

**MINUTES**  
**2009 Task Force Mid-Year Meeting**  
**TRB Task Force on Roundabouts (ANB75T)**

**Tuesday, August 11, 2009 – 4:00-5:30 pm**  
**Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center (Room 007C), San Antonio, TX**

-----

**TASK FORCE SCOPE:** The TRB Roundabouts Task Force is concerned with all factors encompassing modern roundabouts. The Task Force 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.

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order (Gene Russell, Chair)
- II. Self Introductions (All present)
- III. Approval of April Web Meeting Minutes (Marcus Brewer, Secretary)
- IV. Review of “Action Items” from Previous Minutes
- V. Discussion of TRB 2010 activities (Jan 10-14)
  - a. Sessions & paper review
  - b. Video theatre
  - c. Possible “museum”
  - d. Possible environmental joint session
  - e. Interaction with TRB Environmental TF
- VI. Beyond 2010; brief brainstorming re design workshop/other TF activity ideas
- VII. 2011 National Conference Update
- VIII. Discussion/brainstorming; “Getting more research ideas on TRB website”
- IX. New TRB Communications Coordinator group
  - a. Google Sites to replace Web Board
  - b. Other avenues of communication
- X. Subcommittee/liason/reports of interest:
  - a. Access Board update
  - b. NCHRP 3-78A

- c. ITE & ITE Roundabout Task Force
- d. NCUTCD
- e. Roundabout Informational report (Session 2; Monday)
- f. New FHWA Initiatives
- g. TAC activities update
- h. International research/items of interest
- i. Inventory of Roundabout Locations
- j. Other research/other organization roundabout activities

XI. Next Meeting- TRB 2010, probably Wednesday evening.  
Possible web meeting, November, 1 hr

XII. Adjourn

-----

## MINUTES:

- I. Call to Order.** Meeting called to order by Gene Russell at approximately 4:06 PM.
- II. Self Introductions.** Self introductions were made by all in attendance. An attendance sign-up sheet / e-mail verification sheet was distributed (see Attachment 1); 20 people signed the attendance list.
- III. Approval of April Web Meeting Minutes.** Michael McBride made a motion, seconded by Leanna Belluz, to approve the minutes; motion carried.
- IV. Review of “Action Items” from Previous Minutes**
  - No items remaining for action.
- V. Discussion of TRB 2010 activities (Jan. 10-14)**
  - Sessions & paper review (Rich Cunard) – More than 3700 papers received. Many sessions that would have been held in the Hilton will be moved to other hotels, as the Hilton meeting space is under construction in January. Also, committees will be asked to shorten the lengths of their meetings, and other actions are being reviewed to fit more events into fewer meeting rooms. Human factors workshops will be on Saturday.
  - Video Theatre – Brian Walsh will again lead the event. As new videos are developed, they will be valuable in future events. If you have a new video, or if you know of a new video that has been released, please contact Brian and/or send him a copy.
  - Possible “Museum” (Mark Lenters) – Discussion of a new event, possibly part of the Video Theatre, that would be similar to a poster session type of format to display a history of roundabouts in the United States. Leif Ourston would possibly serve as a “curator”. Details of the museum and how it would be coordinated with the Video Theatre will be worked out between Gene, Brian, and Mark.

- Possible Environmental Joint Session – Unable to work out details for this session for the 2010 Annual Meeting, but will reconsider for 2011. Possible interaction with TRB Environmental TF

**VI. 2011 National Conference Update.** (Michael McBride, John Habermann, Craig Parks)

- Draft Schedule for May 11-13, 2011 was distributed for discussion. Conference would tentatively start on Wednesday morning, conclude at Friday noon, and would include an afternoon at Indianapolis Motor Speedway (including transportation, dinner, and speaker).
- There would also be multiple opportunities for tours of area roundabouts; the tours would be repeated to allow attendees more opportunities to see roundabout locations and still attend desired sessions at the conference. Meeting attendees discussed the number of different tours (e.g., two or three), frequency of tours, and nature of tours (e.g., walking tours vs. bus tours). These options will be examined in further detail and possible solutions presented at the January meeting.

**VII. Discussion/Brainstorming; “Getting More Research Ideas on TRB Website”.**

- Phil Demosthenes serves as the coordinator for the Task Force’s research activities. However, anyone is eligible to write a research needs statement to submit through the Task Force. Completed and draft statements can be sent to Phil via e-mail.
- Research statements are often thought of as seeds for FHWA or NCHRP projects, but they can also be smaller in scope, such as those suitable for individual study on graduate research projects.
- Statements need the following elements: title, problem statement, objective, estimated time period, estimated funding need, urgency or expected payoff.

**VIII. Subcommittee/Liaison/Reports of Interest.**

- NCHRP 3-78A (via e-mail from Bastian Schroeder)
  - NCHRP Project 3-78A is in the final report writing stage. The team has completed all field data collection and the majority of the data analysis. The team plans to submit the draft final report to the project panel in September 2009 allowing two months for panel review and comment period. The final project report is expected in December 2009 with TRB publication in mid 2010.
- ITE & ITE Roundabout Task Force
  - Hillary provided a summary of the roundabout-related sessions at the Annual Meeting:
    - Session 2 on Monday was attended by approximately 180 people.
    - The conversation circles in Session 11 (Monday afternoon) and Session 21 (Tuesday morning) each had about 50 people in attendance.
    - The “Technical Potpourri” Session 27 on Tuesday afternoon contained two roundabout presentations and was attended by about 90-100 people.
  - The Task Force met on Monday afternoon, with about 30 in attendance.

