



I-95 CORRIDOR  
COALITION

## **Meeting Minutes Program Management Committee**

**November 9, 2001  
Baltimore, MD**

### **1. Introductory Comments and Agenda Overview**

Bruce Bender welcomed everyone to Maryland and opened the meeting with a review of the day's agenda. Self-introductions were made.

John Baniak walked through the agenda for the Joint Leadership Workshop to be held December 13 & 14 in Philadelphia. The format for the meeting will be in three parts:

- A look back at the Coalition's beginning through the perspectives of the original leadership group,
- A review of how we're doing based on interview and survey results, and
- A plan for the future through discussions on white paper presentations.

Additional topics throughout the agenda include the National Perspective (FHWA), Infrastructure Protection, Steering Committee Leadership Nominations, and request for membership from North Carolina DOT.

### **2. Update on National Operations Agenda Summit and 10 Year Program Plan**

John Baniak provided an update on the National Operations Agenda, based on the Summit held last month in Maryland. The issues addressed at the summit included:

- Need for Operations
- Performance Focus Implied
- Appropriate Program Scope
- Planning Required for Operations
- Cultural Change Challenge
- Resource Implications
- Mainstreaming in Federal Aid Program
- Institutional Challenges
- Awareness & Education Needs

The 10-Year Program Plan is currently out for comments and contains several program and enabling themes. A copy of the Plan is available on the Coalition's web site at [www.i95coalition.org](http://www.i95coalition.org).

PMC members commented as follows:

- It was very apparent that there should be no mandates attached to the Federal Plan.
- There are too many top priorities.
- It's been difficult to sell ITS.
- Coordinating a national plan is like herding cats.

### 3. Coalition Strategic Plan – White Paper Review

Several white papers have recently been written for the purpose of stimulating discussion and for planning the Coalition’s future direction. Drafts of many of the white papers were reviewed at the PMC meeting; the comments are shown below. Based on the comments, the authors will be asked to edit the white papers in preparation for the Joint Leadership Workshop to be held in December.

#### Traveler Information

*Paper: The Role of the Coalition in Facilitating Deployment of Coordinated 511 Systems throughout the Corridor*

Comments:

- 511 is more of a telecommunications issue than a transportation issue.
- No 511 surcharge should appear on telephone bills.
- The costs of 511 implementation are unknown.
- Is it necessary to create a 511 Task Force? Instead, perhaps we should consider using the existing Program Track Committee #2 (Traveler Information), in cooperation with Program Track #5 (Intermodal/Passenger Subcommittee).
- The link between rural and urban modes is not clear in the paper.
- The paper should address solving cross-border issues.

*Paper: The Role of the Coalition in Providing Travel Time and Incident Location Information*

Comments:

- How does this issue relate to mobility technologies and to the IEN?
- Since the September 11 tragedies occurred in the Corridor, why not make it the test site?
- Paper doesn’t appear to address rural issues.
- The transportation system needs to be defined before acquiring devices.
- The Coalition should address policy-level process.
- What problem does this address? And then, how does the Coalition address the problem?
- Can this idea be incorporated into other projects?
- Perhaps it should be a network investment study.

#### Rural Issues

*Paper: Role of the Coalition in Facilitating Coordinated Traveler Information, Emergency Response and Other Services in Rural New England and Western Areas of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States*

Comments:

- It is important for the Coalition to recognize available support of non-agency resources.
- The public sector doesn’t have marketing capabilities.
- The paper should be edited to fit into the recommended format.

*Paper: Rural Traffic Management and Emergency Services*

Comments:

- Is there an additional focus the Coalition should be looking at?
- Readers of the paper should concentrate on the Coalition's role on the issue; not the specific projects.
- Reduce the specific project elements and focus on the Issues/Role of the Coalition elements..

#### Training/Education/Outreach

*Paper: Supporting Member Agency Management and Operations Program Improvements*

#### Comments:

- There should be a certificate program designed for technicians.
- The Coalition can help define the ultimate skill set and then create training to develop those skills.

#### Freight/CVISN

*Paper: The I-95 Corridor Coalition's Role in Facilitating Coordinated CVISN Implementations*

#### Comments:

- The Coalition is currently involved in CVISN implementation and needs to continue the activity.
- There were no suggested changes to the paper, except to put it in final form.

#### Electronic Payment Services

*Paper: Electronic Payment Services*

#### Comments:

- The paper may be too prescriptive.
- A few examples of the Coalition's role in EPS should be provided.
- The honest broker role of the Coalition should be stressed.

#### Coalition Role

*Paper: An Evolved Role for the Coalition in Improving Management and Operations Related to Long Distance Trips throughout the Corridor (discussion item only – no paper presented at the meeting)*

#### Comments:

- The paper should clarify what the project is and why it is needed.
- The paper should concentrate on the potential ability to provide corridor-wide data; not actually create the corridor-wide picture.
- There needs to be more effort on mobility management.
- A consistent definition of this network as a regional decision-making tool should be presented.

## **4. Task Force Updates**

Information Exchange Network (IEN) – Al Karoly reported for Mary Ameen, Chair, that an evaluation will be conducted on the usefulness of the IEN during the events of September 11. Also, there will be a memo drafted by Mary Ameen detailing the proposal to convert the IEN to a web based system.

Training – Noreen Hazelton reviewed an update written by Mike Zezeski, Chair, on the recent events of the Training Task Force. The Task Force met on October 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Year 9 projects, the survey of Transportation Operations Centers, a proposed survey to the Steering Committee, operators training, standards training and the CITE program. The Task Force will be requesting additional funding to conduct a survey of operations centers to determine training needs throughout the corridor. That survey will coincide with a survey of Steering Committee members to determine other training needs that the Coalition may be able to fill.

Outreach – Noreen Hazelton reported for Nancy Ross, Chair, on the current Outreach activities and upcoming events. Stephanie Gallo has been hired by the University of Maryland and will be assisting the Coalition on some of the outreach efforts, including an information package on the Program Track Committees, newsletters, and updates on the Business Plan and Strategic Plan. Coalition staff recently held meetings in New Hampshire, with the executive staff and also with operations personnel, to provide information on the Coalition and encourage greater participation. It was noted that the Transportation Planning Board of the Metropolitan Washington (DC) Council of Governments was granted affiliate membership in the Coalition.

Standards – Jim Paral, Chair, reported that the Standards Task Force had met on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Current activities reviewed at that meeting included a status report of Project 9B, DMS core objects developed for PANYNJ, the Coalition's participation in the National Testing Summit and in ITS Standards Training Sessions. Planned activities include the development of a joint scope of work for testing training lab (INCH project), a follow-up to DMS workshop, a workshop on ESS/RWIS in a rural setting, development of a list of links on relevant ITS standards to access from the Coalition Connection, and providing administrative support for the ITE Standards Training at four locations in 2002.

## **5. Preliminary Work Plan Ideas Discussion**

The Year 10 project ideas solicitation memo has been distributed to Program Track Committee chairs. Any project ideas developed for consideration by the Program Management Committee should be submitted to John Baniak. Those ideas will then be forwarded to the committee chairs for review.

## **6. Next Meeting**

It was suggested that the next meeting of the Program Management Committee be held in Baltimore during the last week of January. A survey will be conducted to determine the preferred dates for Committee members.