



**AASHTO Standing Committee on Planning
Friday, October 23, 2009
Palm Desert, California**

11:00 – 12:30 p.m.

FHWA Roundtable Wrap-up, Discussion, and Report

*Gloria Shepherd – Associate Administrator for Planning, Environment, and Realty, FHWA
Deb Miller, Chair, SCOP*

Gloria Shepherd wrapped up the peer exchange, Executive Roundtable on Performance-based Planning and Programming and noted that the FHWA will continue to work with AASHTO, AASHTO SCOP, FTA, AMPO, and others on developing a new performance-based planning and programming process. After lunch, Deb Miller kicked-off the SCOP business meeting noting the successful peer exchange. Sec. Miller noted that data collection and timing of developing plans and reporting performance are topics for future discussion as we move forward with the FHWA.

12:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Standing Committee on Planning Business Meeting

Presiding – Deb Miller – Secretary, Kansas DOT; Chair, SCOP

Secretary Deb Miller, Chair, SCOP, introduced new SCOP members and AASHTO staff, Michelle Maggiore. The group then provided self introductions for those present and those on the conference line.

12:40 – 2:00 p.m.

Subcommittee Reports and Discussion

Sec. Miller introduced the SCOP Leadership Team; subcommittee leads provided an update of activities.

- Sec. Miller noted that for the Task Force on Performance-based Planning and Programming the white paper on performance-based planning and programming presented to workshop participants will be distributed to SCOP when finalized with next steps to be determined.
- Jonette Kreideweis, Minnesota DOT provided an update of the Data Subcommittee activities, including CTPP (see Data Update October 2009, enclosed); Jonette noted the importance of the TRB Data Policy panel, and Tim Henkel volunteered to serve; Joan Sollenberger will also provide support; Jonette noted that additional subcommittee members are needed; please volunteer!
- Butch Wlaschin, Director of FHWA Asset Management Office provided Asset Management Subcommittee update for Kirk Steudle, Michigan DOT (see subcommittee reports for Oct 23 meeting); Butch noted the opportunities for involvement in peer exchanges and webinars and invited SCOP to a presentation of a tool to analyze pavement health condition; Butch also noted that SCOP members for the Asset Management Subcommittee are needed from all AASHTO regions
- Tim Henkel, Minnesota DOT, detailed Capacity Priorities for 2010 (see handouts and rankings; light blue funded, purple funded through "other" sources, white will not be funded); Tim also noted two actions for consideration: recommendations for capacity building activities and proposal for SCOP website maintenance; Tim noted that SCOP will receive funding for 70% of proposals, either through capacity program or other sources; Susan Mortel moved to approve Capacity priorities, Martin Kidner seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

- Tim Henkel then proposed the rotation of maintenance responsibilities for the SCOP website; the website was set-up initially through capacity building activities; however, it was noted that capacity funds are not an appropriate on-going funding source; Tim asked that SCOP approve a trial soft-match in which MnDOT would dedicate 4 to 8 hours weekly to maintain the site and would report back in one year; it was decided that if the pilot (led by Tim and MnDOT) works well, SCOP will re-evaluate and may accept/ adopt the approach next year, with duties to be passed to another state volunteer
- Dave Lee, Florida DOT, recognized the leadership team for research and the commitment of Lori Sundstrom / NCHRP 08-36 to fund planning-related research; twelve 08-36 topics were posted on statewideplanning.org in the past year and the 08-36 panel met in Irvin, CA to vote on topics for 2010 in August 2009 (see research list in subcommittee reports for Oct 23 meeting); Dave Lee moved to approve the proposed 2010 research, Eric Kalivoda seconded, and the motion passed unanimously; Dave also noted the NCHRP Task 95 Research Needs to include a plenary web session will in Feb 2010; this goal of this work is to better define research needs of the transportation community; Michelle M will distribute information, including information on a research needs survey
- Susan Mortel, Michigan DOT, discussed the importance of policy as it relates to transportation planning particularly in reauthorization; Susan noted that the SCOP policy subcommittee may not be developing policy for relevant issues, but that the subcommittee should, at the very least, be identifying policy issues as they relate to transportation planning; each subcommittee chair should be a part of the policy subcommittee and add/ adjust for geographic balance; next year the strategic plan may be revisited to show linkages with initial identified topics for the subcommittee: transportation reforms needed in authorization, feasible methods to achieve GHG reduction targets, fiscal constraint, and multi-state decisionmaking/ governance; Michelle M will follow-up with Susan to advance these topics as well as in tracking reauthorization issues of interest to the planning committee, including plans required in the Bill, various FHWA offices, etc.

