



TRB Urban Freight Transportation Committee (AT025)
Minutes for the 2013 Midyear Meeting
11:15 AM-12:15 PM, July 19, 2013
Board Room, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C.

1. Welcome and Roll Call

TRB Urban Freight Transportation Committee Chairman Ted Dahlburg, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, welcomed members and friends to the TRB Urban Freight Transportation Committee Midyear Meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Practitioner-Researcher Dialogue

Mr. Dahlburg noted that the committee's "Practitioner-Researcher Dialogue" initiative has taken flight and will be further pursued at the METRANS International Urban Freight (I-NUF) conference to be held from October 8-10, 2013 and at TRB's 2014 Annual Meeting.

Dave Damm-Luhr, Volpe Center, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, called upon note takers from the TRB 2013 Annual Meeting to provide highlights from the *Innovation in Urban and Regional Freight Practitioner-Researcher Dialogue* Session.

- Bill Eisele, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, reporting from the "Researcher Subgroup," commented on suggestions for a documented subgroup structure for interested members to follow the Practitioner-Researcher Dialogue that might include a "Where to go from here?" and "What best partnerships look like?" and a place to exchange communication information.
- Chip Millard, FHWA Office of Freight, reporting from the "Practitioner Subgroup," commented on how increased private sector participation would support stronger partnerships.
- Bala Akundi, Baltimore Metropolitan Council, reporting from the "Whole Group Synthesis," noted the agreement over the three-legged stool approach: 1) Industry; 2) Academia; and 3) Public.
- Stacey Hodge, New York City Department of Transportation, reporting on "Whole Group Synthesis," also commented on the value of including private sector members in the discussion.

3. METRANS International Urban Freight Conference

Mr. Damm-Luhr is working on the design of an interactive session on practitioner-researcher collaboration to be held at the I-NUF conference on October 10, 2013. He identified data as a key topic from previous Practitioner-Researcher discussions and the data theme will continue to be woven into future discussions.

Mr. Dahlburg noted that a related session on October 9 will focus on good examples of Practitioner-Researcher collaboration. A call for presentations was widely distributed and the top four “mature collaborations” were invited to speak at the I-NUF Conference. Mr. Dahlburg asked each “mature collaboration” presenter to give a summary of their collaboration effort.

1. Bill Eisele, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, will present on the collaboration effort between INRIX data and the Institute to prepare the *Urban Mobility Report*.
2. Stacey Hodge, New York City Department of Transportation, will present on the City’s collaboration with New York University on identifying consolidation centers and the City’s work with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on the off-hours delivery incentive program.
3. Roel Gevaers, University of Antwerp, will present on the Antwerp pilot project conducted in 2008 to minimize urban center traffic jams and noise. Mr. Gevaers noted this was the first time several cities came together to participate on this topic. The next pilot will begin in October 2013 with a focus on supermarkets.
4. Elaine Croft McKenzie, Cambridge Systematics, will present on the Chicago Truck Routes planning study.

4. Open Discussion

Joe Bryan, Parsons Brinckerhoff, recommended that the U.S. Department of Commerce Supply Chain Competitiveness Council work with the U.S. Department of Transportation on the development of the Freight Strategic Plan. He highlighted the importance of quantifying the performance issues of supply chains, particularly with respect to performance and patterns of flow.

Karin Foster, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, commented on how important it is to identify who the audience is for performance measure reports. Performance measures used to fulfill a federal requirement may not be the same performance measures appropriate to explain progress to the general public.

Barbara Ivanov, TRB Freight Systems Chair, mentioned that a rail representative had used the FHWA Freight Analysis Framework as a tool to identify new markets.

Paula Dowell, Cambridge Systematics, recommended that the I-NUF Practitioner-Researcher discussion on freight data not duplicate previous efforts. She noted that data is used to glean information and practitioners/researchers should ask “What is the minimum amount of data we need to do that?” Mr. Eisele added that one does what they can with what they have, and better decisions result from data that are presented well.

Ms. Hodge added that the approach to data needs is project specific. For example, in New York City, there is a cost savings for the City if policies can incentivize off-hour deliveries. Off hour deliveries reduce peak congestion and increase livability.

