

**TRB Committee on Roundabouts ANB75**  
**2012 Mid-year Meeting**  
**August 13, 2012, at ITE Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**COMMITTEE SCOPE:** The TRB Committee on Roundabouts is concerned with all factors encompassing modern roundabouts. The Committee provides focus within TRB on current issues and future research needs pertaining to modern roundabouts. It serves as a forum for discussions about roundabout research, projects, and policy for all interested stakeholders; identifies research needs and develops research problem statements to meet the needs; and facilitates the exchange of knowledge by various media, meetings, and conferences.

**MEETING MINUTES**

- I. Chair Gene Russell called the meeting to order and introduced himself and the committee.
- II. Self-introductions around the room were made and a sign-in sheet was distributed. There were 20 people in attendance (see Attachment 1).
- III. Gene referenced the [TRB on-line directory](#) for information about the members of the committee and passed around a print-out of the members for review
- IV. Discussion
  - a. Comments from the Chair:
    - i. Gene discussed the formation of the TRB Roundabout Committee and some logistics surrounding the committee, including:
      - Members have a three-year rotation cycle
      - Not all members from the previous Roundabout Task Force were appointed to the committee. Since the Task Force had never rotated members and many members dated back to the original Joint Subcommittee, around 2003-04, it seemed a good time to follow the TRB rotation policy and bring on new members.
      - April 15, 2012 is the official start date for the new members on the Committee and appointments are to April 14, 2015.
    - ii. Gene also mentioned that TRB is considering moving the location of the annual meeting sometime in the future [to the Washington Convention center] which delayed the committee appointments and an RFP sent to hotels in Seattle in advance of the 2014 Roundabout Conference. The RFP for a venue for the 2014 International Conference in Seattle is now out.
  - b. Assigned Papers and review and list
    - i. As of the time of the meeting, the paper review website was not yet open. Gene previously sent a list of papers submitted to the committee. Gene pointed out that one of the key roles of members on the committee is to review papers.
  - c. [Committee web site](#)

- i. Membership information on the TRB website is now correct.
- d. Subcommittees
  - i. A membership subcommittee was formed by Gene to help determine the new members of the Committee.
          - ii. TRB Annual Meeting sessions subcommittee will continue to be run by Hillary and Brian.
          - iii. A research subcommittee will be chaired by Phil Demosthenes.
          - iv. A Human Factors subcommittee will be chaired by Janet Barlow with assistance from Bastian Schroeder.
          - v. An administrative subcommittee, [will be named Strategic Planning subcommittee] modeled after what the Geometric Design committee is doing, will be chaired by Marcus Brewer.
          - vi. A Roundabout Guide Update subcommittee will be chaired by Lee Rodegerdts.
            - The roundabout guide update subcommittee will oversee the production of the next roundabout guide, similar to how the HCQS committee takes charge of the HCM. The subcommittee will establish a strategic plan, and begin establishing the scope for what's to be included in the next guide, e.g. how to best incorporate the latest research findings.
            - The subcommittee will be formed and discuss a plan and the next steps between now and January
            - Jeff Shaw mentioned that a ten-year cycle to new editions sounds good from planning perspective, but for meaningful changes in the interim it could be useful to recruit someone with ties to AASHTO. Jim Brewer was mentioned as the logical choice, and the subcommittee will be sure to include Jim in the subcommittee actions.
          - vii. A Strategic Plan subcommittee will be chaired by Marcus Brewer. The Committee just missed the strategic plan process for the Safety Systems User Group, but it would be good to update the business plan regardless. The strategic plan would help to set a course for the next three years, establish the scope of committee and highlight issues of importance to the Committee. It should also provide a "head start" for when the committee's Strategic Plan will be required in three years.
          - viii. A liaison Committee will be chaired by Bastian Schroeder. TRB is especially interested in liaisons with other committees, and in particular with joint research needs statements
- e. Web Meetings Discussion
  - i. A discussion about whether meetings (perhaps even Mid-year) should be hosted on the web was held. Currently, members not in attendance at the meeting have to rely on someone's cell phone, or wait for the minutes to find out what was discussed at the meeting.
          - ii. After some discussion regarding the pros and cons of web meetings versus meetings in person, the consensus was the Committee needs to meet twice a year in person (TRB and possibly ITE Annual Meeting), with interim meetings online. The meetings in person allow members and chance to reconnect, and having the meetings helps to establish

milestones for Committee and subcommittee tasks. Gene Hawkins said it was critical to have face-to-face meetings for the networking component, and the ability to incorporate new and younger members who aren't able to participate in the web meetings.

