



TRB Urban Freight Transportation Committee (AT025) Conference Call
TRB Technical Activities Council 2020 Blue Ribbon Committee (Research)

Friday, December 6, 2019

11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Eastern Time)

Conference Call: 1-866-528-2256 / Access Code: 4753125

AGENDA

Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Review (Bill Eisele) (11:00 – 11:10)

Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting, and noted the Urban Freight Committee was selected as the Blue Ribbon Committee by the Transportation Research Board this year.

TRB Staff Report (Scott Babcock) (11:10 – 11:25)

Scott noted planning continues for the annual meeting, with the printed program almost complete. He noted the FHWA Freight Office is planning a double session on the Wednesday morning of the TRB meeting.

Bill Eisele asked when the committee officers needed to rotate, saying he thought it would need to happen in 2021. Scott confirmed that was the case. Bill also asked about the mid-year meeting and coordination with other committees. Scott mentioned a commodity flow conference (April), marine conference (June), and freight and resiliency conference (Sept) are all coming up in 2020. He added the conferences should be shown on the TRB website. Bill mentioned a special centennial conference photo opportunity on the Sunday of the meeting. Scott confirmed that was the case, and said the Ballroom C would be used for the photo shoot on Sunday at 1:00 pm, and all are welcome. Scott also noted all TRB meeting registrants will be able to pick up the TRB centennial book.

Problem Statement Development & Submittal Process (John Tompkins and Seckin Ozkul) (11:25 – 11:45)

- **Statements submitted (and author recognition)**

John noted groups were assembled based on the problem statements and people's interests and knowledge areas. He stated the problem statements were reviewed to confirm they were new. The statements were sent to selected state DOTs/AASHTO to confirm the statements were of importance. Bill said the process the Urban Freight Committee followed was highlighted in the committee's application for the Blue Ribbon Committee award.

Bill mentioned the three problem statements were:

1. Long-range Planning for Urban Freight Transportation
2. Freight Trip Consolidation: Documenting the State-of-the-Practice in the US in the Digital Age
3. Human Scale Urban Delivery: A Synthesis of Research and Practice

AASHTO and several states, along with the committee, endorsed and submitted #1 and #2. The Synthesis Proposal (#3) will be uploaded prior to the February deadline.

2020 TRB Annual Meeting Plans (11:45 – 12:15)

A Century of Progress: Foundation for the Future (January 12-16, 2020)

4. Workshop update (Tamiko Burnell & DJ Mason)

DJ stated the workshop will follow a similar format as previous years. The presentations will focus on suburban deliveries. As was the case in previous years, attendees will be asked to provide feedback about high profile needs in urban freight. Various members of the committee will participate in the presentations.

Tamiko discussed the planned format for the workshop, and asked for 12 people to volunteer to support the workshop, 6 facilitators and 6 note takers. Formally identifying those people in advance will help make the workshop flow more smoothly. Tamiko also mentioned a flyer will be developed for the workshop.

5. Committee Meeting (Bill Eisele)

a. **Jean Philippe (JP) Ducasse (*confirmed*), Specialist, Office of Analytics and Research, USPS Office of Inspector General**

b. **Caroline Kieltyka (*invited*), Program Manager for Freight, AASHTO**

Bill mentioned JP Ducasse will discuss USPS' logistical challenges at the committee meeting. Caroline Kieltyka, the new Freight liaison at AASHTO, has also been invited to speak. *Update – she has accepted.* Other “regular” committee meeting features, such as the research process, will also be featured during the meeting. Bill will again prepare a lineup card (“postcard”) showing sessions and workshops organized/sponsored/supported by the Urban Freight Transportation Committee. He mentioned some of the workshops, sessions, and posters each day that will be featured on the postcard.

6. Best Papers and Poster Sessions (Gaby Giron and Peter Plumeau)

Gaby mentioned that the two (2) best paper sessions will take place on Tuesday from 8:00 AM to 9:45 AM (Urban Freight and Urban Form, Lectern Session 1402) and from 3:45 PM to 5:30 PM (Getting the Goods In and Out: Evaluating Innovations in Urban Freight, Lectern Session 1615).

Peter said the poster session is on Monday from 8:00 AM to 9:45 AM (Advances and Innovations in Urban Freight Transportation Planning, Poster 1157). He recognized Erica Wygonik for her assistance. A total of 22 posters are included in the session. The posters include a wide range of geographies, including the U.S., South America, Asia, and Europe.

7. Freight Day Sessions (Bill Eisele)

Bill indicated that the Freight Day sessions cover e-commerce, last-mile distribution, port automation and building resilient ships and seaports – all items with some relevance to the urban freight issues. Bill encouraged everyone to review the Interactive Program for more details.

