



**I-95 CORRIDOR
COALITION**

MINUTES

Electronic Payment Services (EPS) Program Track

Thursday, May 25, 2000

10:30AM – 3:00PM

Maine DOT

Portland Marriott

200 Sable Oaks Drive

South Portland, ME 04106

1) Self- Introductions

2) ITS Activities- Maine Turnpike (Sue Moreau & Neal Libby)

- Sue Moreau reviewed Maine's current primary transportation initiative, the Strategic Passenger Transportation Plan. She noted that the EPS smart card is a key element of plan.
- Tri-State effort with Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.
- Maine DOT is working on plan in Portland to integrate ferry, turnpike, transit, parking, and Amtrak systems.
- Maine is looking seriously at alternatives to highway transportation. They recognize, however, that they have a responsibility to highways, too.
- The role of the Coalition is important in this vision project. The goal is to move out of traditional functions and into new opportunities.
- Maine is looking at integrating ITS smartcards. They don't want a "stranded" system. They recognize that it will take imagination to visualize ITS uses in rural states.
- FTA Electronic Payment Pilot Program in Maine:
 - Transit
 - Parking
 - Toll collection
- Neil Libby of the Maine Turnpike spoke specifically about the ETC program.
 - September 3rd Anniversary of ETC in Maine.
 - ETC driven by equity concerns.
 - 2 toll rate structures on each card. Rate structure most favorable to the motorist controls.
 - Saving \$4-5 million per year in toll collection costs.
 - 80,000 transponders in use.

- 50% or better utilization rate at peak hours.
- Unlimited use of commuter pre-payment and credit card post payment.
- There were problems at the beginning, but they are now fixed.
- Starting to look at where to go from here.
- Interoperability a goal.
- There will be a workshop in the fall.
- There is no timeline on transition to different systems.

3) **New Hampshire DOT (Al Almasy)**

Al described the current state of EPS in New Hampshire.

- "Fact-finding mission"-
 - 10 different toll plazas.
 - Early 80's vintage (Cubic) outdated.
 - Host system outdated. Cubic out of business.
- Working with CRC in Virginia and looking at business process redesign. This is not an equipment-based look.
- Commitment to transition to ETC:
 - Blue Star (I-95)
 - Spaulding Turnpike
 - Everett

4) **EPS Product Announcement (Rick Gegenheimer- Mark IV)**

- E-ZPass Compatible SmartCard
- Tri-sandwich tag
- SmartCard is a transponder that is read at high speed.
- Funds are transferred from agency to bank or agency to agency at the end of the day.
- It is compatible with a lot of other systems including CVO.
- T3 deals with CVO's and there is one tag across the entire nation.
- Intent for smart fusion was to be fully compatible with standards.
- SmartCard and Tag are transponders and the card can be removed.
- It is based on contact card.
- Eventually will be contactless.
- Multiple purses can be on a card.
- Card is interoperable with other operable systems.
- 1st release will be tiered release.

5) **AAMVA Meeting (Al Karoly)**

Al Karoly reported on the AAMVA meeting.

- Enforcement issue for non-gate collections, with some instructions from states.

- He will attend and present at Region 1 E-Commerce conference July 21 in New Brunswick. Region 1 is Eastern Canada and I-95, except Virginia.

6) ETC/CVO Project (Year 7) (Phil Leshinsky)

Phil reported on the status of Year 7 projects.

- ETC/CVO changes at Masspike.
- NYS Thruway has volunteered to test.

7) FTA RFP (Leisa Moniz)

Leisa described the FTA RFP recently released for a field operational test of EPS, on the upcoming Smart Card forum, and on GSA's deployment of Smart Cards.

- FTA partnered with FHWA to support a field operation test of the multi-modal EPS. FTA has the possibility of integrating variable pricing. A decision has not been made yet. There are 5 proposals in hand. FTA and FHWA are meeting today to award or rescope the project. There will be a decision next week and a letter to proposers by June 1, 2000.
- Smart Card forum will be held at the quarterly meeting at the Chicago Education Institute in June. Workshop on Friday on interoperability issues and how to get more competition on the supplier side.
- Access (brochure)- one of the largest deployments of Smart Card in US. (GSA program). Accommodates variable pricing.

State of Maine video presentation during lunch.

8) EPS Framework Project (Year 6) (Kathy Stein)

Kathy Stein presented the matrices created for tasks 1 and 2 of the program track EPS project, as well as the direction anticipated for task 3. Participants' observations:

- Major employers are important stakeholders.
- Customers' demands will be increasingly more sophisticated.
- There are 2 scenarios to evaluate in task 3:
 - Single payment/single purse
 - Multiple technology/single purse
- Tradeoff between flexibility and simplicity for task 3.
- Privacy concerns sometimes related to convenience offered and are more acute in certain applications.
- Agencies need confidence about auditability and record keeping.
- "Visions" should be compared against results of market research.
- "Must have" or desirable examples or case studies: SmartCards in Acadia. (CMAQ funded); WMATA (multimodal effort); some of 27 agencies in California; U.S. Military; selected university systems; Fleet/Boston University/ City of Boston parking program

9) Update of Year 8 Project Submissions (Al Karoly)

Al gave a brief update of Year 8 project submissions:

- "Coalition Connection"
 - Enhanced coalition website
 - Email reflector sent to one address and goes to defined audience
 - Will be used with HOGS
 - Let Al know if want your address on or excluded
 - John Baniak sees a lot of information sharing here
 - Capital District Vehicular Access (Capital district T.A. - NYS Albany-Schenectady-Troy) Passenger Vehicle access at Amtrak.
 - Segregate commercial vehicles.
 - Want to use E-Zpass.
 - Own backroom billing.
 - Event rally intended to participate with IAG.
 - Get out of banking.
 - Asked for \$25,000. Strategic committee agreed to fully fund a \$25,000 match.
 - \$4 million train improvements are underway. CDTA involvement welcomed.
 - Follow on to Year 6 and year 8 project.
 - Coalition requested \$475,000. There was a significant amount of competition for limited funds. Received \$250,000.
 - Will leverage on other activities and will coordinate with other groups to compensate for reduction in funds.
 - Coalition would like to make mutlimodal commitments. Subsequent year funding will get the top priority.

10) Next Meeting

- The next meeting should be in September. Phil Leshinsky solicit the Committee members for the best date

Meeting adjourned 3:00 p.m.