



URBAN FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



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Introduction

Hello from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (USA), colleagues! My name is Ted Dahlburg and it's a great privilege to work with all 32 members of the TRB's Urban Freight Transportation Committee and to serve as committee chair.

Professional Background

I have worked for the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Philadelphia-Camden-Trenton region, for 25 years. With passage of the ISTEA federal transportation legislation in 1991, DVRPC fully embraced comprehensive, "intermodal" transportation planning and I began my involvement in freight planning.

DVRPC's freight planning program has evolved significantly since 1991. Currently, we are examining the manufacturing and transportation implications of shipments of Marcellus shale natural gas and Bakken shale oil (by rail and pipeline) to refineries in the Delaware Valley. We are also studying a highly complex highway-railroad grade crossing in Darby, PA where two highways and a trolley bisect a busy Class I rail line at a single point. For this effort, we are collaborating with Villanova University using the researcher-practitioner model advanced by the committee and Dave Damm-Luhr. Finally, we are working with Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter's staff as he was just appointed to the National Freight Advisory Committee.

TRB Involvement

My involvement at TRB has accorded me many exceptional opportunities over the years. For example, I was recently privileged to attend a European-United States symposium on city logistics research. At present, a personal motivation is to seek to better integrate urban freight considerations with other TRB committees (i.e., both transportation and non-transportation committees).

Best of all, TRB has introduced me to many outstanding individuals from across the world who are great innovators and who are deeply committed to urban freight research and freely sharing ideas.

Personal Note

My wife and I recently honeymooned in France. A visit to the *Musée de l'Armée* rekindled a personal interest in military logistics, and I was very impressed with how well freight operations work in Paris (Way to go, Laetitia Dablancl!). The trip highlighted for me how important the work of the Urban Freight Transportation Committee is and how all of us in our various professional capacities are striving to make freight activity and city living more harmonious.