- iii. Jeff Shaw volunteered to host the web meetings using FHWA's infrastructure.
  - iv. A regular meeting schedule was proposed, and it was the consensus that the interim internet meeting schedule would be rotated to allow people from different time zones to participate.
  - v. It was agreed that subcommittees should also plan to meet occasionally online because of the difficulty in scheduling meetings at TRB.
  - vi. Brian Walsh brought up the idea of the internet Committee meetings to discuss various topics. It was suggested that a subcommittee could discuss specific topics at their interim meetings.
- f. Active "Friends" Discussion
- i. Currently everyone on the listserv is also considered a friend of the committee. This list grew over the years from everyone who showed up at Joint subcommittee and Task Force meetings, and also includes several people with no past connection to TRB who asked to be added because of general interest in roundabouts.
  - ii. The group decided it would be best to track the people who show up to meetings, review papers, and volunteer for other Committee tasks. These people would form the "active" friends list which would form one basis for picking new Committee members at rotation times. This active friends list would be separate from the listserv.
  - iii. Gene mentioned that tracking attendance and paper reviews helped identify active persons for new members to form the Committee.
- g. Awards
- i. Hilary won the Committee's best paper award for her paper on "Quantifying the Safety of Rural Roundabouts with High Speed Approaches". It was submitted for the [Waller Award](#), one of TRB's top awards presented at the Annual Meeting Dinner, and won! Congratulations Hillary!
  - ii. Bernard Guichet won the Blackmore award which will be presented at the TRB Annual Meeting. If he isn't able to make it in person, the group decided to do a video recording similar to when Ken Todd won the award.
- V. January 2012 Minutes
- a. The minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously.
- VI. Active Research and TRB Research Needs Statements (RNSs)
- a. 17 RNSs are listed on the Committee website at present. Phil Demosthenes sent a report, which was passed out and discussed, about the status of the 17 RNSs to the Committee, which are all at different stages of development. It was mentioned that when funding for an RNS comes through, it often leads to additional RNSs and doesn't conclude the need for research. The Research Subcommittee will discuss through email which RNSs need to be eliminated or modified.

- b. FHWA is currently looking at capacity improvements. FHWA is also looking at Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFB) at roundabouts.
- c. NCHRP 3-78b is a continuation of the accessibility of roundabouts and free right-turns at intersections research.
- d. Multilane roundabouts and PDO crashes was highlighted as a topic that should be considered for future research, and the Committee agreed they should push it as an NCHRP project. Hillary, Lee and Brian agreed to help write this RNS, and will get back to Phil.
- e. Many of the issues identified at the 2011 conference were more in line with what the ITE Roundabout Task Force (published “tools” for practitioners) should be focusing on. These could also be NCHRP Synthesis projects.
- f. A discussion over whether the Committee should focus on one or two topics, or try to write a variety of RNSs ensued. It was the consensus that the Committee should do both: They would highlight one or two topics that should be fully developed and put forth for funding, and have other topics for the RNS website available for other researchers.
- g. Research on heavy vehicles at roundabout was denied by NCHRP, but became a pooled study, being completed by Kansas State and currently in the review stage. This is a hot topic in Oregon and California in particular.
- h. Jeff Shaw noted that FHWA has opportunities to commit funding for projects with goals similar to FHWA goals.
- i. Lighting and pavement markings were also mentioned as topics where more research is needed.
- j. Sustainability and how roundabouts promote sustainability goals was a topic that was mentioned as being a high priority.
- k. It was noted that TRB is encouraging committees to partner with other committees in writing and/or endorsing each other’s RNSs.