- New FHWA Initiatives (Ed Rice)
  - Roundabouts are on the list of nine proven safety treatments that the agency is promoting as a safety initiative (e.g., “roundabouts should be considered at new or reconstructed intersections”).
  - New video is still in development that will be targeted to decision-makers.
  - Proposals for a study on effectiveness of mini-roundabouts are being reviewed, and a contract is expected to be announced soon.
- Canada activities report (Leanna Belluz)
  - TAC Update
    - A funded project is currently underway developing uniform signs and markings for multi-lane roundabout to be included in the Canadian MUTCD. Ourston Roundabouts Canada is the consultant working on this project. It includes a literature review, a jurisdictional survey, and a comprehension testing exercise.
    - There will be a workshop at the TAC Annual Conference on the topic of Multi-lane Roundabouts. The workshop will take place on October 21, 2009 in Vancouver, B.C. and the speakers will be Brian Walsh from Washington State, Bruno Marquis from Quebec, Keith Boddy from Nova Scotia, and Phil Weber from Ourston Roundabouts Canada.
    - The Roundabout Synthesis of Practice for North America has been published by TAC and is available to purchase on their website: <http://www.tac-atc.ca/>.
  - Other Activities
    - Transport Canada is funding a project with Ryerson University who are building upon the safety prediction models from NCHRP 572 using Canadian data.
    - The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario built their first roundabout on a provincial road and is holding a Knowledge Transfer Event on September 17, 2009 in Picton, Ontario.

**X. Next Meeting-** TRB 2010 Annual Meeting (January 10-14), probably on Wednesday evening. Possible web meeting in November (approximately 1 hour) to be announced.

**XI. Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:33 PM.

### **ADDENDUM: Post-Meeting Comments**

This Addendum contains comments and reports that were part of the Agenda but were either not available at meeting time or were omitted from the meeting discussion for sake of time.

#### Liaison Reports/Reports of Interest

- NCUTCD (via e-mail from Lee Rodegerdts)
  - FHWA has indicated there will be something on the new MUTCD coming out by the end of this year. It will either be a final rule for the new MUTCD or a notice of supplemental amendments; the latter would open a new comment period. The MUTCD is in FHWA’s legal hands right now, and the decision on which route to take depends on whether they believe the responses to comments warrant another round of review.

- Roundabout Informational Report (via e-mail from Lee Rodegerdts)
  - The updated Roundabout Guide has been delayed a bit but is still expected to be completed this year and published early next year. Justin Bansen gave a presentation on this on Monday in Session 2, and the project team has been working hard to produce a final draft for our panel's review.
- Inventory of Roundabout Locations (via e-mail from Lee Rodegerdts)
  - We have cleaned up the interface for the online roundabout inventory at [roundabouts.kittelson.com](http://roundabouts.kittelson.com) but are continuing to find occasional glitches. The interface had to be completely rebuilt due to external hacking that corrupted the database with viruses. Input from all is welcome so that the database remains valuable to the user community. The link to Google Earth's new feature of historical photos is particularly useful, as many sites can now be seen in before and after configurations.
- Other Research/Other Organization Roundabout Activities (via e-mail from Lee Rodegerdts)
  - The 2010 HCM continues to be on schedule for release in late 2010. It will include a new chapter on roundabouts.
- Access Board Report (via e-mail from Dennis Cannon)
  - Expect the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) by March, 2010.
  - Volpe Center helping prepare the Regulatory Assessment for the NPRM.
  - Golden, CO, draft report on HAWK installation is in analysis.
  - Oakland, MI, HAWK installation will be overseen by WMU (D. Guth, J. Barlow, et al)
  - ITE Webinar on roundabout access in planning
  - Working with NCUTCD; we consider "rest in dark" provision for HAWK at roundabouts critical

#### TRB Communications Coordinators Group (Marcus Brewer)

- TRB has established a new group for Communications Coordinators from each committee and task force to improve and standardize communications within TRB's committee structure. The group met via webinar in June, to get the initial information from TRB on this initiative and provide feedback to TRB on their plans. The group is scheduled to meet several times per year by webinar to get new updates and have discussion.

- TRB has formally ended the Web Board system, in part because of increasing resources needed for maintenance and security. TRB is encouraging committees, subcommittees, and task forces to use Google Sites to replace their Web Board sites and has developed a template for their use. Marcus has set up a basic website for the Task Force at <http://sites.google.com/site/trbtaskforceanb75t/>, which will become the new web home for the Task Force as the site is populated.
- As part of the need to populate this site, and to better maintain coordination with the Task Force's other online presences (e.g., KSU website, Kittelson roundabout inventory, Picasa photo albums, etc.), we are looking for ideas and suggestions about what the new site should contain. Storage of meeting minutes, links to the above-mentioned sites and others, a calendar of upcoming Task Force-sponsored events, and more are all possible uses for the new site. If you have ideas, and particularly if you would like to volunteer to help populate the site with your ideas, please contact Marcus. (For an example of a more developed site, see <http://sites.google.com/site/trbcommitteeafb10/>.)

Minutes taken and typed by Marcus A. Brewer.

## **Attachment 1 – Meeting Attendance List**

Ahmed E. Aburahmah  
Leanna Belluz  
Tom Blust  
Marcus Brewer  
Richard Cunard  
Aaron Elias  
Michael A. Gingrich  
John Habermann  
Norman Hogue  
Hillary Isebrands  
Anna Lai  
Mark Lenters  
Mike McBride  
Kelly Parma  
Craig Parks  
George (Ed) Rice  
Gene Russell  
Jeffrey Shaw  
Daniel Spann  
Michael Wallwork