2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

AASHTO's Climate Change Products and Activities

Shannon Eggleston – Program Director for Environment, AASHTO

Shannon Eggleston, AASHTO, detailed Climate Change activities to be undertaken by AASHTO and the Climate Change Steering Committee (CCSC) in 2010. The CCSC oversees the development of climate and the climate change technical assistance program. Shannon noted that the Climate Change Steering Committee was developed two years ago when the AASHTO Strategic Plan was re-evaluated, but that the program provides targeted technical assistance and advice to all states across AASHTO committees. For 2010, proposed activities include a national symposium, webinars, and community of practice; SCOP has set aside \$20K in capacity building funds for members to participate in the symposium. Additionally, CCSC will provide on-site technical assistance workshops tailored to individual state needs. Interested states must apply. Aside from the technical assistance workshops, an adaptation workshop will be held Dec 7-8 in Springfield, IL. Ideas for advancing climate activities for 2011 should be submitted to Shannon through Deb Miller and/or Michelle M.

2:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Reaction to SCOP's 2009 Webinar Series and Next Steps

Deb Miller

Deb Miller asked for comments on SCOP's 2009 webinar series. It was noted that SCOP webinars have been successful, but that more must be done to hone the application of web-based technology and to appropriately frame presentations topics. Upcoming webinar topics may include fiscal constraint, HPMS data and applications, and NCHRP Task 95 Research Needs presentations.

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.

SHRP II Collaborative Decision-making Framework

Stephen Andrle, Chief Program Officer Transportation Research Board

Steve Andrie provided a summary of the collaborative decisionmaking framework: a framework for long-range and project planning, including environmental review. Steve noted that the framework will be piloted in 2010 and that states and MPOs will be asked to apply. For more information and a copy of Steve's presentation, contact Steve Andrie: SAndrie@nas.edu.

2:45 – 3:00 p.m.

New Business

Deb Miller asked for feedback on a potential SCOP meeting in 2010. It was decided that Michelle M would distribute a survey to gauge interest in a SCOP meeting. Additionally, it was noted that this could be a critical year for SCOP to meet because of reauthorization.



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Subcommittee Reports and Discussion

Performance-based Planning and Programming Task Force

Deb Miller, Task Force Chair

- Task Force is one of eight under Pete Rahn's Standing Committee on Performance Management; six Task Forces are working on metrics for comparative programs: safety, preservation, system operations, congestion, freight/ economic development, and environment; others are comparative metrics (likely to include pavement smoothness and highway safety) and planning/ programming
- Initial request of this task force was to "incorporate performance goals into the statewide and metropolitan planning processes;" however, we decided that "we first need to determine what a performance based planning and programming process looks like" (and we are, of course, working on this)
- Because of the importance of understanding planning and programming in all states, the entire Standing Committee on Planning to participate in the Task Force, which met via conference call on Aug 11, 2009
- Volunteers of smaller work group tasked with preparing for yesterday's performance-based planning and programming peer exchange met on Sep 30 in Kansas City, MO
- The Task Force (and other select participants) met again on Oct 22-23 in Palm Desert, CA at a peer exchange on Performance-based Transportation Planning and Programming sponsored by the FHWA
- A summary white paper on performance-based planning and programming has been developed and was shared at the peer exchange; we expect to advance this topic with the FHWA in 2010 with another peer exchange and additional work in understanding data requirements for the development, implementation, and assessment of performance-based transportation programs

Data and CTPP

Jonette Kreideweis, Minnesota DOT

- Data Webinar was held on September 17, 2009 with 108 registered participants
 - Presentations by Janet Oakley, Rolf Schmitt, Anita Vandervalk, and Alan Pisarski
 - Data program updates from T. Tang (FHWA), H. Contrino (NHTS –FHWA), H. Miller (FHWA Office of Planning) and P. Weinberger (CTPP); Webinar and presentations posted on statewideplanning.org
- NCHRP 8-36 and Capacity Building Priorities submitted / accepted

- CTPP completed Oversight Board meeting on Aug 4-5, 2009 in Washington, D.C.
- CTPP and general data issues include:
 - The CTPP program is housed on a variety of websites, we are working to resolve several issues around linking, gathering, hosting and maintaining the many parts; Issues include 508 compliance, cost, continuity, access to historical content
 - Data requirements in light of the next authorization bill have been noted and NCHRP and Capacity activities are being conducted/ proposed; this includes NCHRP project 8-79 (Producing Transportation Data Products from the American Community Survey that Comply with Disclosure Rules) on synthetic data
 - We are working on resolving issues with 3-year and 5-year CTPP data products; 3-year data (06-07-08) is purchased and expected in Spring 2010, to coincide with the Data Access Software Tool about to be contracted; 5-year data (06 -10) is expected in 2012 and will need an access tool update, or a new one (TBD)
 - In general, planning is moving to needing more detailed data, but federal push is to summarize datasets; data requirements continue to increase and we need to bring forward issues associated with this

