



**Travel Information Services
Program Track Committee (TISPTC) Webcast
October 7, 2010
Minutes**

Participants – see attached

Agenda

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
10:00am to 10:10am	Welcome and Introductions	Sandy Check/ Gene Glotzbach (Co-chairs)
10:10am to 10:30am	Vehicle Probe Project Overview and Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • Project Overview • Improvement in Real-time data • Validation Summary (past two years) • Arterials • Summary of Benefits 	Bill Stoeckert, I-95 Corridor Coalition Rick Schuman, INRIX Stan Young, University of Maryland Karen Jehanian, KMJ Consulting, Inc.
10:30am to 11:15 am	Performance Measures Projects using Vehicle Probe data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottleneck • North Carolina prototype 	Rich Margiotta, Cambridge Systematics Michael Pack, Univ. of Maryland
11:15am to 11:45am	Project Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passenger Information Project • Travel Information Decision Support System • Information Sharing 	Bill Stoeckert/Matt Coogan/ Karen Jehanian
11:45am to 1:00pm	Working Lunch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 511 Deployment Coalition Update • IntelliDriveSM Update • 511 Roundtable • 511 Support Project Leadership Transition	Karen Jehanian/All participants/Bob Rupert, FHWA
1:00pm to 1:20pm	Years 17 and 18 Project Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yr 17 - Vehicle Probe Data Use & Application • Yr 18 - Road Weather Activations by TMC's with Winter Maintenance Operations 	Stan Young/Denise Markow
1:20pm to 2:45 pm	Year 19 Work Plan Project Proposals	Mary Ameen/Todd Westhuis (Co-chairs)/Bill Stoeckert
2:45pm to 3:00pm	Questions and Selection of next TISPTC Meeting date	All

The following is a summary of the discussion. These meeting minutes are available at: <http://www.i95coalition.net/i95/Committees/TravelInformationServices/tabid/73/Default.aspx>.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Gene Glotzbach (Florida DOT) welcomed all participants including the members attending the meeting and the members participating via webcast. Sandy Check (NJ Transit) briefly reviewed the agenda and then introduced John Ward (DVRPC) and Bill Stoeckert (I-95 Corridor Coalition). John welcomed all to the DVRPC offices and Bill thanked those participating.

2. Vehicle Probe Project Overview and Update

Bill Stoeckert gave a brief introduction for the Vehicle Probe Project (VPP). Rick Schuman (INRIX) provided an overview of the project. He reviewed the timeline of the project and milestones as well as the project roadway coverage. Rick described the VPP services including: Monitoring Site, Data Feed, Data Archive, and Traffic Tile Overlay. He also reviewed some of the new and noteworthy uses of the VPP data by the agencies in the corridor. Rick noted that their data sources include fleet vehicles and an increasing mixture of consumer (from apps on iPod, Droid, and Ford) and sensor data.



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Stan Young (University of Maryland) reviewed the improvements in real-time data. He provided graphs illustrating the increases in Scores of 30 (real-time data) from the beginning of the project through the present. Stan noted that they have reviewed the changes in Score and C-value for each agency, published a White Paper with results for each state in May 2010, and are currently updating it. Stan reviewed the data validation process for the project. He explained the contract specifications and noted that the measured accuracy of the lower two speed bins has proved to be a good indicator of the ability of a system to accurately capture vehicle slow-downs and related congestion. Stan provided information on the proportion of data by speed bin overall and for each validation effort. He also provided a summary of the validation effort that showed the VPP data was meeting the contract specifications in each speed bin. Stan also reviewed the analysis of the arterial data. He noted that the arterial data (~1000 miles) was donated by INRIX and is currently under study. A subcommittee of the VPP Team has been formed to review the arterial information, review the relevant analyses/papers, and assist in the development of specifications. Stan noted that a white paper will soon be distributed to the subcommittee and followed by with a webinar. Stan also noted that the length of the study segments were based on TMC codes and that for validation purposes they look for longer segments and they aggregate the segments if needed to get to a minimum of one mile.

