# **TRB Major Cities Committee (ABE30)**

**Date & Time: September 11, 2019, 12:15 – 1:15pm ET**

**Join the meeting:** [**https://join.me/d.research**](https://join.me/d.research) **Dial-in: +1-202-602-1295 or +1-647-977-2648 (Canada) or** [**More phone numbers**](https://join.me/intphone/101323211/0#_blank) **Conference ID: 101-323-211#**

## Welcome and Introductions – 10 min

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

## Sub Committee Reports – 15 min

### Paper Review (Julia Salinas & Melissa Ruhl)

Updates on the receiving and distribution of papers

### Annual Meeting Organizing Group (Aimee Jefferson & Fred Dock)

Updates on the planning of sessions and workshops

### Webinars (Eric Tang & Ram Bommavaram)

Updates on webinar planning

### Research (Wes Marshall)

Updates on the submittal of paper topics / calls for papers

### Communications (Danielle Elkins)

Updates on how the committee stays in touch

## Equity Joint Subcommittee Updates – 5 min

## NACTO Updates – 5 min

News and announcements from NACTO and their relationship with the committee

## TRB Strategic Alignment and Committee Restructuring – 20 min

The Technical Activities Council of TRB has undertaken a major effort to look at how the standing committees are structured. This has implications for our committee that we need to discuss. See next page and attached document. There is a survey linked.

## Key Upcoming Dates

## Open Floor for Announcements

## Attachment 1: Announcement from TRB about Restructuring

*Transportation is changing … and the Transportation Research Board is changing with it.*

TRB is positioning itself to be the premier source of ideas, knowledge, and innovations in transportation. A key part of this effort is a review and strategic alignment of our 212 standing technical committees. After months of discussion and gathering input from our volunteer chairs, the Technical Activities Council—made up of volunteer leaders from across the modes and disciplines represented on our committees—have developed a revised committee structure which is attached to this email. **The purpose of this email is to inform you of this effort, invite you to participate in a Town Hall event on August 26, 2019, and ask for your feedback on the committee topics in an online survey.**

TRB will celebrate its centennial in 2020. A centennial is a milestone for any organization and one that has inspired TRB’s volunteers and staff to take a fresh look at how we operate and where we can make changes that will enhance our service to the country. More specifically, the strategic alignment is aimed at:

* Ensuring that we are able to address critical and emerging transportation issues with both long-term and shorter-term horizons, by leveraging the multimodal, multidisciplinary, and multi-sectoral representation on our committees, and adjusting our processes to be more responsive to the faster pace of change in transportation today.
* Attracting broad and deep volunteer expertise, including from new disciplines and sectors, projecting a culture of openness to new people and new ideas.
* Increasing the quality of our products and services by updating systems and using best practices.
* Magnifying the impact of our work through better communication and dissemination.
* Attracting financial support from a wider array of sources by demonstrating the value and impact of TAD activities

TRB was founded in 1920 (as the National Highway Research Advisory Board) to help the nation prepare for the growth of that era’s “transformational technology”—the automobile. As TRB prepares to begin its second century, transportation is again undergoing a period of rapid and transformational, and sometimes disruptive, change. Tackling the opportunities and challenges facing transportation is precisely what TRB is made for:

* An institutional history and reputation for national service and for independent, balanced approaches to research and innovation
* A “big tent” in which everyone can come together as equals—government, industry, and university; young people starting their professional journey and the profession’s leading lights; CEOs and technical experts
* An environment in which any and all ideas can be proposed, debated, and tested on the basis of their merit
* A body of dedicated volunteers with experience in every mode of transportation and expertise from a wide array of disciplines, bringing perspectives from across the country and around the world

*How can you contribute to this effort?*

We have attached a document laying out our new group and section structure and bullet points summarizing the topics to be addressed within each part of the structure. We would like your feedback on whether the bullet points cover the topics that you believe are critically important to the future of transportation from the point of view of development of new knowledge (research) and practice (innovation).

For more information, please visit the *TRB Technical Activities Division Strategic Alignment web page* at <http://www.trb.org/AboutTRB/TADStrategicAlignment.aspx>, where you will be able to take the brief survey, view the new structure, and learn more detail about the Strategic Alignment effort through a set of Frequently Asked Questions. **Please provide your comments via the survey at the above-mentioned website no later than September 15, 2019.**