



NETC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 12, 2023, 10:30am – 11:30am ET

Attendees:

Ulrich Amoussou-Guenou, MaineDOT	Emily Parkany, VT AOT
Colin Franco, RIDOT	Dale Peabody, MaineDOT
Matt Mann, UMTC	Kirsten Seeber, CTC & Associates
Andrew Mroczkowski, ConnDOT	Lily Oliver, MassDOT
Dee Nash, NHDOT	Nicholas Zavalas, MassDOT

1) Open Project Review (April/May 2023)

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
19-3: Experimental Validation of New Improved Load Rating Procedures for Deteriorated Unstiffened Steel Beam Ends	Simos Gerasimidis, UMass Amherst N. Zavalas K. Seeber Matt Weidele, MA DOT	<p>The research team continues to focus on the exploration of corrosion profiles before and after rust and delamination removal. The team has also been focused on different scanning techniques.</p> <p>Testing has been done on a total of 10 beams. Five additional beam specimens were selected for scanning and descaling in the coming weeks.</p> <p>The team presented to 30-40 attendees at MassDOT's Transportation Innovation Conference on 5/3/23. The next TC meeting is scheduled for 5/17/23.</p>	1/31/2024 \$179,995
20-2: Current Status of Transportation Data Analytics and a Pilot Case Study Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) Speed Collection on Horizontal Curves	Yuanchang Xie, UMass Lowell E. Parkany K. Seeber Susan Klaseen, NH DOT	<p>The TC met on 5/4/23. The researchers collected its first set of data. They are behind on data collection but feel they can keep on schedule because they are analyzing data as it comes in. They will be collecting data from four additional locations.</p> <p>The researchers presented a set of lessons learned thus far. The TC reminded them to keep focused on the project objectives, which are to use AI to improving traffic operations and safety.</p> <p>Kirsten is scheduling the next two TC meetings.</p>	12/31/2023 \$200,000

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
20-3: Investigating Thermal Imaging Technologies and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to Improve Bridge Inspections	Kevin Ahearn, AECOM U. K. Seeber John “Sam” Maxim, ME DOT	<p>ME processed a three-month extension for the project to end on 6/30/23. This will allow for in-person demonstrations/training to DOT staff at each agency between 5/19 and 6/2. The research team is conducting a virtual training on 5/12/23.</p> <p>The TC is meeting on 6/21/23 to discuss the deliverables. Deliverables will be sent by 6/16/23 with comments due by 6/26/23. The PI says he will have enough time to finalize deliverables before 6/30/23.</p> <p>The project webinar will be scheduled in early August.</p> <p>Emily – VT date for in-person? Dale – Check with Even Robinson, VT TC member. Each state identified the staff they want at the training.</p>	6/30/2023 \$174,931
21-1: Quality Review and Assessment of Pavement Condition Survey Vehicle Data Across New England	Gonzalo Rada, WSP A. Mroczkowski K. Seeber John Henault, CT DOT	<p>The research team sent draft final deliverables on 5/2/23 for TC review. The TC will meet on 6/22/23 to discuss them. The project webinar is scheduled for 7/18/23. Kirsten will send an invitation to the full NETC mailing list by the end of May.</p> <p>Kirsten received a client satisfaction survey from WSP for this project. Who, if anyone, should complete the survey? Dale – If the TC chair wants to complete it, that’s fine. He’s also okay with letting slide.</p>	7/31/23 \$174,932
21-3: Initiating Seed Production for Effective Establishment of Native Plants on Roadsides in New England	Julia Kuzovkina, UConn D. Nash K. Seeber Arin Mills, NH DOT	<p>The TC met on 4/10/23 to discuss the Task 1 report. The TC is still waiting for the Best Management Practices part of Task 1, which will be sent on 6/1/23. The revised Task 1 report will be sent on 5/19/23.</p> <p>The TC is feeling better about the research team’s progress but is keeping a close eye on their monthly progress reports. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for 6/13/23.</p> <p>Action item: Kirsten will send Colin the April project report. He would like the TC to keep in mind that the project focus is to commercialize seed production.</p>	6/30/24 \$200,000

