



New England Transportation Consortium

NETC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, October 27, 2020, 11:00am – 12:30pm ET

LOCATION: GoToMeeting Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/628554149> Dial-in: 646-749-3122;

Access Code: 628-554-149

Attendees:

Alex Bernier, UConn	Andrew Mroczkowski, ConnDOT
Edgardo Block, ConnDOT	Dee Nash, NHDOT
Colin Franco, RIDOT	Lily Oliver, MassDOT
Brian Hirt, CTC & Associates	Emily Parkany, VTrans
Chris Jolly, FHWA	Dale Peabody, MaineDOT
Matt Mann, UMass	Maina Tran, CTC & Associates
Tanya Miller, VTrans	Nicholas Zavolas, MassDOT

1) Open Project Review (October 2020)

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
18-2: Framework of Asphalt Balanced Mix Design for NE Agencies	Walaal Mogawer, UMass Dartmouth A. Scholz M. Tran Joseph Blair, NH DOT	All tasks are completed. Project status meeting was held on 9/16/20. Draft of final report currently in review by TC. Final meeting is to be held on 11/6/20. Contract ends 12/31/20.	12/31/20 \$127,499
18-3: Integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems into State DOTs	Jag Mallela, WSP E. Parkany M. Tran Jeffrey DeCarlo, MA DOT	Task 4 is in progress and is expected to be completed in mid-November. Task 3 report was revised. Task 4 project status meeting will be held on 11/12/20. Draft of final report will be completed in January. Contract ends 3/31/21.	3/31/2021 \$146,632
19-1: Curved Integral Abutment Bridge Design	Adam Stockin, WSP E. Parkany K. Seeber Alex Bardow, MA DOT	The extra task of load testing and monitoring has been removed from consideration. WSP doesn't feel that going forward without substructure instrumentation would bring value to the project. PI is revising the Task 1 report. Alex Bardow is reviewing the survey to state bridge engineers.	3/31/2022 \$151,316

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
19-2: Multi-Scale Multi-Season Land-Based Erosion Modeling and Monitoring for Infrastructure Management	Aimee Mountain, GZA A. Scholz M. Tran Neil Olson, NH DOT	Task 2 is 85% completed and is due by 12/31/20. Task 3 began in September and is expected to be completed by end of February 2021. Next project status meeting will be planned for mid-January.	2/28/2022 \$148,035
19-3: Experimental Validation of New Improved Load Rating Procedures for Deteriorated Steel Beam Ends	Simos Gerasimidis, UMass Amherst N. Zavolas K. Seeber Alex Bardow, MA DOT	Task 1 in underway. PI has received, or will soon receive, bridge inspection reports from all states. States are also identifying potential near future bridge demolitions so UMass can test corroded beams.	3/31/23 \$179,995
		Scoring meetings - ME has been having trouble getting all TC members to attend scoring meetings. The meetings are scheduled soon after the proposal deadline to keep the projects moving through the contracting process. ME needs to have meeting notes and a consensus score to satisfy FHWA's requirements. Going forward, Maina and Kirsten will be included on all meeting invitations so they can keep in touch with the TC members on their attendance. ME will not be giving TC members the option to send notes and scores in lieu of attending a meeting to emphasize the importance of attending.	
20-1: In-Service Performance Evaluation of NETC Bridge Railings	TBD D. Peabody K. Seeber Jeff Folsom, ME DOT	Two proposals received. TC scoring meeting is scheduled for early November. Proposers Roadsafe LLC UConn	TBD \$120,000
20-2: Current Status of Transportation Data Analytics and A Pilot Case Study Using Artificial Intelligence (AI)	TBD A. Scholz M. Tran Susan Klasen, NH DOT	Fifteen proposals received. Scoring meeting scheduled for 10/29/20. Proposers Acrotron AEM Cambridge Cub Dell i10x IBI KPGM RPAi Stantec TechnoGEN Timmons Umass Lowell VHB Wood	TBD \$200,000
20-3: Investigating Thermal Imaging Technologies and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to Improve Bridge Inspections	TBD D. Peabody M. Tran John "Sam" Maxim, ME DOT	Ten proposals received. Scoring meeting scheduled for 11/5/20. -Occurred Proposers AECOM BDI Collins Eng.FIGG/UMA GreenSight Kucera Umass Amherst UMO/VHB UVM/ARE/Stantec WJE	TBD \$175,000

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
20-4: New England Connected and Automated Vehicle Legal and Regulatory Assessment	TBD E. Parkany/N. Zavalas K. Seeber Daniel Sullivan, MA DOT	Eleven proposals received. TC met to score proposals and made a final selection. ME has sent out the award notifications to the proposers. Proposers 3x3 Design AECOM Cambridge CPCS Transcom DFX Consulting HDR Kimley Horn Morgan State U Stantec Umass Amherst WSP	TBD \$100,000
Re-creating NETC	Kirsten Seeber/Chris Kline, CTC & Associates A. Scholz K. Seeber A. Scholz	Two meetings have been held with the TAAC to do a SWOT analysis (Task 1) and to discuss the surveys being developed for Tasks 2 and 3. Initial survey feedback due to CTC 10/27/20.	8/12/21 \$50,000

