



NETC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 24, 2021, 11:00am – 12:30pm ET

Attendees:

Ulrich Amoussou-Guenou, MaineDOT	Dale Peabody, MaineDOT
Alex Bernier, UConn	Ann Scholz, NHDOT
Colin Franco, RIDOT	Kirsten Seeber, CTC & Associates
Matt Mann, UMass	James Sullivan, UVM
Tanya Miller, VTrans	Maina Tran, CTC & Associates
Andrew Mroczkowski, ConnDOT	Nicholas Zavalas, MassDOT
Emily Parkany, VTrans	

1) Open Project Review (August 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 survey to state bridge engineers was sent and received 34 responses. Kirsten will schedule the next TC meeting to review Task 2 (finite element studies) and Task 3 (design guidelines). 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	The final project meeting is scheduled for 11/3/21. The TC should provide feedback on the toolkit to the PI. The PI will send the draft final report in early October.	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	The TC has received beams from CT, ME and VT. RI and NH are looking for bridge candidates. The PI is finalizing the Task 1 report. The next TC meeting is scheduled for 12/16/21.	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. The TC will vote on if the project should continue at the 9/3/21 meeting.	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 PI does not need help collecting data. A TC meeting is scheduled for late September.	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	This project is on schedule. RI may add a bridge to the list.	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. A DOT CAV Engagement workshop was held on 7/29/21. Several states were invited to this workshop and there is an eagerness to learn from each other, especially MN and OR. The PI is scheduling outreach meetings with industry and organization leaders. This project will have several deliverable arriving at the same time. We need to ensure there is enough time to review them all.	12/31/2021 \$153,746
Re-Creating NETC	Kirsten Seeber/Chris Kline, CTC & Associates A. Scholz K. Seeber A. Scholz	The 8/19/21 TAAC meeting was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. The meeting will now be on 9/27/21. The draft Task 3 memo was sent to the TAAC for review and comments.	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 were answered and posted. The RFP deadline is 9/1/21.	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 final SOW was sent to MaineDOT on 8/18/21 for processing into an RFP.	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 RFP has been posted. Questions are due on 9/2/21. The RFP deadline is 9/27/21. Kirsten sent an email to the NETC distribution list on 8/19/21 and the TC on 8/23/21.	36 months \$200,000 proposed

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. 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

3) Website Implementation page

- Maina showed a mockup section on a project page for implementation activities.
- The decision was made to make implementation information public.
- We will include a summary of the active implementation information from states and note the number of states that have not implemented a project's results.
- CTC will add a tech transfer section to projects to show presentations and other tech transfer activities related to individual projects.

4) Next NETC pooled fund study

- Begin discussions on the next phase of the NETC pooled fund study
- Dale – He wants to take a harder look at what the TAAC wants to do with NETC. Do they even want to continue on with the pooled fund? He is retiring in the next couple of years and ME will not be the lead state for the next pooled fund. This gives some urgency to what we want NETC to look like.
 - ~ The CTC contract ends 5/22/21. ME needs to know soon if there will be a next pooled fund and what it will look like so the next lead state can start the process. There can also be a gap year between studies. The TAAC should think about this.
- Ann and Emily agree that the discussion about the next pooled fund, and the next lead state, should happen soon. If no one volunteers to be a lead state, then NETC would fizzle.
- Colin – What is NETC's mission now and how can it be an integral part of the agencies the group serves? NETC provides the opportunity for SMEs to meet and see how they can improve their processes. How can NETC be the facilitator for the NE states to work together in a meaningful way to support the progress of the agencies? He sees NETC as being more hands on rather than conducting research, though research wouldn't go away entirely.

5) 2021 Symposium Update

- A Transportation Maintenance Symposium will be held September 29th.
- Zoom will be used to host the symposium.
- The planning committee and the three champions are meeting on 8/24/21.
- Emily – At this point, we will concentrate on winter maintenance and make it a meaningful day. It's been more difficult than expected to line up champions. We can learn from the first one and make the Construction Symposium better.
- A Construction Symposium will be held in early 2022. Planning for this symposium will begin in early October, using the lessons learned from the Winter Maintenance Symposium.

6) Other Business

- The December Advisory Committee meeting has been moved to 12/14/21 from 11:00am –

12:30pm ET.

- Colin – The delays in getting power back on in homes/businesses is unacceptable. This is related to asset management. Utilities are on their own but they lease rights of way. Utilities should inventory of all the trees and note potential conflicts with utilities. This affects all six states and maybe something NETC might want to start thinking about. Can NETC come up with some process for this?
 - ~ Emily – Todd Law mentioned tree cutting as a challenge (and a symposium topic). Pre-storm management is a good idea. There is something to resilience planning. Colin – This leads to a discussion about whether utilities should be moved underground or overhead. What is the cost to move underground vs. maintenance costs for fixing above ground utilities? Pick this up as NETC (and include NYS). Find out what is going on, and states can make related policies. This is an example of where NETC can do something different.

7) Adjourn

Next meeting: September 28th, 2021 from 11:00am – 12:30pm