VII. Ongoing/Proposed Research

- a. NCHRP 3-100 –Roundabout Corridors
  - i. Lee gave a status update, and said the project team was in the middle of the project, and still collecting data from six corridors in the US, and will likely end up with eight or nine corridors. The project has two purposes. 1.) Document existing corridors, and learn the history of the corridors, how they developed, and how they would operate against similar signalized corridors. 2.) Establishing a toolbox for moving forward with roundabout corridors. How does a practitioner analyze the corridors against alternatives? The toolbox should allow for travel time and speed comparisons to provide better estimate tools.
- b. Pooled Fund Study on Accommodation Oversize/Overweight (OSOW)
  - i. Gene said the project was finished two or three months ago, and is still being reviewed by KDOT.
- c. Optimizing Truck Routing in Kansas
  - i. Gene said the project was considered being cancelled. [However, subsequent to the meeting the research scope was modified and reinstated.]
- d. Other Research

- i. Jeff Shaw mentioned that FHWA is getting pressure internally to start looking at how to integrate results from SHRP 2. SHRP 2 data in particular will likely give projects a leg up on getting funding. Because SHRP 2 is using instrumented data from people actually driving it could provide great insight into comparing traffic control devices.

VIII. Webinars

- a. Gene would still like to present webinars based on topics from the best presentations at the 2011 International Conference in Carmel that would be interesting to states, and thinks pavement markings and signing would be a good first topic.
- b. Gene Hawkins thought that a webinar on how roundabouts with safety problems were retrofitted would get a good audience. Gene and Gene will discuss this further at a later date.

IX. Interacting with other TRB Committees

- a. This discussion was skipped due to time. As liaison subcommittee chair, Bastian will make contacts and clarify the list of other committees we should be interacting with. People who would like to serve as the liaison for these committees should let Bastian know.
  - i. ANB20 Safety Data, Analysis and Evaluation, former parent committee (volunteer?)
  - ii. ANF10 Pedestrian (Lois Thibault – Retired- or others) (Volunteer?)
  - iii. AHB70 Access Management (Phil Demosthenes)
  - iv. AHB60 Hwy-Rail Grade Crossings (Gene Russell)
  - v. AHB50 Traffic Control Devices (Gene Russell or Gene Hawkins)
  - vi. AHB25 Traffic Signal Systems (Volunteer)
  - vii. AHB65 Operational Effects of Geometrics (Volunteer?)
  - viii. ANF20 Bicycle Committee (volunteer?)
  - ix. AHB40 Highway Capacity (Lee Rodegerdts)
  - x. ABE60 Accessible Transportation and Mobility (Volunteer?)
  - xi. ANB30 Operator, Education and Regulation (Volunteer?)
  - xii. Intersection Subcommittee (Jeff Shaw)
  - xiii. AFB10 Geometric Design (Marcus, Brian, J. Brewer, Hillary)
  - xiv. ANB25 Highway Safety Performance (Melissa Anderson)
  - xv. ALO60 Eminent Domain and Land Use (Phil Demosthenes)
  - xvi. ALO70 Tort Liability and Risk Management ( Gene Hawkins)
  - xvii. ATO55 Truck Size and Weight (Peter Lynch)
  - xviii. AHB55 Work Zone Safety (Wade Odell)
  - xix. AND40 Visibility (Wade Odell)
  - xx. AHB65 Operational Effects of Geometrics (Jeff Shaw)

X. Interacting with other organizations:

- a. This discussion was skipped due to time. Again, if anyone believes others should be considered, please let Gene R. know. Current members identified for each organization are:
  - i. NCUTCD (Lee)
  - ii. ITE ( Hillary, Ed Stollof)
  - iii. AASHTO (Jim Brewer)
  - iv. FHWA (JEFF, Hillary)

