



## **I-95 Corridor Coalition and Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee Coalition**

Videoconference  
April 21, 2005  
1:00 – 4:00 PM EDT (noon – 3:00 PM CDT)

### Draft Meeting Minutes

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

John Baniak of the I-95 Corridor Coalition (Coalition) led off the meeting by asking members at the various videoconference locations to introduce themselves. A list of participants is included at the end of these minutes.

#### **2. Meeting Overview**

Baniak reviewed the agenda for the meeting and gave a brief overview of the Coalition.

#### **3. Reauthorization Update**

Nancy Ross, Coalition Program Management Committee Co-chair, reviewed the status of House, Senate and Administration's bills. The Senate bill contains language for the Coalition in the amount of approximately \$51 million in funding. The House and Administration bill does not contain any funding for the Coalition. The Coalition is hopeful that the language will remain in some form at the conclusion of the conference committee that will resolve the different bills.

#### **4. I-95 Corridor Coalition/GCM Updates**

##### I-95 Corridor Coalition Update:

John Baniak introduced the two new task forces in the Coalition, the Performance Measures Task Force and the Safety Task Force.

##### **Performance Measures Task Force**

Mary Ameen, the chair of the Performance Measures Task Force, reported that the newly formed group is focusing on performance measures for long distance travel. They are avoiding using the measures to compare one state to another. Near-term efforts include surveying best practices and examining efforts within the coalition.

The task force completed a white paper on performance measures and held a workshop in March. Input from the workshop said that measures should be:

- Be multimodal
- Reflect the diversity of coalition members and states
- Relate to outcomes and outputs of coalition programs and projects
- Be practical and helpful to develop and use

The measures will focus on programmatic assessment of the coalition's performance and transportation system performance improvements in the corridor resulting from Coalition programs or projects.

Next steps include reviewing current performance measurement practices in the corridor, conducting a programmatic assessment on the Coalition's performance, and determining the goals, mission, issues, opportunities, and challenges of the performance measures initiative.

The GCM Corridor also has a Performance Measures Subgroup, so this may be an area of future collaboration.

### **Safety Task Force**

Baniak discussed the new Safety Task Force, led by Captain Henry de Vries. The focus of this Task Force is:

- Long distance Travel countermeasures and strategies
- Best Practices sharing
- Safety and public health issues
- Providing information and education
- Leveraging others

Next steps for the work group include:

- Developing an executive summary of quick clearance best practices
- Engage state representatives for input and support
- Surveying task force members on issues and goals
- Drafting mission, goals, and objectives

### **Priorities**

Baniak noted that the new leadership in the Coalition this year led the group to reexamine the priorities of the Coalition. It held its first annual meeting, which focused on strategic level issues.

Executives were surveyed on ideas and direction for the coalition. The following priorities were determined:

- Linking information on a regional/corridor basis
- Safety
- Improved Transportation Security
- Intermodal Freight Movement
- Performance Measures

David Zattero of IDOT noted that he would be interested in seeing the survey sent to the executives, as the GCM Corridor is looking at revising its Corridor Program Plan. Baniak said that he will send Shamo and Zattero packets of material used for the executive outreach.

### **Program**

Noreen Hazelton, Coalition Staff, discussed the **Member Services & Outreach** Program, which was created to provide useful services to members and track committees, and improve the overall Coalition Program.

Components of the program include the Coalition Connection (website), meetings & forums, member inreach, program track support, printed and electronic materials, and public and legislative outreach.

Bill Stoeckert, Coalition Staff, discussed the **Integrated Corridor Analysis Tool (ICAT) and Information System Network (ISN) projects**. The ICAT is an analysis and planning tool used to coordinate planning and resource investment. It has been used to help with bottleneck analysis, freight and evacuation planning, and historic travel time information. The ISN ties a variety of systems together to provide a communications and operations tool for real-time information sharing. The network will initially focus on traveler information and major incident/emergency notification.

Stoeckert also discussed the Coalition's **Inter-regional Multimodal Travel Information Program Track**. This program deals with several traveler information projects in the corridor such as Baltimore's ATIS and 511 systems in member states.

Marygrace Parker, Coalition Staff, discussed the **Coordinated Incident Management program track**. The group helped with deployment of a CAD information sharing system in the Hudson Valley, documented quick clearance best practices, documented the benefits of Highway Service Patrols, and participated in a FHWA CAD-ITS Task Force.

Parker also discussed the **Commercial Vehicle Operations** program track. The group is focusing on improving safety and security in the commercial vehicle arena.

Parker and Stoeckert discussed the **Intermodal Transfer of People/Goods program track**. Parker discussed several freight studies, the Northeastern Rail Operations (NEROps) Study, MAROps, and Short Sea Shipping (SSS) Study. It does not look like any Reauthorization will have a large amount of funding for rail.

Stoeckert reported on the **Electronic Payment Services program track**. The group is working on a Regional Interoperability Standard and developing mobile data terminal software for use in the northern Shenendoah Valley.

### **Work Plan Development**

Baniak discussed the development of a work plan for FY '05. The plan will focus on increasing mobility, safety, and economic vitality. This plan will take a longer-term view than previous work plans and consider intermodal needs, information exchange, and training needs.

### **Other Events**

The I-95 Corridor Coalition's Executive Board meeting will be May 24. The Second Annual meeting will be December 13-14, 2005.

### GCM Update: **Organization**

Dan Shamo, GCM Executive Director, gave a brief overview of the GCM Corridor. Recent organizational changes include changing the Safety & Security Work Group to the Transportation Security Work Group and suspending the Deployment Committee, as its function had become redundant.

