



NETC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 1:00pm – 2:30pm ET

Attendees:

Ulrich Amoussou-Guenou, MaineDOT	Lily Oliver, MassDOT
Alex Bernier, UConn	Emily Parkany, VTrans
Colin Franco, RIDOT	Dale Peabody, MaineDOT
Chris Jolly, FHWA	Ann Scholz, NHDOT
Matt Mann, UMass	Kirsten Seeber, CTC & Associates
Tanya Miller, VTrans	Maina Tran, CTC & Associates
Andrew Mroczkowski, ConnDOT	Nicholas Zavolas, MassDOT
Dee Nash, NHDOT	

1) Open Project Review (February 2021)

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	Walaa Mogawer, UMass Dartmouth A. Scholz M. Tran Joseph Blair, NH DOT	Final report delivered and posted on the NETC website. Project is closed. A webinar will be held on 2/18/21.	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	Project is complete. Final meeting was held on 1/19/21. Report will be revised based on feedback from the meeting. Maina is still waiting for the tech transfer deliverables. The PI will hold a webinar in March 2021.	3/31/2021 \$146,632
19-1: Curved Integral Abutment Bridge Design	Adam Stockin, WSP E. Parkany K. Seeber Alex Bardow, MA DOT	The TC is reviewing a memo from the PI regarding changes to Task 2 (Finite Element Studies). The Research Team is deviating from their original plan; the product will be the same, but the way they get there will be slightly different than how they proposed it.	3/31/2022 \$151,316

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
		<p>TC members Kevin Daigle (NH), Colin Franco (RI) and Rich Myers (ME) have provided their thoughts. Alex Bardow (MA), Jim LaCroix (VT) and Raymond Basar (CT) have yet to respond.</p> <p>Nicholas confirmed that Alex Bardow will remain the TC chair for this project.</p>	
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	The research team is working on developing a toolkit. A project status meeting was held on 1/25/21. The next TC meeting will be in June.	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. Zavalas K. Seeber Matt Weidele, MA DOT	<p>Task 1 is 50% complete and Task 2 is 25% complete.</p> <p>Matt Weidele will take over as the TC chair for Alex Bardow. He is having a meeting with the research team to get caught up on the project.</p>	3/31/2023 \$179,995
20-1: In-Service Performance Evaluation of NETC Bridge Railings	Christine Carrigan, RoadSafe D. Peabody K. Seeber Jeff Folsom, ME DOT	The kickoff meeting is scheduled for 2/22/21.	6/30/2022 \$119,978
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	UMass Lowell conditionally awarded. ME is in contract negotiations. ME is working with UMass Lowell on contract documents and hope the contract will be signed by the end of March.	TBD \$200,000
20-3: Investigating Thermal Imaging Technologies and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to Improve Bridge Inspections	AECOM, D. Peabody M. Tran John "Sam" Maxim, ME DOT	AECOM Technical Services Inc. conditionally awarded. ME is in contract negotiations. Hope to have the contract signed prior to the kickoff meeting, which is scheduled for 2/23/21.	TBD \$175,000
20-4: New England Connected and Automated Vehicle Legal and Regulatory Assessment	Stantec, Greg Rodriguez E. Parkany/N. Zavalas K. Seeber Daniel Sullivan, MA DOT	The kickoff meeting was held on 2/2/21. The TC didn't get through everything so a follow up meeting is scheduled for 2/22/21. The TC will hold monthly meetings for this project.	12/31/2021 \$105,446
Re-Creating NETC	Kirsten Seeber/Chris Kline, CTC & Associates A. Scholz K. Seeber A. Scholz	CTC is working on the summary memos for Task 2 and Task 3. Two meetings are scheduled in April (4/12/21 and 4/22/21) to review Tasks 1-3.	8/12/2021 \$50,000

Discussion:

