

ROUNABOUT TASK FORCE ANB75T
2011 Task Force Mid-year Meeting
TRB Task Force on Roundabouts (ANB75T)
Monday August 15, 2011 – 4-5:30PM CT
St. Louis Convention Center, Room 240

MEETING MINUTES

- I. Chair Gene Russell called the meeting to order and introduced himself and the Task Force.
- II. Self-introductions around the room were made and a sign-in sheet was distributed.
- III. Previous meeting minutes had been distributed earlier via email by Secretary Marcus Brewer. A motion to approve the minutes was passed.
- IV. Discussion
 - a) 2011 Roundabout Conference
 - i. 2011 Roundabout Conference was a wonderful success, and the Chair recognized Michael McBride and the City of Carmel. There were several countries in attendance, and several reviews were even *glowing*
 - ii. Some interesting statistics from the conference evaluation: note – we knew going in that space was tight and rooms could have been bigger. In spite of some negative comments about that, comments in general were very positive. A few “grumbles”, as usual, but very few and many superlatives. First, in response to, “Do you think conference should be continued?” 58% of respondents answered “yes”, every three years and 37% answered “Yes”, every two years; i.e., 95% think the roundabout conferences should be continued on a three or two-year basis. In regard to satisfaction, based on 151 that answered the survey, and adjusting for varying numbers not answering a particular question or checking “N/A” here are some interesting results:
 - Wednesday Morning Preliminary Session:**
 - 83% very (50%) or somewhat satisfied (33%)
 - 19% neutral
 - 4% very (3%) or somewhat dissatisfied (1%)
 - Concurrent Technical Sessions:**
 - 85% very (45%) or somewhat satisfied (40%)
 - 8% neutral
 - 7% very (1%) or somewhat dissatisfied (6%)
 - Poster Sessions:**
 - 72% very (22%), somewhat satisfied (50%)
 - 20% neutral
 - 8% (1%) or somewhat dissatisfied (7%)
 - Conference as a Whole:**
 - 86% very (47%) or somewhat satisfied (39%)
 - 7% neutral
 - 7% very (3%) or somewhat dissatisfied (4%)
 - Other Questions of Interest:**
 - ”Helped me establish personal and professional contacts”:**
 - 91% agree (60%) or strongly agree (31%)
 - “Addressed the latest developments in roundabouts”:**
 - 90% agree (34%) or strongly agree (56%)
 - “Gave me ideas to incorporate in my work organization”:**
 - 90% agree (38% or strongly agree (52%).

- iii. Hillary, Mark Lenters and others to are working on distilling the notes from the closing Town Hall session. Other volunteers are needed. Frank Broen has these on a wiki and **perhaps we can all contribute to working on them.**
- b) 2014 Roundabout Conference
 - i. Plans for the next event are in preliminary discussions. Seattle, or other Northwest venue, is the location being pursued at this time. **Brian Walsh** is working on building a coalition locally to support the event. A tentative commitment should be made by this fall, perhaps by October or November, and a final commitment no later than the January 2012 annual meeting.
 - ii. On behalf of the TRB Intersections Joint Subcommittee, Jeff Shaw posed to the group the possibility that the 2014 event be linked also to a “innovative/alternative intersections” theme, which might help attract the AASHTO community. Rich Cunard and Mark Norman from TRB advised to check with Rick Pain, but that in general, TRB is looking to leverage the combination of mid-year meetings to gain efficiencies. **Gene, Jeff, Rick and Brian will discuss.**
- c) 2012 Annual Meeting Papers and Award
 - i. TRB assigned 33 papers to the TF, which will probably translate to 2 sessions. If you are interested in reviewing papers, contact Gene. First-time reviewers can get training from TRB via recorded webinars. Also could pair a long-time reviewer with a new reviewer in a mentoring format.
 - 1. Regarding the paper award, Gene wondered if the presentation should also be incorporated into the scoring process. Other committees do this, but it creates some new complexities (i.e. strong paper/poor presenter vs. weak paper/strong presenter). The group consensus was to keep the review process as it is today (**no presentation factor**).
- d) Roundabouts Research Need Statements (RNS)
 - i. Some interest in pursuing a wiki-style site to enhance RNS in real-time
 - ii. Could assign 3-4 people to a topic to help move them along quicker. Gene stressed, once again, **a need for more RNS statements** which do not have to be as complete or formal as NCHRP type statements.
 - iii. Phil Demosthenes is still primary lead on developing research statements and posting RNS for the task force.
- e) Application for status as a Standing Committee
 - i. Tried 2 years ago and were denied, but allowed another term as a Task Force
 - ii. Recently have been encouraged to try again based on the sustained long term interest shown in recent roundabout webinars and commitment by the roundabouts community to support the triennial conference. Gene will report on this effort in the future.
- f) TRB Webinars
 - i. The webinar held in March for the rollout of Report 672 (Second Edition of the Guide) was possibly the most-attended webinar in TRB history.
 - ii. Gene has a list of potential topics from the Conference that would be suitable for doing 90-minute webinars and needed research which could be the basis of RNS statements or NCHRP Proposals.
 - iii. Also could consult Conference evaluations for ideas on future webinars
- g) Design Philosophy Workshop concept
 - i. Several individuals remain interested in pursuing this idea.
 - ii. One tricky aspect is that there is potential for disagreement to turn into argument, but perhaps this could be minimized by focusing only on concepts, not specific designs.
 - iii. It was noted that the Conversation Circle formats have worked very well at the ITE meetings, and has allowed varying viewpoints to be shared in good spirit
 - iv. If decided to pursue, could be to be a Sunday event, but it would then compete with some of the sponsoring Committees' other workshops. **Gene will form a committee** to investigate this issue.
- h) PROWAG NPRM