- v. ASCE/TDI (Gene)
  - vi. TAC (Expect Keith Boddy)
  - vii. NCHRP (Volunteer Needed)
  - viii. Access Board (Melissa Anderson)
  - ix. Freight Systems and Marine Younger Member Council (Robert Rescot)
- XI. Closing Discussion
- a. FHWA: Jeff Shaw pointed out that [FHWA's Every Day Counts 2012 Initiatives](#) includes roundabouts.
  - b. 2013 Annual Meeting: The Committee will sponsor two workshops on Sunday prior to TRB. Janet Barlow will host a human factors workshop (separate fee), and Mark Lenters will host a half-day Roundabout Knowledge Exchange workshop (included in TRB registration).
    - i. Janet mentioned that the human factors workshop has a 25-person limit. The workshop will discuss innovative pedestrian and bicycle accommodations with a goal of coming out with some type of report about the discussion.
    - ii. Gene read the description of the Roundabout Knowledge Exchange workshop.
    - iii. Hillary voiced her concern over hosting two conflicting workshops on Sunday.
  - c. Melissa Anderson from the U.S. Access Board gave an update on the proposed Public Rights of Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG). The Access Board is reviewing the 600+ comments received, and the end of 2013 is the optimistic goal for the release of PROWAG.
  - d. Brian put in a plug in for the TRB Roundabout Conference in Seattle in 2014. The meeting will be held either the first or second weekend of May (May 5 or May 12, 2014). [Subsequent to this meeting, an April date was added for consideration] The conference will be held in downtown Seattle, and one of the events will likely include a ferry trip.
  - e. Brian is also open to help on the video theatre at TRB, and is particularly open to individuals showing videos about what is happening in their individual states.
  - f. The Committee will likely be hosting one podium paper session, one hot-topic session (possibly another invited speaker, presentation session), and a poster session at TRB.
- XII. The meeting was adjourned by the chair at 12:40 PM.

Minutes taken and compiled by Lee Rodegerdts and Alek Pochowski

**Attachment 1 – Meeting Attendance List**

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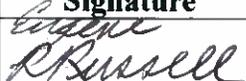
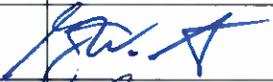
## TRB Roundabouts Task Force Attendance Listing

Date:  
8/13/2012

Meeting Location:  
203 B

Time:  
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

I acknowledge having read the Institute's conflict of interest and antitrust policy that is printed on the backside of this form and agree to abide by these policies during my participation in this meeting.

Print Name	Signature	Title/Employer	Email
Eugene (Gene) Russell		Professor Emeritus Kansas State University	gene@ksu.edu
GARY SCHATZ		ASSISTANT DIRECTOR CITY OF AUSTIN, TX	g-a-y.schatz@ austin.texas.gov
Lee Rodegants		Principal Engineer Kittelson & Associates, Inc	Lrodegants@kittelson.com
Alek Podowski		Principal Engineer/Planner Kittelson & Associates, Inc.	apodowski@kittelson.com
Cere Hawkins		Assoc Prof Texas A&M Univ CITY ENGINEER	gene.hawkins@tamu.edu
MIKE McBRIDE		CITY ENGINEER CITY OF CARMEL INDIANA	MMLBRIDE@CARMEL.IN.GOV
MIKE MESSER		Franklin County Engineer Public Engineer (non)	mmesser@franklincountyengineer.com
HILLARY ISEBRANDS		FHWA RESOURCE CENTER	hillary.isebrands@ <del>dot.gov</del> dot.gov
Troy Pankratz		Ourston Roundabout Engineering	tpankrat2@ourston.com
Melissa Anderson		Transportation Engineer US Access Board	anderson@access-board.gov
Janet Barlow		Accessible Design for the Blind	jbarlow@accessforblind.org
MARU T. JOHNSON		MTJ ENGINEERING	MARU@MTJENGINEERING.COM

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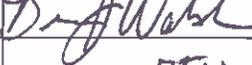
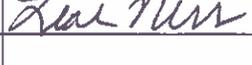
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Print Name	Signature	Title/Employer	Email
JEFF SHAW		FLWA SAFETY	jeffrey.shaw@dot.gov
ANDY O'BRIEN		Chairman, O'Brien Traffic	andvow@obrientraffic.com
MICHAEL MASTAGLIO		RUCKS RK+K	mmastaglio@rkk.com
DANIEL SPANH		RPM TRANSPORTATION	danielspanh@rpmtraff.com
BRIAN WALSH		Washington State DOT	walshb@wsdot.wa.gov
Andy Paul	proxy BTW	Massachusetts DOT	? (member of committee)
KAREN GIESE		PTV Group	kgiese@ptvamerica.com
LEAH NESS		TRAFFICENG, AYRES ASSOCIATES	NESSLE@AYRESASSOCIATES.COM

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