Karen Jehanian provided a brief summary of some of the Vehicle Probe Project benefits. She noted that a paper describing these benefits may my found on the Coalition website home page on the "Vehicle Probe" tab in the "News Flashes" box at:

<http://www.i95coalition.org/i95/Default.aspx> . Karen also noted that a webcast is being planned for early December regarding Archive Data and Planning Applications. She reviewed the draft agenda and planned speakers and encouraged all, especially MPOs, to participate.

3. Performance Measures Projects Using Vehicle Probe data

Two presentations were given on the use of VPP data for performance measures. Rich Margiotta, Cambridge Systematics, gave a presentation on the Performance of Major Bottlenecks. Rich explained that this project evolved to focus on bottlenecks as they dominate congestion. Rich noted that a long distance trip is over 100 miles. He reviewed the performance measures that are important to customers and the methodology used to estimate the effect of bottlenecks. Rich presented a map of major bottleneck locations as well as tables listing the worst bottlenecks (based on two directional data). He also reviewed trends in bottlenecks and for the worst days discussed the possible impact of weather on bottlenecks. Rich discussed the effect of bottlenecks on the long distance trips and summarized the aspects of congestion that should be monitored. Finally, he reviewed the future work that should be undertaken including: monitoring trends, determining the causes, and combining historical data with current conditions to provide more useful traveler information. A discussion followed Rich's presentation regarding the influence of improvement projects on congestion and vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Essentially, the listeners asked if he had conducted any before and after studies to determine the effect of lane additions and other roadway improvements. Rich stated that he had not and that modeling would be needed to assist in determining the effect.



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Next, Michael Pack (University of Maryland, CATT Lab) gave a presentation on the Dashboard and Data Download Tool. He noted that this tool is available to all agencies that continue in the Vehicle Probe Project. Michael explained that this tool was developed for North Carolina's INRIX Performance Measures project and that it incorporates incident data through RITIS (Regional Integrated Transportation Information System) with real-time and archived INRIX data and provides access to raw data for report development beyond scope of this application. Michael reviewed the data that is being collected and the performance measures that are or can be calculated. He went on to explain the needs for both the real-time and historical information. Michael displayed and explained several screenshots of the dashboard tool. He noted that the bottleneck calculations and thresholds were the same as used by Rich Margiotta in his work. He went on to review the bottleneck layer, the event/incident layer, and the table view. Michael noted that in the final version, they would like to show incidents within bottlenecks. After the presentation by Michael Pack, questions were asked about the tool. A discussion regarding the definition of bottlenecks followed. It was noted that there are many definitions for bottlenecks and Michael Pack noted that they are working to make the bottleneck definition changeable. Michael also noted that the bottlenecks shown in his presentation are directional.

4. Project Updates

Matt Coogan reviewed the status of several projects within the Passenger Information Program (PIP) including: BWI and Philadelphia International Airport, Vermont Transit Project, and Boston Travelshed Multistate Trip Itinerary Planning Project. Matt provided an overview of the BWI project explaining that the purpose is to provide information on how to make trips to/from BWI via taxi, car, and transit. He noted that BWI management and the Coalition are working to integrate the transit trip itinerary planning data from the WMATA market and Maryland Transit Administration and that a resolution is expected soon. Matt also noted that SEPTA and the Coalition are currently working on determining the optimum level of detail for transit trip planning to/from the Philadelphia International Airport.

Karen reviewed the objective of the Traveler Information Decision Support System (TIDSS) project and the current status. She reviewed the next steps in the project and noted that the workshops will soon be held with stakeholder agencies.

Bill Stoeckert reviewed the Information Sharing project. He noted that several meetings were held over the summer and early fall to discuss the project effort. Bill reviewed the next steps which include providing an integration scope and budget and preparing a white paper assessing the impacts of sharing information across regional system boundaries.

