

Minutes for Statewide Travel Demand Forecasting Joint Subcommittee of ADA10 & ADB40, 2009 Annual Meeting, 8:00 AM, Jan. 14, 2009, Hilton Monroe South Room

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

- Rob Bostrom and Keith Killough to attend ADA10 research subcommittee and serve on same.
- Greg Giaimo to send contact information for Rob Bostrom and Keith Killough for the research subcommittee and Rob Schiffer for the strategic plan rewrite to Trish Hendron.
- Rob Bostrom to coordinate with Alan Horowitz to ensure all presentations from the statewide planning conference are posted on web site.
- Greg Giaimo to supply list of volunteers to Nanda Srinivasan for technical advisory committee on Project 8-36, Task 91 (SW Model Validation).
- Rob Bostrom, Wade White and Rob Schiffer to draft problem statement for NCHRP project on long distance and rural travel transferable parameters. Phil Mescher, Keith Killough, Greg Giaimo, Jeremy Raw, Coco Briseno, Mike Heath, and Todd Brauer to enlist DOT sponsorship and SCOP support for project. Once written, Greg Giaimo will coordinate with Nanda Srinivasan and Kim Fisher to advance.
- Alan Horowitz to attend TRB session 788 and begin coordination with Tom Rossi and Chandra Bhat to attempt to advance the subcommittee's desire to create a college curriculum for statewide travel demand modeling.
- Rob Bostrom and Alan Horowitz to draft NCHRP 8-36 problem statement on ODME in statewide models (due by February 16).
- Greg Giaimo will draft a call for papers for next years annual meeting on modeling modeling non-freight and short haul commercial vehicle movements, Mike Heath and Coco Briseno to assist.
- Rob Schiffer to follow up with FHWA on MTAS and possible sponsorship of a national travel model initiative

MINUTES

Greg Giaimo (chair) calls the meeting to order, those present introduce themselves. Chair distributes meeting agenda and minutes of 2008 meeting. Chuck Purvis moves to approve, Alan Horowitz seconds, minutes approved unanimously by voice vote.

Subcommittee recognizes Gordon Shunk who passed away this year. Gordon was the previous (and inaugural) chair of the subcommittee and was instrumental in its formation.

Chair indicates that statewide planning parent committee (ADA10) needs volunteers from this subcommittee to serve on the research subcommittee on Wednesday at 4:30PM in Hilton Adams. Rob Bostrom and Keith Killough volunteer. Chair further indicates that this committee is rewriting its strategic plan and needs a volunteer to help with that. Rob Schiffer volunteers. Chair will inform committee chair (Trish Hendron).

Membership discussion

Chair discusses subcommittee membership requirements (informal process, notify chair if want to be a member and will get extra paper reviews in August). Asks that anyone desiring membership contact him later. The following persons request admittance as full members of the subcommittee and are thus adopted as same:

Mike Heath, Alliance Transportation Group

Discussion of Existing Subcommittee Activities

1. NCHRP 8-36 Project, Task 70, Scoping Study for Development of a National Travel Model

Chair indicates scoping study is complete and there will be a presentation from Rob Schiffer at the end of the agenda (see below).

2. Conference on Best Practices in Meeting Federal Surface Transportation Requirements in the Statewide Transportation Planning Process, Atlanta GA, Sept 3-5, 2008

Rob Bostrom described statewide model track at conference and provided a handout showing the sessions/presentations (contact Rob directly if you would like a copy). Sessions were organized by subcommittee members: Paul Hershkowitz, Phil Mesher, Rob Schiffer, Greg Giaino and Rob Bostrom and attendance was good. This session maintained the subcommittee's attempt to have a statewide model venue of some sort every few years. Chuck Purvis asked about publication of the presentations, conference proceedings will be published via normal TRB channels and the presentations will be made available on the subcommittee's web page. Rob Bostrom to ensure Alan Horowitz has all presentations for posting. Rob goes on to mention annual meeting session 739 on Wednesday at 2:30 in Hilton Lincoln East where the best presentations from the conference will be presented.

