

**MEETING MINUTES
STEERING COMMITTEE
ALBANY, NY
JULY 12, 1995**

ATTENDEES: See attached list

AGENDA: See attached

1. Welcome and Introductions

Steve Kuciemba and Dennis Keck, co-chairs of the Steering Committee, welcomed the group and thanked the New York State DOT, New York State Thruway Authority and New York State Police for hosting the meeting. Mr. Kuciemba introduced the Commissioner of New York State DOT, John B. Daly who welcomed the group to the state of New York and briefly discussed transportation in New York State and the importance of ITS. The new Executive Director of New York State Thruway Authority, Steve Morgan, also welcomed the group. Don Hubicki recently stepped down as the co-chair of the FRAT working group and Mr. Keck and Mr. Kuciemba thanked him for all his work and presented him with a certificate of appreciation.

2. Staff and Working Group Reports

Dennis Keck asked if anyone had any questions or comments concerning the staff reports or working group reports. Lee McMichael from MdSHA stated that Amtrak called about putting motorist assistance vehicles on the road. Another state indicated that Amtrak called them also but wanted to charge a fee. Mr. McMichael stated that he would look into this issue and provide the Steering Committee more information. Tom Werner from New York State DOT suggested that we put the Coalition logo on the side of service patrol vehicles. Steve Kuciemba indicated that this idea was one of the original IDAs and should be addressed during the IDA discussion later on. Mr. Keck pointed out that Project 12 - Intermodal Outreach will be starting up on Tuesday, July 18th. Anyone interested in being involved with the TRC should contact Raman Patel.

Bill Stoeckert, co-chair of the Public\Private Partnership Working Group, indicated that there are several action items from their group's last meeting that the Steering Committee needs to approve. Mr. Stoeckert went through each item individually.

Action #1: Designate the Coalition's Technical Coordinator as the "gatekeeper" to answer technical questions. This item was unanimously approved by the Steering Committee. **Action #2:** The group has recommended that the availability of Project deliverables (after approval by the TRC) should be noted in the Corridor Clipboard with a description of contents and coverage. This item was unanimously approved by the Steering Committee. **Action #3:** The group recommended publicizing as far in advance as possible, any upcoming RFP's. Maryland stated that in their state, they cannot speak

to vendors in advance about any upcoming projects. If they do, that vendor would not be eligible to bid on the RFP. The Steering Committee decided as long as the announcement was broad and not given only to a specific company, it was okay to publicize RFP announcements in the newsletter as early as possible.

3. Report from Connecticut DOT on the 1995 Special Olympics World Games

Bill Stoeckert from ConnDOT gave an overview of the event that was held in New Haven, CT from July 1-9. He stated that approximately 750,000 people attended the games. On the roadways, ConnDOT used service patrols from 6:00 AM - Midnight and stated that they worked extremely well. The event solidified the relationships between the DOT and the State Police. ConnDOT used the Yale University radio station to publicize on-going traffic reports. The opening ceremonies were the only event where the traffic was bad - 70,000 people attended. TRANSCOM stated that ConnDOT received glowing recognition from the New Haven paper for how the event was handled. The paper indicated that there were VMS signs as far away as Delaware discussing the event.

4. Status of Current IDAs and Generation of New IDAs for Year 3

- A) **IDA #1: Holiday Travel Reports.** Mike Eadicicco introduced Mr. Fred Bennett from Shadow Traffic who gave an overview of the July 4th Holiday weekend activities. Mr. Bennett showed a brief video of television coverage and played a montage of radio coverage that mentioned the I-95 Corridor Coalition.

Various Comments and Questions Received in IDA #1 from the Steering Committee:

- Jim Robinson asked if it was possible to have a meeting in the Baltimore/Washington area to help with information exchange.
- Someone asked "Why is it that WTOP in Washington will not mention the I-95 Corridor Coalition." Mr. Bennett indicated that the station does not like the name - I-95 Corridor Coalition. He stated that the station covers more than just I-95 and they are caught up in the name issue - believing the Coalition only covers I-95. Mr. Kuciemba indicated that previously, the Executive Board stated that they do not want to change the name, but it was/is possible to use the name Northeast Corridor.
- Someone indicated that Project #6 has valuable information about what the public wants that could be very helpful to sway some of the stations that do not want to cover regional traffic reports.
- Bill Stoeckert asked how or what Shadow was going to do to bring on board the stations that are not part of their affiliations. Mr. Bennett stated that they have been sending those stations PR packages and plan to meet with some stations in person.

