TRB ABE30 Conference Call Minutes

## Date/Time: April 16, 2015 | 3:00pm – 4:00pm Eastern

## Welcome and Introductions

Quick introduction of everyone at the meeting and on the conference call

**Members**

Rina Cutler, Chair, City of Philadelphia

Ema Yamamoto, City of Philadelphia

Stephanie Dock, DDOT

Chris Pangilinan, NYC Transit

Aimee Jefferson, Rutgers University

Luann Hamilton, Chicago DOT

Phil Lasley, TTI

Trent Lethco, ARUP

Miriam Roundtree, NHTSA

Eric Sundquist, SSTI

Fred Dock, City of Pasadena

Madeline Brozen, UCLA

Andrew Zalewski, Foursquare Integrated Transportation Planning

Tim Papandreou, SFMTA

**Friends**

David Hopkins, NYC Econ Development Corp

Shannon McDonald, Southern Illinois University

Mark Lear, Portland Bureau of Transportation

Dave Seglin, Chicago DOT

Trey Wadsworth, MassDOT

David Stein, NYCDOT

Billie Hattaway, FLDOT

Brian Fellows, Amec Foster Wheeler

Waiching Wong, Booz Allen Hamilton

Danielle Elkins, CH2MHill

Ivana Tasic, University of Utah

Matthew Roe, NACTO

Eduardo Maeyama, PB

Monica Munowitch, SFMTA

[Others I missed –sorry!]

Deb Lightman, MMM

Rina would like to announce a professional move to the Committee. She will be leaving her position of Deputy Mayor for Transportation and Utilities for the City of Philadelphia and moving to Amtrak to be the Senior Director of Major Station Planning and Development, focusing on the Northeast Corridor, Chicago, and New Orleans. While she will be moving positions professionally, she will continue to chair the Major Cities Committee and I will continue to coordinate it with her.

## Sub Committee Reports – 10min

### Research Coordinator (Wes Marshall)

Ema announced on Wes’ behalf that we received a number of different calls for paper suggestions, which will be going over later.

### Annual Meeting Organizing Group (Fred Dock, Aimee Jefferson, Jamie Parks)

At the last TRB Annual Meeting we had 4 lectern sessions, 5 poster sessions, and 3 workshops.

### Communication Coordinator (Stephanie Dock)

Stephanie announced the logo contest winner was Susan Mah of Kittelson & Associates

She encouraged everyone to go to the myTRB.org site, set up an account, and self-nominate as a friend of the committee. For now, our committee will continue to use the Google Group for communications since this allows integration into our website, but in the future may shift platforms. Stephanie will be reconvening the Communications Subcommittee soon to talk about website platforms and getting more activity on our blog. If you are interested in joining the subcommittee, please email Stephanie ([stephanie.dock@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.dock@gmail.com))

### Paper Review Coordinators (Eric Sundquist)

Eric made another pitch to sign up for myTRB and note your interest areas and willingness to review papers. The interests in myTRB do not exactly correspond to our paper calls, so we will be sending out a survey to members about reviewing and topic areas to help with the process. If you specifc questions about paper reviewing, please contact erics@ssti.us

Christine Yaeger previously helped to coordinate paper review, but she is stepping off the committee after adopting a child. We wish her the best. Deb Lightman is taking Christine’s place.

### Strategic Plan Coordinators (Steve Buckley, Karina Ricks, Andrea d’Amato, Julia Salinas)

The strategic plan was submitted last year. We got comments back from TRB, but they were just brief. Once those are addressed, we will resubmit

The subcommittee is working to provide an update to the plan to show what we have accomplished during the last year

### Webinar Coordinator (Ivana Tasic)

Ivana reported the committee had a webinar last week on Tuesday, April 7. It was the opening webinar for our series on multimodal transportation in cities. This first webinar was a broad overview of the topic with [speakers, except Jamie who could not join]. There were 40-45 attendees on the first webinar. The webinar recording is posted here: <http://cveen.adobeconnect.com/p6r7zniqxs2/>

We want to have our next webinar in June on performance metrics for multimodal systems. NACTO may be hosting the webinar. There are 2 more webinars planned through TRB, the first of which will be in September.