2) Implementation/Tech Transfer

- TAAC members to report on any implementation activities for recently closed projects.
- Kirsten will send quarterly reminders to the TAAC to add information/activities to the implementation spreadsheet. Kirsten sent the first reminder on 3/23/23.
- How can additional states use/implement the results of completed NETC projects?
 - Implementation webinar for [09-03: Design, Fabrication and Installation of ACM Bridge Drain System](#) is scheduled for May 15 from 2:00-2:45pm ET. Joe Stilwell, MaineDOT, will be presenting. There are 27 people registered as of 5/11/23. Kirsten has sent shop drawings and specs to each registrant.

- Send Colin the invitation for him to send to his bridge engineer
- Send everyone the shop drawings/specs.
- If TAAC members know of Tech Transfer Activities for any project, please let Kirsten know so she can add them to the project's web page.

3) NETC Final Reports – 508-compliance

- Kirsten sent a list of the final reports from the current phase of the pooled fund study showing which reports are 508-compliant and which are not. The spreadsheet also indicates how many pages are in each report.
- CTC can assist with making final reports compliant if the Advisory Committee would like.
- Colin – What does it mean if the reports are not compliant? Dale – They might not be posted on [ROSAP](#), the US DOT digital library. Because the projects are funded with SPR dollars, the reports should be compliant.
- Dee – NE sends reports that are not compliant to ROSAP. Can we do that? Kirsten – The ROSAP librarians may do the compliance works if it's minimal and then post the reports.
- Lily – MA reports are always compliant. When a MA report has lots of appendices, they don't include them in the report. They post the appendices and link to them within the report. Could we post appendices on the NETC project page and link to them there? Yes.
 - Dale agrees with this approach.
- Dale – The conversation isn't only about ROSAP, but the accessibility of the reports for everyone. He's in favor of making the reports compliant.
- Provide estimates for final report - Yes
 - Don't include the appendices for projects 18-1 and 19-1 but post them on the project page and link to them.
 - Provide cost estimate on all reports only.
 - Kirsten will try to get the Word versions of the final reports.
 - Matt can work with CTC on cost estimates.

4) Spring 2023 Topical Discussion Symposiums

- A monthly series of virtual in-depth Topical Discussion Symposiums this spring designed to bring together SMEs from the New England transportation agencies around specific topics. Topics:
 - Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance
 - Asset Management for ITS
 - e-Construction for Pavements
 - Geotech
- Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance
 - Planning Team met on 2/17/23.
 - **Action item: Kirsten will schedule the next planning meeting with the group.**
 - The group is focusing on three subtopics and has a volunteer lead for each.
 - ~ Mitigating the effect of collisions on reptiles and amphibians – Chris Slesar, VT
 - ~ Implementation strategies for wildlife avoidance – Richard Bostwick, ME
 - ~ Data collection/FHWA initiatives and support – Rebecca Martin, NH
 - Format - The group is leaning towards the symposium style (presentation, Q&A, small group

