

MINUTES
2009 Task Force Winter Web Meeting
TRB Task Force on Roundabouts (ANB75T)

Thursday, December 17, 2009 – 12:00-1:30 pm CST

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. Self-Introductions
- II. Approval of previous minutes
- III. Review of “action items” from previous minutes
- IV. Discussion of TRB 2010 activities and call for volunteer workers
 - a. Sessions
 - b. Video Theatre
 - c. Roundabout Museum
 - d. ITE Roundabout Task Force Meeting
- V. 2011 National Conference Update
- VI. Discussion/brainstorming: “Getting more research ideas on TRB website”
- VII. Brief Subcommittee/liaison/reports of interest (as time permits)
 - a. Access Board
 - b. NCHRP 3-78A
 - c. FHWA Roundabout Informational Report (Guide)
 - d. ITE Roundabout Task Force
 - e. NCUTCD
 - f. New FHWA initiatives
 - g. TAC activities
 - h. International research/items of interest
 - i. Inventory of roundabout locations
 - j. Other research/other organization roundabout activities

VIII. Next meeting (TRB Annual Meeting, January 13 7:30-9:30 PM)

IX. Open for comments

X. Adjourn

MINUTES:

I. Attendees identify themselves

- Meeting called to order by Gene Russell at approximately 12:04 PM CDT. Meeting attendees were identified by the web meeting software and confirmed verbally; 13 members were in attendance (see Attachment 1).

II. Approval of previous minutes (Gene Russell)

- Postponed until January meeting due to lack of quorum.

III. Review of “action items” from previous minutes (Gene R.)

- Discussion of Task Force paper award; agreed by consensus that the Task Force would continue to present the award every year, based on the reviewers’ ratings of each paper.
- Discussion of new ANB75T website (<http://sites.google.com/site/trbtaskforceanb75t/>), using the new TRB committee website format on Google Sites that has replaced the Web Board system. The new TRB Communications Coordinators group has been providing support and advice for format and feedback and is highlighting several sessions at the TRB Annual Meeting for improving communications of many types using “New Media” and “Web 2.0” applications. Gene and Marcus will continue to develop communications options for the Task Force and welcome suggestions on website content and methods for outreach.

IV. Discussion of TRB 2010 activities and call for volunteer workers

- Sessions (Gene R.)
 - 595 – Current Issues in Roundabout Design and Safety (Wednesday, Jan. 13, 8:00-9:45)
 - 709 -- Roundabouts and Pedestrians with Disabilities: Continuing the Discussion (Thursday, Jan. 14, 8:00-9:45)
 - NOTE: Session 595 is not in our usual Thursday morning time slot for TF-sponsored sessions.
- Video Theatre (Brian Walsh)
 - Session 621 (Wednesday, Jan. 13, 9:00-4:00)
 - The Video Theatre is looking for additional videos (in DVD format) and any web based content prior to January 13. If you have any YouTube or other web content, please e-mail it to Brian at walshb@wsdot.wa.gov.
 - The Video event will feature the airing of videos and web content broken by small group discussions on roundabouts in general. Brian is looking for volunteers for a couple of slots and will be recruiting from the Task Force and as a backup, will send

out an email to the Roundabout Listserv looking for those who may be attending TRB and would like to participate. Look for this email prior to December 25th.

- Roundabout Museum (Brian W.)
 - Session 622 (Wednesday, Jan. 13, 9:00-4:00)
 - Mark Lenters (Ourston Roundabouts) will be heading up a companion program (Roundabout Museum) across the hall from the Video Theatre during the same hours. The Museum will feature static boards and national roundabout experts who will greet interested TRB meeting participants as they learn more about roundabouts from the displays and knowledgeable roundabout greeters.
- ITE Roundabout Task Force Meeting (Hillary Isebrands)
 - Tuesday, Jan 12, 5:00-6:30 PM (Taft – Marriott).

V. 2011 National Conference Update (Mike McBride)

- Continuing discussion on details of meeting program and schedule.
- Goal is to get RFPs out shortly to at least three hotels.
- Expect to have save-the-date postcards available for TF meeting and an e-mail blast within a similar time frame.
- Tentative date is May 11-13, 2011.
- Hope to have a basic version of the conference website go live in March/April
- Presented Papers:
 - Call for Papers is scheduled for March.
 - Subcommittee, chaired by Gene, will review submitted papers.
 - Selections scheduled to be complete by Sept/Oct 2010 and posted to website schedule soon thereafter.
- Discussed with Rick Pain and TRB staff about assessing and planning for A/V and staffing needs, as well as possible assistance for DOT personnel to attend.

VI. Discussion/brainstorming: “Getting more research ideas on TRB website

- Gene mentioned the need to get more people involved in submitting ideas to the website and will continue to generate new ways to do that.

VII. Reports

- FHWA Roundabout Informational Report (Lee Rodegerdts via e-mail).
 - The 2009 MUTCD was approved this week and is posted on FHWA’s MUTCD website. There appear to be some changes to the roundabout material from what was included in the Notice of Proposed Amendments. I expect these to be a major topic at the NCUTCD meeting in January. I will provide a report on this at the task force meeting at TRB.
 - The FHWA roundabout guide is still on track for public release later next year. We are resolving comments on the final draft.
 - FHWA technical summaries and associated presentations on roundabouts and mini-roundabouts are production right now and should be released early next year.
- NCUTCD (Mark Doctor)
 - The 2009 MUTCD was posted on FHWA’s MUTCD website yesterday (December 16). The website is <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/>.

- NCHRP 3-78A: Crossing Solutions at Roundabouts and Channelized Turn Lanes for Pedestrians with Vision Disabilities (Bastian Schroeder via e-mail).
 - Project NCHRP 3-78a has completed the draft final project report, which was disseminated to the project panel in early December 2009. The project panel now goes through a two-month review period, followed by one month of the team responding to reviewer comments. The project officially ends on March 31, 2010 by which time the final report will have been delivered to TRB. At that point, it depends on TRB and the NAS editing team when the report is made available to the public. In the interim, the NCHRP 3-78a project team plans to give an update on the project at TRB during a podium presentation on Thursday morning.

VIII. Next meeting – TRB Annual Meeting, January 13 7:30-9:30 PM

IX. Comments

- Gene mentioned an upcoming pooled fund study on superloads at roundabouts that is being led by Kansas DOT and supported by other states. Brian Walsh mentioned that Washington DOT is meeting informally with “heavy and long load haulers” to better understand their needs including what or any impact roundabouts might have.

X. Adjourn

- Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:06 PM CST.

Minutes taken and typed by Marcus A. Brewer.

Attachment 1 – Meeting Attendance List

Jim Brewer
Marcus Brewer
Phil Demosthenes
Mark Doctor
Hillary Isebrands
Michael McBride
Howard McCulloch
Walter Pribble
Gene Russell
Ken Sides
Ed Stollof
Brian Walsh
David Woosley