Discussion:

- 19-1
 - Kirsten will continue to follow up with Alex Bardow regarding his review of the state bridge engineers survey.
- Re-creating NETC
 - Emily, Dale and Dee sent their comments on the Task 2 surveys to CTC. CTC will revise the surveys, based on the TAAC’s comments, and send them back for further feedback.

2) Financial Update

- NETC is in good standing. There are no pending transfers.
- MA will transfer the leftover funds from TPF-5(222) with FFY 21’s contribution.
- Colin inquired about the ability to transfer leftover funds directly to new lead state versus through FHWA. It’s an FHWA requirement that remaining funds from one pooled fund go back to the partner state and that state must transfer them, through FHWA’s transfer process, to the new lead state.
Action item: Dale has an upcoming meeting with FHWA and will present that question again to see if anything can be done.
- **Action item:** Maina to check with Walaa Mogawer on 18-2 invoicing because UMass-Dartmouth has not been submitting invoices for payment. All documents have been delivered so it will not be a problem for ME to pay invoices.

3) Implementation - Closeout webinars for closed projects

- 15-4: [Quick Response Project: Optimizing Quality Assurance \(QA\) Processes for Asphalt Pavement Construction in the Northeast](#)
 - Colin – Nothing has happened related to follow up on this project. He is not sure if he will pursue it further.

- Maina is waiting to hear from 18-2 PI (Wala Mogawer) if he would conduct a webinar for this project. This is not in their contract. Colin mentioned that Wala will be presenting a similar topic at NEAUPG on 10/28/20.
- Dale mentioned FHWA's [Everyday Counts Virtual Summit](#), from December 8-10, 2020. FHWA has asked states to showcase any innovations that have been developed. ME submitted an innovation, [NETC 09-03: Advanced Composite Materials in New England's Transportation Infrastructure: Design, Fabrication and Installation of ACM Bridge Drain System](#).
- Emily would like to keep implementation on agenda every month to follow up on 18- and 19- series projects.
- All webinar recordings/presentations can be found on the project pages or [here](#).

4) Research Problem Statement Solicitation

- Proposed schedule
 - December 11, 2020 – Send call for statements email to NETC distribution list
 - January 22, 2021 – Statements due. Six-week timeframe.
 - Early February 2021 – Kirsten sends list of projects to TAAC for review and ranking.
 - March 2021 – Projects selected by the AC.
 - ~ Because late November and December are the holiday season, Colin suggested that NETC begin solicitation as soon as possible. Dale agreed. **Action item:** Kirsten will send out draft email to TAAC members for review and then to the NETC distribution list.
 - ~ Colin asked about including font size requirements and page limitations on research problem submission form. Dale said it's never been an issue so no need.
 - ~ Emphasize that forms are due with signatures.
 - ~ Mass DOT plans to send out an announcement in their upcoming newsletter, is it okay to use regular NETC domain address? Yes, Maina stated that if the new design is not ready, the current site will still come up.
 - ~ March 2021 Problem Statement Ranking meeting will be virtual.

5) NETC Website Refresh

- Kirsten will review the updated website at the November meeting.
 - Nicholas asked when the site will go live. Brian said a final draft will be presented by Kirsten at the next meeting and can go live shortly after.
 - It was decided that a disclaimer can be put on site to state that new features are coming and to go live with a couple of items on home page. CTC will get back to group on a new launch time frame. CTC will update features and other content after the site goes live.
 - Under the About NETC description, Colin asked to change it from three decades to fourth decades/40 years.
- CTC is requesting to add a monthly fee to their invoice of \$75 for website hosting and subscription fees.
 - Brian described the new fee. Dale wanted to make sure the TAAC members are aware of the fee. No objections. The new fee will be added to the October 2020 invoice.

6) Symposium – Ideas

- AC will decide on holding a virtual Symposium in summer of 2021 after the TRB Annual Meeting in January 2021.

7) Other Business

- November and December meetings
 - Most can attend on the proposed new dates of 11/17/20 and 12/15/20, which are both a week earlier due to the holidays.
 - Emily would like to start the 11/17/20 meeting at 10:00am ET due to a conflict. Most were okay with time change. Lily won't be able to make it, but Nicholas will attend. **Action item:** Kirsten will send out updated invite with new time.

8) Adjourn

Next meeting: November 17, 2020 from 10:00am – 11:30am ET (Change due to Thanksgiving holiday.)