3. NCHRP 8-36 Project, Task 91, Validation and Sensitivity Considerations for Statewide Models. Chair announces that subcommittee member Wade White drafted a problem statement on this topic and it was accepted for this year's program. Nanda Srinivasan indicates the consultant will be selected in February, April/May kickoff, project to finish 1 year from then. He is putting together the technical oversight committee and looking for volunteers. The following volunteers are obtained:

Keith Killough (AZ DOT), Frank Law (CAL TRANS, volunteered in absentia by Coco Briseno), Phil Mescher (IA DOT), Jeremy Raw (VA DOT), Scott Thomson-Graves (WR&A), Brian Gregor (OR DOT), Mike Heath (Alliance)

Chair will forward names and email addresses to Nanda who will contact volunteers directly.

4. NCHRP Project 8-61, TDF: Parameters and Techniques (365 Update)

Chair introduces topic. Tom Rossi begins discussion noting that project is delay awaiting NHTS 2008. Nanda Srinivasan and Ed Christopher join the discussion to indicate why the project scope no longer includes the long distance and rural travel components originally contained in the problem statement. These items were apparently overlooked by the technical over-site committee when reviewing consultant proposals. Given budget constraints and other priorities this work will not be accomplished in the current project.

Discussion then moves to next steps. Chuck Purvis suggests pursuing a separate NCHRP project for rural/long distance trip making. Ed suggests garnering state support and submitting through SCOP or similar. While NCHRP project deadline is September 15, would need to have problem statement ready by May to do this. Group decides topic is large enough to require a full NCHRP project. Nanda distributes a hand out on "How to Write Effective Research Problem Statements" (contact Nanda directly if you would like a copy). Rob Schiffer indicates that the conception of such a study should not limit itself to nationally available data but rather should consider data the states have. He points out examples of Florida and Wisconsin, Greg Giaimo seconds this notion mentioning Ohio data. The following persons agree to draft a problem statement:

Rob Schiffer (Cambridge), Wade White (Whitehouse), Rob Bostrom (Wilbur Smith)

The following persons agree to sponsor the problem statement and enlist the support of their states SCOP member:

Phil Mescher (IA DOT), Keith Killough (AZ DOT), Greg Giaimo (OH DOT), Jeremy Raw (VA DOT), Coco Briseno (CAL TRANS), Mike Heath (for TX DOT), Todd Brauer (for KS DOT).

5. Linkages with other TRB Committees

Chair briefly discusses liaisons with other committees indicating primary purpose is to purpose coordination on sessions, proposed research and conferences. Requests that anyone interested contact him later. Keith Killough and Steve Reugg contact later. The current liaisons list is as follows:

Name	Committee
Rob Bostrom	Statewide Data and Information Systems (ABJ20)
Jack Klodzinski	Freight Transportation Data (ABJ90)
Rebekah Anderson	Traveler Behavior and Values (ADB10)
Tom Rossi\Greg Giaimo	Transportation Demand Forecasting (ADB40)
Rob Schiffer\Keith Killough	Transportation Planning Applications (ADB50)
Greg Giaimo	Statewide Multimodal Trans. Planning (ADA10)
Paul Hershkowitz	Trans. Planning for Small & Medium Sized (ADA30)
Dane Ismart	Highway Capacity and Quality of Service (AHB40)
Steve Ruegg	Travel Survey Methods

We still could use liaisons for the following (ADB30, ABJ30, AT015, ADC20, ADD30, AR010, AR040).

