



NETC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 27, 2021, 11:00am – 12:30pm ET

Attendees:

Ulrich Amoussou-Guenou	Dale Peabody, MaineDOT
Colin Franco, RIDOT	Ann Scholz, NHDOT
Tanya Miller, VTrans	Kirsten Seeber, CTC & Associates
Andrew Mroczkowski, ConnDOT	Jo Sias, UNH
Dee Nash, NHDOT	Maina Tran, CTC & Associates
Lily Oliver, MassDOT	Melanie Zimyeski, ConnDOT
Emily Parkany, VTrans	

1) Open Project Review (July 2021)

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
19-1: Curved Integral Abutment Bridge Design	Adam Stockin, WSP E. Parkany K. Seeber Alex Bardow, MA DOT	The TC met on 7/20/21 to get updates on Tasks 2 (finite element studies) and 3 (design guidelines). The survey to state bridge engineers was never sent but the TC decided they would still like to send it. The project is a bit behind but the PI feels they can finish on time.	3/31/2022 \$151,316
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	A project status meeting was held on 6/17/21. The research team provided TC with access to the toolkit. The TC will demo the toolkit and provide final feedback. The next project status meeting will be in October to review the final toolkit and draft final report.	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 Matt Weidele, MA DOT	The TC is scheduled to meet on 7/28/21 to review Task 1 (identify common beam-end corrosion topologies). The TC has reviewed the Task 1 report and provided comments.	3/31/2023 \$179,995

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20-1: In-Service Performance Evaluation of NETC Bridge Railings	Christine Carrigan, RoadSafe D. Peabody K. Seeber Jeff Folsom, ME DOT	The TC is scheduled to meet on 9/3/21. The research team does not have all of the bridge rail inventory and crash data they need for the project but feel they can keep the project on its original schedule.	6/30/2022 \$119,978
20-2: Current Status of Transportation Data Analytics and A Pilot Case Study Using Artificial Intelligence (AI)	UMass Lowell, A. Scholz M. Tran Susan Klasen, NH DOT	The research team started on Task 1. They contacted the NE states to collect additional data sources and stakeholder information.	3/31/2023 \$179,995
20-3: Investigating Thermal Imaging Technologies and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to Improve Bridge Inspections	AECOM, Kevin Ahearn D. Peabody M. Tran John "Sam" Maxim, ME DOT	A project status meeting was held on July 19. Three drone models were presented for use in upcoming field testing (Task 2). All the bridges selected for field testing are in MA.	3/31/2023 \$174,931
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 TC meets monthly. There is a DOT CAV Engagement workshop scheduled for 7/29/21. The PI is scheduling outreach meetings with industry and organization leaders. MaineDOT is hoping the contract modification will be executed in early August.	12/31/2021 \$153,746
Re-Creating NETC	Kirsten Seeber/Chris Kline, CTC & Associates A. Scholz K. Seeber A. Scholz	The next TAAC is meeting scheduled for 8/19/21.	8/12/2021 \$50,000
21-1: Quality Review and Assessment of Pavement Condition Survey Vehicle Data Across New England	TBD A. Mroczkowski M. Tran John Henault, CT DOT	The RFP has been posted. Questions are due 8/4/21. The RFP deadline is 9/1/21. CTC sent an email to the NETC distribution list on 7/26/21.	18 months \$200,000 proposed
21-2: Sustainable Biomass-Based Sealant for Service Life Extension of Concrete Structures and Pavements	TBD U. Amoussou-Gueno K. Seeber Joe Stillwell, ME DOT	The TC has provided comments on the SOW and are finalizing it.	24 months \$210,000 proposed
21-3: Initiating Seed Production for Effective Establishment of Native Plants on Roadsides in New England	TBD A. Scholz K. Seeber Arin Mills, NH DOT	The final SOW was sent to MaineDOT for processing on 7/13/21.	36 months \$200,000 proposed

Discussion:

- 20-2
 - Ann – Any issues with the PI getting data from the states? Maina is not aware of any issues but will check with the PI.

- Colin – Are some projects phased so that if there is not statistically significant data from the states, the TC decides if the project moves forward? Are the TCs monitoring this? Sometimes the data is “filled in” and he doesn’t like that.
 - ~ Ann – Good point. This has happened on a previous project where some states didn’t have data, but the project continued.
 - ~ Emily – Related to the Re-Creating NETC project, the TAAC decided that all states would need to approve future projects being initiated. Also, it would be useful to have a go-no go point on projects. If data needs to be manufactured then this should be a part of the go-no go decision.
 - ~ Kirsten – There are go-no go points written into some project SOWs. CTC and the TC chair should be keeping an eye on these points in the projects.
- 20-3
 - If the TC has additional bridges to add to the field testing, they should contact the PI. Colin – He would like the PI should check in with the RI about a bridge where they are using a drone. Maina – Colin will email Maina so she can follow up with the PI.
 - Dale – Task 1 report completed? Maina – Yes, it’s posted on the NETC website. She will follow up with the PI to see if he has any questions.
- 20-4
 - Emily – Three states want to be involved in the outreach meetings. Lots of energy with this project.
- Re-Creating NETC
 - Emily – End date is mid-August. Kirsten – The next meeting will be past the end date. Is the TAAC okay with this? The goal is to have some concrete action items after that meeting. The TAAC is okay with this.
- 21-1
 - Maina will reach out to the TC members to alert them to the RFP and ask them to forward to interested parties.
- 21-3
 - Ann – Would like to see the LTAPs and the university extensions get the invitation. Kirsten will figure out who to send this to.