Asset Management

Butch Wlaschin, FHWA for Kirk Steudle, Michigan DOT

- In cooperation with FHWA, held 2 webinars in 2009; both webinars had more than 200 participants:
 - The first of these webinars was held April 23 on Asset Management and Adaptation to Climate Change, which included the following presentation topics/ speakers: Overview of Climate Change Science and Adaptation - Robert Kafalenos, FHWA; Asset Management and Adaptation to Climate Change - Tying it All Together- Michael Meyer, Georgia Tech University; Overview of the December 2008 Climate Change Adaptation Peer Exchange hosted by FHWA and AASHTO – Peter Plumeau, RSG Inc.; A State DOT Overview of Adaptation to Climate Change – Mike Coffey, Alaska DOT
 - The second was held on September 28 on Asset Management and Highway Safety, which included the following presentation topics/ speakers: Introduction to Highway Safety and Asset Management – Mike Griffith, FHWA; Safety Analyst Tools and their Data Requirements – Ray Krammes, FHWA; The Role of Asset Management in Highway Safety – One State's Perspective - Cassandra Isackson, MN DOT
- Completed Peer exchange on Asset Management and Management of Highway Performance Peer Exchange (Washington, D.C. on August 17, 2009) with travel and consultant support from the FHWA:
 - Exchange goal was to continue the dialog on the details of establishing performances measures and setting targets for pavement and bridge preservation
 - Participants noted that IRI may not be the most accurate measure of pavement performance because of inconsistency in how IRI data are collected and an inability for IRI to be used to understand the overall

- structural condition of a pavement; however, it may be the only common and available metric for comparative purposes
 - For bridges, participants agreed that percent of structurally deficient bridges weighted by deck area as a common measure
 - Peer exchange participants noted that moving transportation investment decision-making towards a performance-driven, outcome-based system will require a dramatic culture shift among implementing agencies at all levels.
- Added new members to support Asset Management Planning Subcommittee: SCOP - Martin Kidner, Region 4 with Ahmad Jaber; SCOH – Scott Christie and Ken Sweeney, Region 1; Paul Degges, Region 2; and Kevin Mahoney, Region 3.
- Submitted Capacity Building Proposal for 2010: Infrastructure Preservation – An Important Aspect of Managing Highway Assets; \$20,000 has been proposed by the Capacity Task Force to support peer exchange in May 2010 at AASHTO Spring Meeting (additional funding to be provided by FHWA Office of Asset Management)
- Will conduct FHWA demo on Pavement Health Track Analysis Tool – a remaining service life application, tomorrow in concurrent track session entitled: “Charting a Course for Managing and Operating your Transportation System”

Capacity Building

Tim Henkel, Minnesota DOT

- Appointed new Capacity Task Force Chair, Tim Henkel, and kicked-off 2010 Capacity Solicitation in Aug, 2009
- Received 14 Capacity proposals and distributed for SCOP review and comment
- Prioritized proposals for approval by SCOP at Palm Desert Business Meeting (to be submitted to the FHWA for a total of \$200,000):
 - Advancement and/or Implementation of Approach for Performance-based Planning and Programming: \$60,000 for peer exchange
 - Cost Estimation and Cost Management for Highway Projects During Planning, Programming and Preconstruction: \$60,000 for peer exchange
 - Infrastructure Preservation – An Important Aspect of Managing Highway Assets: \$20,000 to support peer exchange (additional funding to be provided by FHWA Office of Asset Management)
 - Planning for Data Needs in Capacity Building Activities: \$20,000 to support capacity building in identifying data needs for performance-based planning and programming
 - Advancing Knowledge in Planning for Climate Change: \$20,000 to support SCOP travel to National Climate Change Symposium
 - Planning for Statewide Passenger Rail: \$20,000 to work with the FHWA and SCORT to develop training needs for passenger rail planning
- Will continue to work with the FHWA, NCHRP, and other AASHTO committees to advance topics in Fiscal Constraint (the FHWA has committed to funding a peer exchange in this area), HPMS (via FHWA efforts related to HPMS and HERS), and Economic Benefits of transportation (through NCHRP 8-36 project 2010-22: “Understanding the Connection between Transportation and the Economy”)