5. 511 Deployment Coalition and Agency Updates

Bob Rupert (FHWA) gave an update on the 511 Deployment Coalition activities. He noted that the 511 Deployment Coalition website will be updated by the end of the year. Bob provided a summary of the 511 Deployment Coalition Working Group Meeting held in Dallas, Texas on September 8-9, 2010. He reviewed some of the issues and the highlights from the meeting including the new business models (in MA and GA), 511 and travel information for CVO and an update on how states are handling distracted driving. He noted that the presentations from this meeting are available at:



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<http://www.deploy511.org/DallasMtg2010.html>. Bob also provide an update on Intellidrive. He noted that many ideas have been received and that the deadline had been extended to October 15, 2010. He noted that the next steps include analyzing applications for natural clusters, a mobility workshop to be held on November 30, 2010 in Washington., DC and the announcement of the finalized list of concepts at the TRB Meeting in January 2011.

Sandy Check led a roundtable discussion on the recent 511 efforts by the agency members. The participating member agency reps gave an update on their 511 efforts. Denise Markow (NHDOT) noted that they are issuing an RFP for a no-cost business model for their 511 system. It was noted that ConnDOT is also issuing an RFP. Rexy William (NYSDOT) gave any overview of their 511 efforts. She noted that they are currently working on "my511NY" - a mobile application for traffic, transit, and trip planning. She also noted that NYSDOT is expanding their open source 511 feeds to in-vehicle navigation devices. Jim Hadden (NJDOT) noted that they had a very successful deployment of their shore travel widget. He also noted that on their public webpage they are adding widgets for popular projects and integrating traffic cameras into the webpage. Bob Pento (PennDOT) noted that PA511 has been operational for one year and that they have had over 500,000 IVR calls with a very limited marketing budget. He stated that systems' testing for phase B is scheduled for early November 2010 and they plan to add other major routes (for incidents and winter conditions) and will report winter road conditions in smaller segments. Scott Cowherd (VDOT) noted that they have received good feedback regarding the Travel Time kiosk at the Tysons Corner Mall and that they are looking to expand the operation. He stated that VDOT is also working on their marketing plan. JoAnn Oerter (NCDOT) noted that they are adding email/text notifications of their incidents and real time arrival and departure information for Chapel Hill Transit in the Triangle. She also stated that they are adding tweets for incidents and also using INRIX data for travel times on the web. Gene Glotzbach (FDOT) noted that they have deactivated their regional systems and have a statewide 511 system. He stated that they are upgrading still shots to motion video on their website. He also noted that INRIX is providing data on I-10. However, in rural areas they are having difficulty because they do not have instrumentation to provide travel information. South Carolina provided slides outlining their recent and upcoming 511 efforts including: launch for live testing on October 20, 2010 and an official public launch in Mid November 2010.

Karen Jehanian reviewed the purpose of the Coalition's 511 Support project which is to assist agencies in their activities. She noted that a very successful webcast was held in January 2010 on the use of Social Media for Travel Information and more than 125 persons participated. She stated that additional webcasts on relevant topics would be conducted in the coming months.

6. Leadership Transition

Bill Stoeckert began the TISPTC leadership transition by thanking Sandy Check and Gene Glotzbach for their many years of service in leading this program track. He gave Sandy a plaque recognizing her service to the Coalition. Since Gene was participating by web, Bill thanked him and sent his plaque after the meeting. Next, Bill welcomed Mary Ameen and Todd Westhuis as the new Co-Chairs for the TISTPC. He introduced them to the meeting participants and thanked them in advance for their service.

Finally, Mary recognized Bill Stoeckert and his career accomplishments in light of his upcoming retirement and read a proclamation for Bill's service to the Coalition.



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7. Year 17 and 18 Project Updates

Todd Westhuis introduced Stan Young and Denise Markow who provided updates and information on Year 17 and 18 projects for the TISPTC. Stan Young (University of Maryland) discussed the Year 17 – Vehicle Probe Data Use & Application project. He noted that this project is currently underway and that the object is to conduct tests to determine the full extent of utility of the vehicle probe data. Denise Markow (NHDOT) discussed the Year 18 - Road Weather Activations by TMC's with Winter Maintenance Operations project. She noted that the object of this project is to develop a road and weather operational plan incorporating forecasting to improve the activations of maintenance, optimize maintenance materials, and reduce operational costs. She also noted that the funding for this project has not yet been allocated.

