines for developing successful research statements: make it relevant / useful for practitioners, target statement to specific funding, and identify a champion for each research statement. Other considerations include the need to create a network to promote research ideas and work with people who know the process, receive feedback on why a research idea was not selected, then revise and resubmit if idea is competitive. ADD40 should target pooled funding—need to work closely with State DOTs. The committee needs to be strategic – link ADD40 calls for papers to subjects including in research needs statements (i.e., build the evidence base for, and interest in, an idea). In the discussion afterwards, it was suggested that getting feedback from state DOTs would help start the process of tailoring statements to NCHRP. At the end, he presented the matrix of connections with committees, research statements.

- 4. Liaisons to other committees
  - a. Update on liaisons and coordination with other committees / subcommittees. Donna Day said that the liaison is getting much more focus, with research and collaboration being combined. Donna asked for friends to say which other committees for which they are friends or members so the initial effort can be expanded. The liaison will also reach out to non-TRB entities. She asked for cards from friends who want to be included. Emails to Donna are helpful.

In discussion, there was mention of linkages needed to the engineering side (AQ,

construction, etc.) and the maintenance and operations committees.

- b. Climate Change joint subcommittee (Mike Savonis, liaison). Lewison Lem is chair of the subcommittee, which meets tonight. They are planning a conference in 2015. Typically look at adaptation.
- c. Health and Transportation joint subcommittee (John MacArthur, liaison). This subcommittee began two years ago, has greatly expanded, are sponsoring two events and has twice as many papers as parent committee.
- 5. Debrief from Sunday workshop, "Reconciling Transportation and Air Quality Planning to Promote Sustainable Development" (Rich Baldauf). This workshop was designed around tension between smart growth advocates and those who are concerned that the compact development is bringing people closer to air pollution sources. Research needs included how to quantify the issues and tradeoffs, then identify mitigation. The discussion period at the end was helpful in focusing on the research needs.
- 6. International Conference planning (April Marchese). The conference is scheduled for the beginning of May 2015 at the Keck Center in DC. The focus is not only best practices from around the world but sustainability issues that can only be solved in a global way. Opportunities to institutionalize sustainable practices are also a focus. The conference will be limited to 150 on site, but they are looking at virtual conference models to increase participation. A broad range of representation on both the participant side and sponsors is planned. Questions include ideas of topics or session tracks are welcome, as are sustainability issues that might deserve a larger session. The planning committee will be put in place in the next several weeks. Cornie Huizenga suggested that this committee form relations with overarching organizations such as SLoCaT as well as individuals and individual organizations.
- 7. 2014 mid-year meeting planning (Joe Zietsman). Joe suggests a mid-year meeting. Ideas are welcome. There doesn't seem to be a group of committees to coalesce around. DC is always an easy fall back. The planning will be by email.
- 8. Committee meeting presentations
  - a. Cornie Huizenga, SLoCaT, began with a picture of people walking along the roads in Nairobi; 50% of the trips in Nairobi are by walking, without much in the way of facilities to serve them. The old paradigm is of building roads, which attract cars, which lead to more road building. There are safety problems (50 million accidents between now and 2030) and air quality problems, and the goal of access has not been reached. This is the reason for SLoCaT; their paradigm is avoid, shift, improve.

SLOCAT has 88 members, including International organizations, governments, development banks, NGOs, private sector, academia. Focus is policy. Goals include 1) encourage sustainable transport to be integrated into sustainable development, 2) response to climate change, and 3) use of regional environmental sustainable transport forums to bring local transportation agencies together with other groups with a sustainability interest.

Results framework on sustainable transport: goal = provide sustainable transport, as defined by access and safety measures.

There is also a transport delivery campaign, which has a funding plan on one hand to match the needs on the other. One example is the endorsement by the UN: "We need to change the way we plan our cities, the way we move goods and ourselves" UN SG Ban Ki-moon, October 2013.

Cornie would like to get TRB involved. A paradigm shift is needed on the development of transportation.

- b. Heather Holsinger/Diane Turchetta, FHWA EV project –Heather gave an introduction that framed the question of identifying the implications for FHWA if there is a major shift to EVs, given that existing roads and fueling are built around conventional fuels. The project started with literature review and forum, but found the future to be hazy. They looked at 8 scenarios for EV growth. The range of gasoline consumption displaced by EVs by 2050 ranged from about 1% to 24%, depending on how aggressive the scenario was. They also looked at possible level of charging stations. The impact on highway trust fund revenue would range from \$0.3 billion to \$5.6 billion per year. The upper end of this range is still on the order of 1/3 of that from the changes in efficiency by the internal combustion engine—not a major variable.
- 9. Roundtable updates from the floor

ITE has a current practice, best practice effort underway, with current practices published last year.

Todd said that TRB looks at social impacts only through EJ and ADD20. EJ is the default mode. McVoy said that in terms of metrics, dollars are perhaps the best metric to combine health, safety, etc.

This year's annual conference on Behavior, Energy, and Climate Change is December 7 – 10 at the Grand Hyatt – Washington, DC

- 10. Any other business
- 11. Closure

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## 2014 Annual Meeting Events