- Jim Robinson asked if we were keeping track of what information is coming from Shadow and from the agencies. Mr. Eadicicco stated that Shadow submits formal reports after each holiday weekend that states (among other things) where the information came from.

- Marygrace Parker asked what criteria we were using to evaluate this IDA? Mike Eadicicco and Steve Kuciemba explained that the Coalition is using Project #6 to gather public information on the results of the IDA.
- B) **IDA #4 - Dissemination of the Construction Advisory for Public Use.** Mike Eadicicco indicated that this IDA has been tied into IDA #1. Mr. Eadicicco introduced Fred Bennett to discuss the recent activities. Mr. Bennett brought up an issue of sponsorship on agency HAR stations and VMS signs. The group decided that this issue of sponsorship will be turned over to HOGs to come up with the parameters and also to the Public/Private Partnerships Working Group for their discussion.
- C) **New IDAs.** It was suggested earlier to put Coalition logos on service patrol vehicles. Based on discussions earlier about the name issue, the group suggested to put on the logos with no name attached. A sheet was distributed that contains potential new IDAs (see attached) - these came from the current projects. Steve Kuciemba asked if everyone would generate some ideas for new IDAs and pass them to Raman Patel. It was suggested that we dig out our old list of IDAs that were ranked last year and distribute it to the group. **The Steering Committee decided on the following process for generating new IDAs: send out the old ranked list with the minutes (see attached), have the Steering Committee send in new ideas, rank the new and old ideas.** The Budget and Policy working group will develop a procedure for annual generation and selection of IDAs.

5. Status of Funding and Other ITS Related Legislative Issues

Dennis Keck showed a video that Mike put together about a recent accident on I-76 in Pennsylvania, which had a significant regional impact. Mr. Keck indicated that the video is a good lead-in to the funding issue. Mr. Keck stated that at the Executive Board meeting the Business Plan was approved, which includes the \$12.5 million preliminary plan for FY 96. The House Appropriations committee has earmarked \$7.0 million for the Coalition and the Senate should be doing their earmarks before the end of July. Jeff Lindley from FHWA discussed the recessions bill and more than likely, an extra \$2.5 million the Coalition had hoped to secure will not be available.

6. Procurement Process for New Projects

Chris Cox stated that draft scopes of work have been developed for Projects 15, 16, 19, and 25 and all of them were included in the package that was distributed to the Steering Committee prior to the meeting. The group was asked to review these and if time is a limitation, look at one that is most important to you or your agency. The members were also requested to turn in names of individuals within your agency that would like to be a TRC member. Comments and any feedback on the draft scopes are due by Friday, July 21 and should be faxed to Morey Rothenberg.

7. Expanded Coalition Membership

Steve Kuciemba stated since the beginning, the Coalition has not added any new members to the Executive Board. Recently, two new agencies have expressed an interest in the Coalition from the Executive level on down. These two agencies are: New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority and South Jersey Transportation Authority. Dennis Lebo, co-chair of the Budget and Policy Group, canvassed his working group and they unanimously recommended that the two new agencies be admitted to the Coalition as full members. Mr. Lebo asked for the Steering Committee's concurrence of that recommendation. **The Steering Committee agreed to recommend to the Executive Board that both should be added to the Coalition as full members.** There was also a discussion of whether the Coalition should now add other transit organizations such as SEPTA, etc. The Budget and Policy group will discuss this issue.

8. West Coast ITS Training

Walter Kraft stated that seventeen Coalition members are attending the training seminar. The itinerary was distributed to all those in attendance. The seminar is scheduled for Tuesday, July 25 through Friday, July 28.

9. Next Two Meetings

The next meeting is being held on Wednesday, October 11th in Philadelphia. It will be hosted by PennDOT. Chris Cox is working with Amtrak to host a tour of their central control center. Anyone who would like to host the February Steering Committee, please call Chris Cox.

10. Other Business

Greg Murrill from FHWA asked for feedback on a Congestion Relief Workshop in conjunction with the October Steering Committee meeting. Rough feedback was that it would not attract many Steering Committee members - not the most appropriate audience.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Attachments

- Attendance Sheet
- Agenda
- Old IDAs - ranked