8. Year 19 Work Plan Project Proposals

Mary Ameen reviewed the calendar for the Year 19 Work Plan including the date of the Steering Committee webcast and the Executive Board Meeting. She reviewed the Year 19 Work Plan and guided the group through the specific project proposals. The Vehicle Probe Project proposals were discussed first. They include: 2011 Vehicle Probe Project, 2011 Vehicle Probe Project Support, and the 2011 Long Distance Trip Planner. She noted that these projects are not included in the ranking of the TISPTC project proposals. The following provides a listing of the Year 19 project proposals to be ranked by the TISPTC members.

1. Achieving Quality Travel Time and Speed on Arterials within the Vehicle Probe Project
2. TMC Codes - Impact and Use within the Coalition
3. Integrating Real-time Volume Flow data into the VPP
4. Performance Measures w/VPP Data II
5. CITE On-line Course – Travel Time I
6. VDOT PGI System Plan Development

Due to time constraints, the attendees were asked to complete their review of the project proposals after the meeting and to submit their completed TISPTC Project Proposal Ranking Form to Joanna Reagle at jreagle@kmiinc.com by October 15, 2010. Based on the overall rankings, the work plan will be finalized and forwarded to the I-95 Corridor Coalition Steering Committee.

9. Upcoming Coalition Meetings/Webcasts

Karen Jehanian reviewed the upcoming Coalition meetings. They include I-95 Corridor Coalition – Steering Committee Webcast on November 9, 2010, I-95 Corridor Coalition – Executive Board Meeting on December 6, 2010 in Washington, DC, and the planned VPP Webcast on Archive Data & Planning Applications in mid-December 2010. In addition, she noted other important meeting that are coming up including the 90th Annual TRB Meeting in January, 2011 (Washington, DC), the ITE 2011 Technical Conference and Exhibit in April, 2011 (Lake Buena Vista, Florida), the ITE 2011 Annual Meeting and Exhibit in August, 2011 (St. Louis, Missouri), and the 18th Annual ITS America World Congress in October, 2011 (Orlando, Florida).



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10. Questions and Selection of next TISPTC Meeting date

Mary Ameen and Todd Westhuis thanked the Committee members for their time and valuable input. They noted that the next meeting of the Travel Information Services Program Track committee would be held at the NJTPA offices in Newark, NJ on either March 9, 2011 or March 16, 2011. It was noted that this meeting would also be a webcast.

Any questions regarding the TISPTC or information presented in this webcast should be directed to:

- Bill Stoeckert at 774.207.0367 or wstoeckert@yahoo.com
- Karen Jehanian at 610.228.0211 or kjehanian@kmjinc.com

The meeting and webcast were adjourned at approximately 2:30 PM.



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PARTICIPANTS

I-95 Corridor Coalition:
Bill Stoeckert

Committee Co-Chairs:
Sandy Check, NJ Transit (at meeting) Gene Glotzbach, Florida DOT (via webcast) Mary Ameen, NJTPA (at meeting) Todd Westhuis, NYSDOT (at meeting)

Meeting Attendees:	
John Ward	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Zoe Neaderland	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Hubert Clay	Delcan Corporation
Bob Rupert	FHWA/USDOT
Rick Schuman	INRIX
Denise Markow	New Hampshire DOT
John Allen	New Jersey DOT
Jim Hadden	New Jersey DOT
JoAnn Oerter	North Carolina DOT
Lou Belmonte	Pennsylvania DOT – District 6
Rich Deen	Pennsylvania DOT
Bob Pento	Pennsylvania DOT
Doug Tomlinson	Pennsylvania DOT
Rob Bamford	TRANSCOM
Tom Batz	TRANSCOM
Michael Pack	University of Maryland/CATT Lab
Stan Young	University of Maryland
Webcast Attendees:	
Eileen Singleton	Baltimore Metropolitan Council
Rich Margiotta	Cambridge Systematics
Michael Harris	DRPT
Matt Coogan	I-95 Corridor Coalition consultant
Egua Igbinosun	Maryland SHA – CHART
Nellia Shakhmina	New Jersey Turnpike Authority
Rexy William	New York State DOT
Scott Cowherd	Virginia DOT

Consultant Support Staff:
Karen Jehanian/Joanna Reagle/ Natalia Hrebien, KMJ Consulting, Inc.