# TRB Large Cities Committee Conference Call, 12/3/13

## Welcome and Introductions

Attendees:

* Aimee Jefferson
* Andrew Zalewski
* Anthony Loui
* Bryan Derstine
* Chris Pangilinan
* Christine Yager
* David Kuehn
* David Seglin
* Denise Goren
* Ema Yamamoto
* Eric Dumbaugh
* Eric Sundquist
* Fred Dock
* Jeffrey Taylor
* Jesse Koehler
* John Fortmann
* Julia Salinas
* Karina Ricks
* Linda Bailey
* Linda Cherrington
* Luann Hamilton
* Maureen Crocker
* Nina Harvey
* Pratyush Bhatia
* Rina Cutler
* Robert Hicks
* Stephanie Dock

Rina welcomed everyone to the call, and thanked everyone for their patience this year as she took the reins of the committee. She thanked Ema for all her assistance, as well as the others that have stepped up to leadership positions.

## Paper Review Roundup

Ema and Rina thanked Karina for her work in coordinating the reviews this year, and all the reviewers for their help.

We received 16 papers and had 89 assigned reviews, so every paper had at least 4 reviews (above the TRB minimum of 3).

* 7 papers invited to present their work at a poster session
* 3 papers invited for lectern presentation
* 2 papers were invited to respond to comments for possible publication:
  + Social Media Use in Unplanned Passenger Rail Disruptions: International Study
    - Lead Author: Brendan Pender
  + Role of Social Media in Communicating Transit Disruptions
    - Lead Author: Raymond Chan

Please keep in mind that we will be organizing the final reviews of these two papers, please keep an eye on your inbox to sign-up to be a reviewer of these papers. As a committee, we have to submit our final publication decisions regarding papers by January 31.

Karina will be stepping down as paper review coordinator this year, so we are looking to fill this space – think about if you would like to step up.

## TRB Annual Meeting Presence

The Annual Meeting is in Washington, DC from January 12 – January 16. Rina reminded everyone that you can register for the conference on TRB’s website. Unfortunately, the Early Bird Deadline has passed, but you can still register to attend. If you have not gotten a hotel room yet, you should move quickly since rooms fill up. This is the last year at the hotels where TRB has always been – next year we will be at the Convention Center and new Marriott Marquis.

At some point soon we will be looking to figure out who from our committee will be attending so we can get a sense of who will be at the committee meeting and our sessions. A quick survey will be sent around

Rina and Ema went over the different sessions that our committee is sponsoring:

**Designing Urban Streets for the 21st Century (Workshop 134)**Sunday 9am-12pm, Workshop   
Hilton, Columbia Hall 3

The workshop is about the new NACTO Street Design Guidelines, co-sponsoring by the Pedestrians Committee, Bicycle Transportation Committee, Traffic Signal Systems Committee, and Women’s Issues in Transportation Committee. This session will be about the new NACTO Urban Street Design Guide. A blueprint for the 21st century street, the guide offers an inside perspective into how cities can transform their streets to confront the demands and challenges of the near future. From public plazas to BRT to stormwater management, the guide provides an in-depth overview of how to design livable, multimodal, and resilient city streets. Rina thanked Linda Bailey and Karen Sommer with NYCDOT who have pursued and organized this session.

**Transportation Issues and Solutions in Major Cities (Session 263)**Monday 8:30am-10:15am, Poster  
Hilton, International Center

There are 7 posters being presented on a lot of topics – social media, real-time communications, social media, preventing carmmaggedon, online games in transport, urban neighborhood in transition, and participatory paradigms. Thank you to Aimee Jefferson for organizing this session.

**COMMITTEE MEETING**Monday 10:15am-12pm  
Hilton, Gunston

We will discuss committee business. We have solicited for Pecha Kucha (20 slides, 20 seconds each) presentations. If you would like to submit, email an abstract by Friday, December 13 to [Ema Yamamoto](mailto:Ema.Yamamoto@phila.gov). Only have time for 5, so Rina will choose who presents if we get more abstracts than slots.

**Innovative Solutions to Congestion in Urban Areas (Session 414)**Monday 3:45pm-5:30pm, Lectern  
Hilton, International East

Our city transportation officials session: Rina Cutler from Philadelphia, Wylie Bearup from Phoenix, Stephen Buckley from Toronto, and Ed Reiskin from San Francisco. Moderated by Fred Dock of Pasadena.

**Using Social Media to Improve Urban Transportation (Session 559)**Tuesday 10:15am-12pm, Lectern  
Hilton, International East

Co-sponsoring this session with the Public Transportation Marketing and Fare Policy Committee. After looking through all the paper reviews, we felt these were the best to present at TRB and 2 have been invited to make revisions for possible publications.

The three papers are “What’s the Worst That Can Happen? Developing Social Media Protocols and Policies,” “Role of Social Media in Communicating Transit Disruptions,” and “Social Media Use in Unplanned Passenger Rail Disruptions: International Study.” Karina Ricks is moderating this session.