- 19-1
 - ~ Emily – Jim Lacroix is concerned that the PI is making an incorrect assumption and they would be doing the modeling based on the assumption. Do the AC members have ideas on how to make this smoother in the future? How long should a TC review take?
 - It’s not on the TC to help the research team meet their task deadlines. Going forward we need to be more careful about how long we provide for task reviews.
 - ~ Emily - This is a scope change and we should take it seriously, which was initiated by WSP.
 - Ann – The PI shouldn’t have attempted to do a scope change unless the TC was aware of it.
 - Dale – The AC can’t have an intelligent conversation about this. The TC should conclude if the suggested changes are reasonable. They can get together with the PI, if needed. He’s more concerned about the scope change than meeting an interim deadline. **Action item:** Kirsten will reach out to Alex Bardow and get a meeting together ASAP. Alex will decide if the meeting will be with the TC only or include the research team.
- 20-3
 - ~ Dale – AECOM can’t bill if they have the kickoff meeting prior to the contract being fully executed.
- 20-4
 - ~ Emily – The research team wants to get the bulk of the work done in first three months and were surprised that the TC would want to have input prior to them finishing that work. The TC is holding monthly meetings to keep current with the research team’s efforts. The research team needs to think about how they are getting feedback and when.

2) Implementation

- TAAC members to report on any implementation activities for recently closed projects.
 - ~ NETC 18-1: Development of MASH Computer Simulated Steel Bridge Rail and Transition Details
 - Emily – In VT, NETC 2-bar bridge rail standards were updated. They are working on the standards for NETC 3-bar bridge rail. VT doesn’t intend to use NETC 4-bar bridge rail. She is looking forward to the NETC 20-1 kickoff meeting.
 - Dale will follow up to determine if ME changed any standard details as a result of the project.
 - ~ NETC 18-2: Framework of Asphalt Balance Mix Design for NE Agencies
 - Emily is looking for an update and will send along to everyone.
 - ~ NETC 18-3: Integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems into State DOTs
 - Emily needs to review the final report before giving an implementation update.
 - ~ Ann will follow up with the TC members on all projects.
 - ~ Emily – 17-2: Quantification of Research Benefits – She would like to conduct a small research evaluation project. She reached out to the seven organizations on their qualified researcher list and received three responses. Two responses came from VHB, who did the original project. She asked for quantifiable and qualitative results. VHB said they would build on NETC 17-2 and quantify everything. They indicated this was difficult in the NETC 17-2 project. Emily wanted to share this with the AC because she thought this was interesting.

3) Project Webinars

- NETC 18-2: Framework of Asphalt Balance Mix Design for NE Agencies – Webinar scheduled for 2/18/21. Twenty eight attendees registered.

- NETC 18-3: Integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems into State DOTs – Kirsten is working with the PI to schedule a webinar in late March.
- All webinar recordings/presentations can be found on the project pages or [here](#).

4) Research Problem Statement Solicitation

- Nine Research Problem Statements were received from CT, (1), MA (2), ME (3), NH (1) and RI (2),
- Problem Statement Ranking/Discussion meeting on 3/17/21 from 9:00am-2:00pm via webinar.
Action item: Kirsten will send draft agenda to Dale and Ann this week and then out to the TAAC.
- Updates from the TAAC members?
 - ~ Emily – Mark Brum, MA Materials, is promoting MA’s Asphalt Research Problem Statement to his peers across New England. It’s cool that SMEs are doing their own campaigning.

5) NETC Website

- Members Only section
 - ~ CTC has created a Members Only section. Kirsten will send login information to the AC.
 - ~ Emily – 18-3 – Will have a password protect page? Maina – Yes.

6) Symposium – Ideas

- A Symposium committee meeting is scheduled for 2/25/21.
 - ~ Maina – Think about having a great internet connection. At one point during the recent AMAP conference, the connection was lost.

7) Other Business

8) Adjourn

Next meeting: March 17, 2021 from 9:00am – 2:00pm ET