- SCOP Website Proposal: Request that SCOP circulate responsibility of maintaining the website among SCOP membership; in 2010 MnDOT, would volunteer and then the assignment would go to another state; states would have to contribute a soft match; previously this activity would cost \$15 - \$30 k from FHWA Capacity funds

Research

Dave Lee, Florida DOT and Lori Sundstrom, NCHRP Staff

- Members – The Subcommittee on Research has two SCOP members from each Region, they are Region I – Doug Simmons (MD) and Bob Zerrillo (NY); Region II – Mary Lynn Tischer (VA) and Angela Alexander (GA); Region III – Tim Henkel (MN) and Stuart Anderson (IA); Region IV – Ben Orsbon (SD) and a vacant position that is being filled. Other members are Kevin Walsh, MA (SCOE Rep); Charlie Howard, Puget Sound Regional Council (MPO Rep); Anne Dunning, Clemson (University Rep) and Liaisons Michelle Maggiore (AASHTO); Harlan Miller (FHWA); and Kim Fisher (TRB).
- Products – The following reports have been completed and posted on “*StatewidePlanning.org*” since last year’s Annual Meeting:
 - Corridor Approaches to Integrating Transportation and Land Use
 - Congestion Pricing and Investment Requirements
 - Scoping Study for a Freight Data Exchange Network
 - Disclosure Avoidance Techniques to Improve ACS Data Availability for Transportation Planners
 - Synthesis of State Practices in Developing Linear Referencing Systems
 - AASHTO Standing Committee on Planning Strategic Plan 2008-2009
 - White Paper: Performance-Based Needs Assessment
 - White Paper: Fiscal Constraint – or Fiscal Restraint? Issues of Compliance with Federal Requirements for STIPS, TIPS and Long Range Plans
 - White Paper: Statewide Travel Demand Forecasting
 - White Paper: The Explicit Consideration of Safety in the Transportation Planning Process: Where Do We Go From Here?
 - White Paper: The Congestion Management Process for State and Metropolitan Transportation Planning
 - Best Practice Methodology for Calculating Return on Investment for Transportation
- New Research – The Subcommittee met on August 20-21 and selected the following new research Tasks:
 - Task 97 – Towards Quantitative Safety Planning: Implementation of PLANSafe - \$120,000
 - Task 98 – Can LEHD Provide Usable Home-to-Work Data for Transportation Planning - \$100,000
 - Task 99 – Strategies for Improved Passenger and Freight Passenger Data (TRB Policy Study; Partial funding; total budget of \$671,000) - \$65,000
 - Task 100 – Transportation Data Program (Self) Assessment Guide - \$70,000
 - Task 101 – Assessing Alternative Methods for Measuring Regional Mobility in Metropolitan Regions - \$80,000

- Task 102 – Understanding the Connection Between Transportation and the Economy - \$125,000
 - Task 103 – Mining Recovery Act Jobs Data for Opportunities to Improve State-of-the-Practice for Overall Economic Impact and Performance Analysis of Transportation - \$100,000
- Special Task 95, Virtual Conference on Transportation Planning Research Needs – This Task is underway and plans are being made for a series of Webinars to determine planning research needs for the future. The Opening Session of the conference is targeted for February, 2010 to be followed by 6-8 “breakout” sessions in specific planning areas. A pre-conference survey is being designed for use in gathering initial input. A blog will be used to keep participants informed throughout the conference. *All states are encouraged to participate in this “Virtual Conference to ensure that planning research needs are identified that respond to state and MPO needs.”* More information will be provided in future SCOP emails.
 - Other NCHRP Proposals – The Subcommittee is asked to review and prioritize proposed research topics for the NCHRP program. This occurs each fall and the Subcommittee’s recommendations are forwarded to SCOP Chair Deb Miller for response to NCHRP. Typically, the top 3-5 priorities recommended are funded by the AASHTO Standing Committee on Research.

Policy

Susan Mortel, Michigan DOT

- Activated policy subcommittee to develop initial action plan to advance Performance-based Planning and Programming Task Force
- Completed conference call with MPOs to discuss potential for a common-ground position on Fiscal Constraint; a position was not advanced
- Completed policy webinar on June 22, 2009, “A Washington Briefing:”
 - Presenters shared the latest information on the next federal surface transportation authorization (Janet Oakley), climate change legislation (Bill Malley), and the highway trust fund shortfall (Joung Lee).
 - Webinar was posted on statewideplanning.org and can be replayed at: http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/webinars/2009-06-22_AASHTO_SCOP_Webinar.wmv.
- Will consider future activities of Policy Subcommittee as well as membership in 2010