**State DOT Projects in Urban Areas (Session 671)**Tuesday 3:45pm-5:30pm , Lectern  
Hilton, International East

This is focusing around 4 different states on project in metro areas and the interaction between state and local DOTs. Susan Gilmore from Metro just confirmed that she will be speaking about the Carmaggedon project on the 405 and interaction with Caltrans around that. Mark Schadauer from MnDOT will be speaking about light rail and local road interaction on the Hiawatha corridor. Nicholas Faber from Colorado DOT will talk about a HOT lane project with multimodal components that is part of FasTracks. Chuck Davies from PennDOT will speak on the I-95 corridor centered around an interchange in the City of Philadelphia.

Rina will be moderating this session. Thank you to Fred Dock for pulling this session together.

## Requests for Volunteers

Rina announced that we will be forming an Executive Committee that meets via conference call every month or every other month to help articulate the vision of the committee. The committee will be made up of those holding leadership roles in the committee and any other members who would like to step up into a leadership role. That committee’s task for the first year will be to draft a strategic plan, and we are seeking a volunteer to head up that effort.

Volunteers are needed for the following roles:

* Strategic Plan – we need someone to help lead the strategic plan effort
* Paper Review Manager – this is an important role that is responsible for assigning reviewers to papers and ensuring that all papers are reviewed on time.

If you are interested in any of these roles, email [Ema](mailto:Ema.Yamamoto@phila.gov).

The larger committee will be involved the strategic plan development. We will be holding 4 committee meetings this year. The first will be at the Annual Meeting this January. The mid-year meeting for the committee will be in [TRB Asset Management](http://www.cvent.com/events/10th-national-conference-on-transportation-asset-management/event-summary-be4a48a1ff534e04a5eeba464b2878f3.aspx) conference April 28-30, 2014 in Miami, Florida. We do not know the exact date yet, but it will be sent out as soon as TRB confirms a time.

## Miscellaneous Business

Karina Ricks and Stephanie Dock announced that the District Department of Transportation is doing a project on urban trip generation rates. As most folks are aware, the ITE rates are often not relevant for urban area. DDOT is looking at how other places have created rates and adjustments. At TRB, DDOT is hosting a small gathering for folks interested in this topic to talk about the state of the practice, the data methodology they have developed, and see about what other datasets may be available. You can email [Stephanie Dock](mailto:stephanie.dock@dc.gov) if you would like to join the meeting.

* Rachel Weinberger noted that last year she had a TRR paper that showed how Walkscore can predict walking trips.

Tony Louie with FTA is a member of the Light Rail Committee and made a plug for a competing workshop on Sunday morning that might be of interest to cities pursuing light rail or streetcars: “Light-Rail Transit Innovations and Urban Insertion” (Workshop 139, Sunday, January 12, 9am-12pm, Hilton Georgetown West). This workshop will look at light rail projects in terms of transit and mobility rather than development. Tony offered to give an overview of the workshop during the committee meeting.

Chris Pangilinan from San Francisco is doing a session on sustainable transportation outreach where he will talk about how to gracefully remove parking for bike lanes: “Sustainability: 20 Years in the Past and 20 Years in the Future” (Session 539, Tuesday, Jan 14, 10:15am-12pm, Marriott Thurgood Marshall North). Chris offered to do his talk as a Pecha Kucha at the committee meeting as well.

Rina gave an update on the National Freight Advisory Committee which just met for 2 days in DC. It is a USDOT initiative, chaired by IL DOT, taking a comprehensive look at how freight moves (road, air, rail, water). There is a report online: [Improving the Nation’s Freight Transportation System](http://transportation.house.gov/uploadedfiles/freightreportsmall.pdf). For folks who have a particular interest in the freight topic, we are going to want to think about whether urban freight is a topic we want to pursue in more detail next year. With the opening of the Panama Canal, more and more places are going to competing for freight in ways they never have before. Chicago and Houston have both expressed interest. Congestion may be the eventual focus for the urban issues. The other issue is the diversion of resources that may result from the need to invest in freight corridors over other priorities. The Coalition of Corridor and Gateway Cities is looking to get involved.

Following the TRB sessions in January, we’ll start thinking about where we might want to focus our attention. Rina is thinking about urban freight and women and bicycling.

Praytush Bhatia with the City of San Jose announced that the city has decided to incorporate about 70 urban villages into their general plan. One of the challenges is to convert suburban streets into more urban streets to be more bike and pedestrian friendly with elements of urban design. He is not sure he can make it to TRB, but would like to present on this to the committee if he can attend.

## Follow-up summary:

Reach out to Ema Yamamoto if:

1. You want to submit a pecha kucha presentation idea (include an abstract) **by 12/13**
2. You are Interested in being the Paper Review Coordinator
3. You are interested in helping with the strategic plan