Ivana thanked everyone for attending and assisting to bring the first webinar to fruition.

## Extended Discussion on Calls for Papers

The paper calls help to frame our research objectives for the year. A couple of the ideas we got were very similar to ones we have done in the past. Discussion: we want to choose 3 to keep the list manageable

1. Driving and measuring mode shift - what will it take to reach our mode share targets

* Add something on the effects of transportation network companies (TNCs) - the proliferation of types within a mode might shift things
* Is this talking about all trips, commute trips, etc.?
* Any data collection that researchers get their hands on comparing commute (Census-ACS) vs. all trips - e.g. having a problem getting it because phone surveys are old and not working so well.

1. Raising the bar on customer service - what do agencies need to do to meet

* Interesting session to look at from last year: customer-oriented performance metrics

1. Working Across Boundaries: Next Generation Collaboration for Effective City Transportation
2. Millennials and Baby Boomers: Transportation Needs and Behaviors

* Speaking from the southeast, the issue is keeping the educated Millennials in the region - how does that affect their ability to evolve and continue to grow. E.g. Georgia Tech has an amazing transportation program, but as soon as they graduate, they leave because the southeast cities aren’t on the front lines of interesting topics. Look at the mindset of leadership to see what can change to retain those who are being educating.
  + Discussion suggested that there be an effort to figure out where they are going. Is the brain drain so significant that there needs to be changes in the curriculum? What about leadership at the State DOTs and their mindsets? Cities are a bit more similar. What are the cities going to doing differently? Would the students stay if their local cities were doing it? Do we need to engage those city DOTs in those areas to learn and participate in the innovations going on? Is this an issue specific to transportation or to Millennials more broadly?
* What do we mean by Millennial?
* Brian Taylor and Evie \_\_\_ have done a lot of work on this - many Millennials are stuck in place.

1. Truck Safety in Urban Areas

* Speaks to an area of information and knowledge we are always a bit short on - it would generate a lot from writers and conference attendees
* Very timely - went to a session on this from the freight committee 3 years ago, could partner with freight or truck committees
* Expand this to new ways of delivery that are coming: Amazon drones? What is the right role of UAV services and the best way for them to interact with the cities?

1. An Evidence-Based Approach to Vision Zero

* How much do policy (speed limits, etc.) vs. design changes drive this?
* The process for setting up the different groups - planners and engineers - as it relates to state legislation
* May be opportunity to do work around the 85th percentile speed setting. Also opportunity to just look at how you identify speed issues (also 85th percentile comes into this too)
* NACTO just had a great session in San Francisco on this.

1. Other ideas:

* Role of Technology in Mode Shift

## Extended Discussion on Workshop Proposals

Workshops are an opportunity to do a deep dive on a topic. One start of an idea - Vision Zero: how much can this actually change vs. how much is just aspirational in terms of trying to save lives.

* Planning, engineering, project design + experience working across city agencies (health, FEMS, police, elected officials). Politicians are an interesting set of players here - they are embracing, but need education.
* Is Vision Zero real? Can it actually make a difference? It does make us measure things more.
* Few states are adopting Vision Zero, though you’d expect they would be the logical place to start. Why are they not jumping on board and/or the feds not pushing them to subscribe. Tim in SF reported that there is progress being made at the federal level from even a year ago, but they only have 2 years and are trying to figure out how to create markers to keep this going.
* Governing magazine article - concentration of ped crashes in low-income communities. This is a national public health issue - more research would be great. Vision Zero and social equity - what are the measures, what are the quick investments to start addressing this issue?
* Shared responsibility for safety - not the blame game (distracted pedestrians vs. drivers needing to pay attention). NHTSA wants to post something on their website soon so this can be a sharing resource.

## Open Floor for Announcements

No announcements.