6. College curricula for SW models

Alan Horowitz passes out a first draft of a proposed college curriculum for statewide modeling (contact Alan for a copy). A large amount of discussion follows. Tom Rossi points out that most college students don't know they want to be a statewide modeler. Greg Giaimo concurs and adds that outreach efforts via high schools, college orientation and coop programs are probably a necessary component. Rob Bostrom wonders just how many colleges will be able to offer all the proposed course work. Greg Giaimo suggests inventorying this as part of the development. Brian Gregor and Wade White begin a discussion on the issues facing states and further exploring this to better define the curriculum. The idea of providing some introduction to analytical methods and data collection to students in transportation planning curricula is brought up. This could have the side effect of pulling some of these individuals deeper into the modeling field via follow up electives. Mike Heath wonders if certification should be a part of the plan. Group agrees that Alan will get outside help, most notably from the parent travel demand modeling committee (Tom Rossi) and the Education committee (Chandra Bhat). Alan will attend Session 788 on Building the 21st Century Workforce on Thursday morning as a start. All members will send comments on Alan's draft direct to him.

7. Web Site Status/Parent Committee Web Site

Chair announces that web page now has a home thanks to Alan Horowitz at:

<http://www.uwyo.edu/statewideplanning/>

Alan briefly discusses.

Existing Research Topics Status Report

Chair briefly reviews existing research topics indicating actions taken this year as follows:

- Rural Trip Making (NOT in NCHRP 365 Update)
- National Model (NCHRP 8-36 Project)
- Validation and Performance Guidelines (NCHRP 8-36 Project)
- Long Distance Travel Data (NOT in NCHRP 365 Update)
- Improved Freight Data and Models Including Commodity Flow Data (Liaison with Freight Model Committee)
- Staff Retention, Development and Training (College Curricula Effort)
- Application/Policy Responsiveness of Statewide Models (No current activity)
- Traffic Assignment Issues including the effects of long trip lengths and spatial aggregation level (No current activity)

- Innovative OD Estimation techniques (No current activity)
- Better Information on Non-Freight Commercial Vehicle Movements (Action Item for Development of a Problem Statement was Not Done)

Upcoming Years Activities

Per previous discussion group has already decide to:

- Pursue an NCHRP project on transferable parameters for rural and long distance passenger travel
- Follow up on the college curricula issue

Additional discussion at this point results in the following activities:

Paul Hershkowitz indicates there will be a statewide model session for the Planning Applications conference in Houston.

Alan Horowitz and Rob Bostrom volunteer to write a problem statement for an NCHRP 8-36 project on OD Estimation techniques. This problem statement will focus on what ODME is being used for, what it should be used for and what it should not be used for. Problem statements are due by February 16 so they will get this done by early February.

Discussion then moves to the non-freight commercial vehicle travel topic which wasn't followed up on last year. Todd Brauer, Wade White and Keith Killough wonder why this topic should be pursued by this subcommittee since it is a more localized issue. Greg Giaimo points out that the subcommittee adopted this issue because A) no one else is, B) all SW models with their heavy freight focus end up dealing with this issue more explicitly than most urban models. Subcommittee agrees to follow 2 tracks on this, one to bump this issue to the parent travel modeling committee (ADB40, Tom Rossi) and two, to issue a call for papers on the issue for the 2010 annual meeting. Greg Giaimo to draft call for papers, Coco Briseno and Mike Heath to provide assistance.

Presentation on Scoping Study for a National Travel Model, Rob Schiffer

Rob presented on the project (slides available on subcommittee web site). Estimate \$600K to develop, \$300K to maintain. Model quite simple, focus on highway (and maybe rail). Will not duplicate FAF2 but rather attempt to provide a passenger equivalent and integrate. Notion is to assemble and process disparate data and make available to statewide modelers. Scalable data geography, maintaining data in native geography with tools to aggregate/disaggregate. Next step is to find a sponsor. MTAS effort begun by FHWA mentioned (Tinjat Tang, sp?) is contact. Rob Schiffer will begin coordination effort by contacting him as well as Fred Ducca. Ed Christopher suggest coordinating with the passenger travel data subcommittee and that some effort to inventory DOT modeling is needed. Wade White suggests other potential sponsors such as Amtrak, FAA, EPA etc.

Attendance

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