- breakouts, report out to large group).
- Asset Management for ITS
 - Planning Team met on 5/10/23.
 - The discussion will be held on 6/22/23 from 12:00-4:00pm ET.
 - Four subtopics and has volunteer leads for each.
 - ~ Asset Management
 - ~ Budget
 - ~ GIS
 - ~ Work Orders
 - ~ Cultural/Legal
 - Format – Each state will present for five-to-ten minutes on how their ITS asset management works, including positives, challenges, systems using, etc. Then a Q&A on each of the subtopics with the large group.
 - The group has hearty list of questions to cover during the event. They will prioritize the topics and questions to help organize their time during the event.
 - Geotech
 - Planning Team met on 2/23/23.
 - **Action item: Kirsten will schedule the next planning meeting with the group.**
 - The group is focusing on three subtopics and has volunteer leads for each.
 - ~ Geotech Asset Management – Callie Ewald, VT and Kate Maguire, ME
 - ~ Geophysics – Steve Madden, VT
 - ~ UAS topics (Geotech investigations, challenges of implementing, construction, utilizing with rock slopes) – Krystle Pelham, NH
 - The group is considering the symposium style and/or a panel style depending on the topic.
 - e-Construction for Pavements
 - Planning Team met on 3/3/23.
 - Looking at early June or October date for their event. **Action item: Kirsten will schedule the next planning meeting with the group.**
 - The group will reach out to others in their agencies for additional topic ideas and how to group them together.
 - New topic suggestion – Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan
 - Emily sent an email about this on 4/12/23. The idea came from Dale and Dee.
 - ~ Dee – There have been discussions between ME and NH aeronautics people on the next steps for drones. This includes freight and people mobility through uncrewed aircraft. Transporting people or cargo at lower altitudes and shorter ranges than traditional aircraft. AASHTO is looking into this, and some states are testing this.
 - Nicholas – Is this a research project? Dale – No, a discussion with NC, AK and FHWA.
 - Nicholas will be the AC liaison to the planning team and will provide MA volunteer names for the planning team.
 - ~ Emily – Nicholas’s role will be to attend meetings and help guide the planning and the event.
 - Lily – MA is not doing this, but Jeff DeCarlo would be interested.

- Suggestion to have James Gray from FHWA to speak and participate.
- Need names/email addresses for potential planning team members from each state. **Action item:** Kirsten will forward the email used for other topics to the AC members to send to potential volunteers at their agency.
- Emily – Keep our options open for event ideas. She likes how this idea came from a discussion between states. By this summer, we will have a better idea of leftover funds.
- Nicholas – EV charging program as a possible topic. Look at each state’s plan that was submitted and talk about coordinating to get coverage. Dale – Interested in this topic.
- Colin – Possible topic – How is AI going to affect the departments? What is going on, especially in the business world. Emily – That topic might attract a broad swath of people.

Full list of volunteers

NETC Topical Discussion Symposium Series - Spring 2023		
Topic	Volunteer	State
Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance	Christopher Samorajczyk	CT
Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance	Richard Bostwick	ME
Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance	Dale Peabody	ME
Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance	Rebecca Martin	NH
Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance	Dee Nash	NH
Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance	Chris Slesar	VT
Asset Management for ITS	Anthony Colangelo	CT
Asset Management for ITS	Louis Lamoureux	MA
Asset Management for ITS	Chester Osborne	MA
Asset Management for ITS	Susan Klasen	NH
Asset Management for ITS	Kody McCarthy	NH
Asset Management for ITS	Dee Nash	NH
Asset Management for ITS	Russell Holt	RI
Asset Management for ITS	Derek Lyman	VT
Asset Management for ITS	Mark Gerrish	VT
Asset Management for ITS	Rayn Knapp	VT
Asset Management for ITS	Emily Parkany	VT
e-Construction for Pavements	Jarrett Moore	CT
e-Construction for Pavements	Brian Kelleher	MA
e-Construction for Pavements	Dale Peabody	ME
e-Construction for Pavements	Ulrich Amoussou-Gueno	ME
e-Construction for Pavements	Pat Colburn	NH
e-Construction for Pavements	Dee Nash	NH
e-Construction for Pavements	Ryan Darling	VT
Geotech	Robert Pion	CT
Geotech	Mike Glovasky	MA
Geotech	Mike Roach	MA
Geotech	Jennifer Rauch	MA
Geotech	Kate Maguire	ME
Geotech	Dee Nash	NH
Geotech	Krystle Pelham	NH
Geotech	Callie Ewald	VT
Geotech	Steve Madden	VT
Geotech	Emily Parkany	VT

5) Other Business

- This is Dale’s final NETC Advisory Committee meeting because he is retiring at the end of May.
 - Lily – Who will Kirsten work with at Maine DOT? Ulrich for now. They are hiring someone for Dale’s position
- CTC contract ends 5/31/23. Project 21-3 ends 6/30/24. Extend the contract to cover the contract? Dale - Ask the new Research Manager.

6) Adjourn

Next meeting: June 27, 2023, from 11:00am – 12:00pm ET