### **Corridor Action Team (CAT)**

Jeff Galas of IDOT discussed the Corridor Action Team, which is working to mitigate congestion from construction south of Lake Michigan. Members of INDOT, IDOT, the Illinois Tollway, and CDOT are involved in the effort to share information between agencies and assist with coordination. The team has distributed a list of who should be contacted during an incident, facilitated incident response agreements, developed guidelines for portable DMS, assisted rideshare efforts by CATS' Ridematch program, and helped in the development of a page for information major construction projects on the [GCM Travel](#) website. Another team will be developed to address construction near the Illinois/Wisconsin border.

### **Security Work Group**

Shamo discussed tabletop exercises and a modeling system to test response strategies to events which the work group is working with Argonne National Laboratories to develop. Ameen asked if the group had given any thought to modeling events of higher frequency but lesser impacts, such as bridge or tunnel closures. The modeling could be used to test response to that, though it is still early in development of the modeling.

### **Operations Emphasis**

Phil DeCabooteer, WisDOT, discussed how the Corridor is addressing operations of equipment that has already been deployed. The agencies need to find ways to more efficiently operate systems with funding that does not grow as quickly as improvements. Shamo noted that ITS Architecture allows the agencies to see how devices can be used for multiple purposes and how they can be used more effectively.

### **Gateway and Website Development**

David Zavattero of IDOT gave an overview of the Gateway Traveler Information System, which provides traveler information to public and private users. He reviewed features of the GCM Travel website, such as travel times, DMS messages, and camera snapshot images. The site will be providing historic travel times for comparative use, wireless travel time report pages, and integration with 511 services.

### **Priorities**

Zavattero noted that the GCM Corridor is in the process of developing a new Corridor Program Plan, which will outline updated priorities for the Corridor. The plan will look at issues such as how to use technology to support operations, how to focus on outcomes instead of outputs, and how to incorporate regional and multi-modal views.

### **Program**

#### **Performance Measures**

This subgroup of the Traffic Incident Management Work Group has identified 6 performance measures that can be used to trigger ITS countermeasures. The GCM Corridor will initially be focusing on Travel Time and Air Quality as measures.

### **Virtual Weigh Stations**

Mark Newland of INDOT reported that Indiana is using technology to enhance screening and enforcement of commercial vehicle weight restrictions. Their research has shown that proper application of Virtual Weigh Stations can be 55 times more effective than permanent static scales. The stations also have the possibility for safety and security screening applications if additional detectors are used.

The I-95 Coalition has worked on projects in New York dealing with Virtual Weigh Stations, so this is an area of possible collaboration. The GCM Corridor should contact Don Baker of New York State DOT to follow up on lessons learned and potential collaboration.

### **Air Quality Research**

Dr. Bob Jacko of Purdue University discussed research on air quality that he has performed near the Borman Expressway. With construction on the Borman Expressway, he attributed most of the decrease in air quality to diesel powered construction vehicles, not congestion experienced by travelers. This could be a useful tool for justifying air quality funding expenditures on traffic related projects.

### **Corridor Program Plan (CPP) Development**

Jeff Benson of URS discussed the Corridor Program Plan development process that the GCM Corridor is going through. The plan will continue to link system operations, coordinate ITS enhancements, and leverage funding for the Corridor. Stakeholder workshops in Late May and early June will allow stakeholders to provide input on the direction and needs of the Corridor. The effort will also include updating the GCM regional architecture.

### **Other Events**

The GCM Corridor will hold its quarterly work group meetings on June 1 and then September 6 and 7. The meeting of the Corridor's Executive Committee is scheduled for July 14.

## **5. Challenge Sharing**

The two corridors did not get to discuss their challenge questions due to time constraints. These issues will be discussed at a follow-up meeting in the next 3-6 months. Baniak and Shamo will discuss potential dates for the meeting and contact the Peer-to-Peer program about potentially funding Coalition members visiting the GCM Corridor for a meeting.

## **6. Wrap-up**

Participants agreed that the Access Grid technology was more useful than standard videoconference technology and was a good use for a meeting like this. A list of Access Grid sites is available at <http://www.accessgrid.org/community/nodes/nodes-us.html>

The two groups agreed that future meeting agendas should be broken out by issue areas with both Corridors briefly discussing their experience with the issue, and less updating on the overall Corridors.

- **Action Items**

- *Baniak and Shamo to discuss potential dates for the meeting and*
- *Baniak or Shamo to contact the Peer-to-Peer program about potentially funding I-95 Corridor Coalition members visiting the GCM Corridor for a meeting*
- *Baniak to send Shamo and Zattero packets of material used for the executive outreach.*
- *Shamo to contact Don Baker regarding Virtual Weigh Station projects*

**I-95/GCM Videoconference  
April 21, 2005  
Attendees**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Phone</u></b>
Karl Ziemer	Delaware River Port Authority	(856) 968-2063
Chung Eng	FHWA	(202) 366-8043
Bill Stoeckert	I-95 Corridor Coalition	(860) 489-3443
Nancy Ross	NYS DOT	(518) 457-4037
Patty Reich	PB Farradyne	(703) 742-5813
Noreen Hazelton	I-95 Corridor Coalition	(978) 532-8485
Mary Ameen	New Jersey Turnpike Authority	(732) 247-0900 ext. 5753
Marygrace Parker	I-95 Corridor Coalition	(518) 436-2817
Steve Koser	Penn DOT	(717) 705-1443
Bob Pento	Penn DOT	(717) 783-6265
John Baniak	I-95 Corridor Coalition	(518) 584-4826
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Shirley Williams	North Carolina DOT	(919) 733-7245 ext. 273
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David Zavattero	IDOT	(847) 705-4800
Chuck Sikaras	IDOT	(847) 705-4800
Jeff Galas	IDOT	(708) 524-2145
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Tom Ewing	Argonne National Laboratory	(630) 252-5455
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