Mr. Damm-Luhr suggested that the results of the I-NUF Conference discussion on researcher-practitioner collaboration around data be a key focus for the Urban Freight Transportation Committee's meeting at the January, 2014 Annual Meeting.

5. National Freight Advisory Committee

Stacey Hodge, New York City Department of Transportation, serves on the US DOT Secretary's National Freight Advisory Committee. The Committee had its kick-off meeting on June 25th. Ms. Hodge noted that the meetings are open to the public and there are opportunities to participate in subcommittees that are being formed.

6. Subcommittee Business

Mr. Dahlburg noted that research papers are due August 1, 2013 and paper reviews must be completed by September 15th. Kazuya Kawamura, University of Illinois at Chicago, will be managing the paper review process. Each paper needs a minimum of three completed reviews.

Ms. Akiko Yamagami, of the Southern California Association of Governments and the Committee's Communications Coordinator, introduced a new "member spotlight" feature and has asked for additional committee members to volunteer.

7. Adjournment

Attendees were thanked for their attendance and contributions and the meeting was adjourned.

TRB 2013 Midyear Meeting Attendees:

Chair, Ted Dahlburg, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Secretary, Karin Foster, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
TRB Staff Representative, Scott Babcock

Bala Akundi, Baltimore Metropolitan Council
Susan Atherton, CH2M HILL
Jason Bittner, University of South Florida
Joe Bryan, Parsons Brinckerhoff
Tretha Chromey, U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the Secretary
Sarah Campbell, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Dave Damm-Luhr, USDOT, Volpe Center, Research and Innovative Technology Administration
Stacey Darville Hodge, New York City Department of Transportation
Paula Dowell, Cambridge Systematics
Bill Eisele, Texas A&M Transportation Institute
William Gayle, Maryland Department of Transportation
Barbara Ivanov, Washington State Department of Transportation
David Kuehn, Federal Highway Administration
Henry Mayer, Rutgers University
Caroline Mays, Texas Department of Transportation
Chip Millard, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration
Barbara Nelson, Richmond MPO
Peter Plumeau, RSG
Akiko Yamagami, Southern California Association of Governments

Call-In Participants:

Ron Borowski, City of Seattle
Laetitia Dablanc, IFSTTAR
Roel Gevaers, University of Antwerp
Becky Karasko, North Central Texas Council of Governments
Kazuya Kawamura, University of Illinois at Chicago
Elaine Croft McKenzie, Cambridge Systematics
Tyrone Scorsone, Cambridge Systematics
John Thompson, Minnesota Department of Transportation
Robert Wayson, CDM Smith



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Agenda for Midyear Meeting
11:15 PM-12:15 PM EST, July 19, 2013
Board Room, National Academy of Sciences Building, Washington, D.C.

Toll Free Access #: 1-877-339-0018
Meeting Pass code: *3097460*
(please enter the asterisk (*) before and after the pass code)

1. Purpose: Design specs for next Researcher-Practitioner Dialogue at I-NUF Conference

2. Background

- a. Initial dialogue took place at TRB's Annual Meeting (January 14, 2013)
- b. Results indicated:
 - A wide range of ideas about overlapping interests and motivations
 - Data as a common focus where collaboration productive
 - Need to reflect views of academics, public sector and private sector
- c. Strong interest in taking dialogue to next level of detail

3. Proposed design of interactive session at I-NUF Conference (October 10, 2013)

- a. State objectives for the session;
- b. Summarize:
 - results of January's researcher-practitioner dialogue
 - insights from the previous day's panel on "Best Practices in Collaboration between Researchers and Practitioners;"
- c. Agree on:
 - elements needed to spur innovation in urban freight through greater collaboration of researchers and practitioners,
 - most fruitful topics for joint work;
- d. Identify attributes of role models – those already leading productive partnerships;
- e. Identify highest payoff opportunities for new or substantially expanded collaboration of researchers and practitioners
 - Champions for both parties
 - Contributions of each party
 - Commitment to (1) Find funding; (2) Pursue the opportunity; and (3) Share the results with the larger community

4. Questions today

- a. Are these the right steps to accomplish the objective?
- b. Are there topics other than data for which researchers – practitioners need to join forces?
- c. What outcomes from the I-NUF session would motivate you to be more active?
- d. What needs to be brought forward to next January's Urban Freight Transportation Committee meeting?