2) Implementation

- TAAC members to report on any implementation activities for recently closed projects.
- Kirsten sent the implementation spreadsheet to the TAAC on 5/11/21. NH, VT and ME sent information. No further updates have been received.
 - ~ NETC 18-1: Development of MASH Computer Simulated Steel Bridge Rail and Transition Details
 - ~ NETC 18-2: Framework of Asphalt Balance Mix Design for NE Agencies
 - ~ NETC 18-3: Integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems into State DOTs
- CTC will mock up an implementation page to show at the August meeting.

3) Project Webinars

- No webinars currently scheduled.
- All webinar recordings/presentations can be found on the project pages or [here](#).

4) Website Topics

- The project categories have been changed. A few projects have been assigned to new categories. Projects can be assigned to multiple categories.

5) 2021 Symposium Update

- A Transportation Maintenance Symposium will be held September 28, 29 and 30. The sessions will be 2-3 hours/topic. The third day will depend on the number of subtopics selected.
- Zoom will be used to host the symposium.
- A Construction Symposium will be held in early 2022.
 - ~ Devin Anderson and Travis Hamel, MaineDOT, are interested in assisting with the Construction Symposium in early 2022.
- The planning committee is in the process of identifying subtopic champions.
 - ~ Todd Law, VTrans, has been approached to be a Maintenance champion.
- A save-the-date announcement and a survey were sent out 7/25/21. The goal of the survey is to gauge interest and gather subtopics and find subtopic champions.
- A 2021 symposium web page has been created.
- The next symposium committee meeting is planned for 7/27/21.
- Do we want to charge non-transportation agency staff? University staff were not charged in 2019. Attendees from private industry were charged a fee in 2019. Would we charge for a virtual event?
 - ~ Emily – Need AC feedback. Dale – Depends on topics selected and what participants want to hear. If the SMEs want to keep their sessions closed, we can do that. Maina – It will be easier to do that this time.
 - ~ Ann – Would like to include university staff. They can pick up on potential research needs.
 - ~ Emily – It would be up to topic champion to decide whether the session is closed or not. We can dismiss attendees when needed.
- Colin – Have to be careful of presentations that are vendor-supported.
 - ~ Colin – Maina will send the AC the names of the folks who have responded to the survey.
- Ann – She sent email to the bridge maintenance and highway maintenance bureaus. She received a question from bridge maintenance about the difference between the NETC Symposium and the AASHTO Transportation System Preservation Technical Services Program (TSP2) regional meetings in October.
 - ~ Colin – The Symposium will have more range than just preservation.
 - ~ Emily – Staff should attend the Symposium sessions that make sense to them. They don't have to attend the entire thing.
 - ~ Dale – He expects the same question from his bridge person. AASHTO is doing strictly preservation but ours could have other topics such as load ratings, inspections, staffing, etc. Also, the Symposium is a New England group and the TSP2 is a northeastern group.
 - ~ Colin – He really want to hear what's on the mind of the maintenance folks. Share the good and help each other with their issues. This should be the gist of the Symposium. Hear from the staff who are doing the actual work. This is the difference between the preservation groups and this group.
- Colin – Maintenance has changed and now includes asset management and preservation. RI bridge inspection folks report to the bridge engineer but sit in maintenance. The maintenance folks do snow removal, small repairs, etc. Should we send the invitation to the bridge inspection and preservation folks as well? Emily – Yes, they are all related.
- Colin – Who will have input into the final topic selection? The SMEs or the planning committee?
 - Emily – The committee has spent a lot of time to get to this point and we would like to have the

SMEs help us. Emily – We won't base everything on the 12 survey responses but CTC can put together a list of potential topics to send to the AC for input.

- ~ Emily – Do we want to make this engineering focused or geared more towards maintenance staff? She hopes we end up with a couple topics where someone says that we need a presentation for this topic, a discussion for this one, etc. We are still struggling with what the topics should be and how to address them. Maina – We will avoid the October TSP2 topics if we can. Can we figure out what those topics are?
- ~ Emily – We need someone to stand up and say this is a topic we need to discuss and/or a presentation we need to see.

6) Other Business

- The December Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for December 28th. Will people be working or should we reschedule?
 - ~ Move to December 14th at the same time.
- 2021 AASHTO Innovation Initiative (A.I.I.) Call for Nominations – Dale
 - ~ Dale – Can we submit some NETC projects, such as the erosion modeling tool (19-2) or bridge beam end project (19-3)? Not now but as we move forward. If the NE states use tools from the projects, then submit those projects.
 - ~ Ann – NH does not participate in this. Can states that don't participate submit projects?
Emily – Yes, she confirmed that with Glenn Page. He's interested in participation. She likes the idea of a NETC submission.
- Emily – UAS program training is next week. Hopefully folks are spreading this information to their staff. There are 12 virtual sessions that anyone can attend.

7) Adjourn

Next meeting: August 24th, 2021 from 11:00am – 12:30pm ET