- i. **Scott Windley from the U.S. Access Board** shared that the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was published in late July, and that the 120-day comment period is now open through November 23.
 - ii. Scott specifically mentioned that the preamble asks several questions that the Access Board sincerely would like input on. He also mentioned that the comment period could be extended if requested and reasonable.
 - iii. A handout was provided that outlined the Federal Rulemaking process and discussed how the PROWAG rulemaking would proceed
 - iv. Scott discussed the two most relevant aspects of the PROWAG; the first involves delineating the sidewalk around a roundabout to prevent a pedestrian from entering the circulatory roadway, and the second involves the need for an activated device at multilane roundabout pedestrian crossings.
 - v. FHWA will be sponsoring an evaluation of RRFBs (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons) at multilane roundabout pedestrian crossings to determine whether they can meet accessibility requirements.
- i) TRB Report/Comments
 - i. The Annual Meeting format continues to be evaluated and tweaked to enhance it, so opportunities and ideas to do more innovative sessions may be received well.
 - ii. TRB received 4700 papers for 2012; SHRP II has now matured enough that it is becoming a source of many good topics.
 - iii. The Poster Sessions will be “offset” from the podium presentations to reduce overlap and allow people to attend both.
 - j) ITE Report
 - i. New incoming **ITE International President Rock Miller** is pursuing a roundabouts policy for ITE that could be adopted by TRB. Hillary Isebrands, Andy O'Brien and others have been moving this along and it is now being forwarded to the ITE Policy & Legislative Committee.
 - k) Video Theater and Museum at TRB 2012
 - i. **Brian Walsh** will again host a roundabouts video theater at TRB, and hopes to have representatives from each of the video-producing entities participate to answer questions and comment on the content. For this to be successful volunteers are needed to bring new and interesting videos that they are familiar with and make the presentation to the group. **To volunteer, please contact Brian** if you have a video to present in this forum.
 - ii. **Mark Lenters** will be evolving what began as the “Roundabouts Museum”, possibly looking to make it into a forum for sharing education, outreach and marketing materials that have been prepared and used around the world. **Again volunteers, willing to interact with persons coming into the room, sharing and discussing roundabout issues, are needed.**

At 5:30PM CT the meeting was officially adjourned.

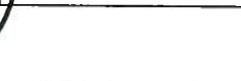
Meeting minutes take by Jeff Shaw

TRB Roundabouts Task Force Attendance Listing
Date:
 Monday, August 15, 2011

Meeting Location:
 240 - Convention Ctr.

Time:
 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

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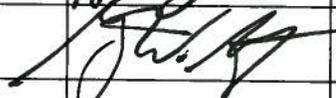
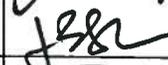
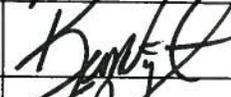
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6. restricting the territory or markets in which a company may sell services or products;
7. restricting the customers to whom a company may sell;
8. unreasonable restrictions on the development or use of technologies; or
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