8. Other AT025 co-sponsored activities (Bill Eisele)

Bill indicated that the lineup card will be full of activities organized/sponsored/supported by the committee. The best thing to do is to search for “AT025” in the Interactive Program to see all the Urban Freight activities. Bill said he will get all of these on the lineup card of sessions.

9. FHWA Urban Freight Roundtable (Tamiko Burnell & DJ Mason)

Tamiko noted Korean and European attendees are anticipated to participate in the roundtable; there is already a large number of people registered (55 maximum participants). DJ asked Bill to send the notice to the committee's e-mail membership; there are about 15 slots remaining. *Update – Bill circulated this and the roundtable quickly filled up. There is now a waiting list being developed.*

10. Other sessions - of interest for committee friends and members?

Scott Grenerth mentioned the “Barriers to Increasing Truck Parking Supply and Availability” (Lectern Session 1199) on Monday from 10:15AM-12:00PM.

Research Subcommittee Update (Erica Wygonik) (12:15 – 12:25)

Erica stated that 50 papers were submitted this year. **This is a new high for the Urban Freight Transportation Committee!** There is only room for 8 papers in the two (2) best paper sessions, though others were included in the posters.

Erica also noted papers can be submitted directly to the TRB’s *Transportation Research Record*. She stated the papers submitted to and selected by the committee have been submitted to the TRR. Some new and previously submitted papers will need to be reviewed for TRR papers; members may receive requests to review those papers.

Other Business/Updates (12:25 – 12:40)

11. Blue Ribbon Award (Research) – we won! (Bill Eisele)

Bill mentioned the Urban Freight Committee won the award this year. Bill thanked the team of members who assisted in the submission that helped the committee win the award. Bill said he made a first draft of the application and the team then make excellent corrections, updates and edits to turn it into the winning application. The team included Alison Conway, Akiko Yamagami, Tom O’Brien, DJ Mason and Tamiko Burnell.

12. Recognitions at Annual Meeting (Bill Eisele)

Bill is working with Linsey Callaghan (Committee Recognition Coordinator) to identify people deserving of recognition. Linsey will work directly with TRB to get the recognition certificates created.

13. Centennial Activities – Book, Photograph, Centennial Papers, Century Club Membership, etc.

Bill promoted the opportunity to belong to the Century Club Membership. More information can be found here: <https://trbcentennial.nationalacademies.org/home>.

14. TRB committee structure review (Bill Eisele)

Bill mentioned the TRB committee structure will change; some committees will be consolidated, with the total number going from 220 to 174 committees. The changes had no impact on the Urban Freight Committee, and minor impact to the Freight and Marine Groups.

15. Communications Subcommittee Update (Fatemeh Ranaiefar)

Fatemeh stated she had nothing new to share. Tom Murtha mentioned he is working on a video that will explain the Urban Freight Committee activities. He’s currently working on a message map, and has been collecting videos related to freight to review that will help in developing the planned video. Tom would appreciate any ideas or sample videos that they could share. He would like to have a rough cut of the planned video by early 2020, and a final version by mid-2020. The video was originally intended to be 2-4 minutes long, but the final video will probably be somewhat longer than that, most likely 5-6 minutes long.

16. Resources Document Update (Miguel Jaller)

Bill Eisele said Miguel said the Resources Document will be updated by very early January, prior to the TRB Annual Meeting.

Future Meetings and Other Resources (Bill Eisele) (12:40 – 12:45)

17. TRB 99th Annual Meeting (January 12-16, 2020)

18. Partner conferences (VREF Conference on Urban Freight, October 2020, Gothenburg, Sweden)

Michael Browne provided a brief update about the VREF Conference. The 2020 conference will take place from October 14th to October 16th. He noted some people have already received a save the date notice, but he asked Bill to share the notice with the committee. *Update: Bill circulated the save-the-date notice to all committee members and friends.*

19. TRB Critical Issues in Transportation (<http://www.trb.org/Main/Blurbs/178402.aspx>)

Bill briefly discussed the critical issues in transportation document, and he noted that the Urban Freight Committee's direct involvement with the critical issue of "goods movement," as well as the fact that Urban Freight Transportation impacts nearly all of the critical issues, may have played a role in helping the committee win the Blue Ribbon Award.

"1-Minute" Announcements (All) (12:45 – 1:00)

No additional announcements.

Bill thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting.

Questions? Want to be more involved? Contact us!

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Learn more at our website: <https://urbanfreight.tti.tamu.edu/>

AT025 TRB Urban Freight Transportation Team

Yellow highlight = members on the call

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TRB's Urban Freight Transportation Committee (AT025) is concerned with the study and research of urban freight transportation topics and issues, including urban transportation system demand and economic relationships, right-of-way issues, pick-up and delivery needs, terminal transportation needs, institutional challenges, and new technology, with an emphasis on providing support to practitioners.