



## NETC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2023, 11:00am – noon ET

**Attendees:**

Alex Bernier, UConn	Kirsten Seeber, CTC & Associates
Matt Mann, UMTC	Nicholas Zavalas, MassDOT
Ashlie Mercado, VT AOT	Melanie Zimyeski, ConnDOT

**1) Open Project Review (July/August 2023)**

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
<a href="#">19-3: Experimental Validation of New Improved Load Rating Procedures for Deteriorated Unstiffened Steel Beam Ends</a>	Simos Gerasimidis, UMass Amherst N. Zavalas K. Seeber Matt Weidele, MA DOT	<p>The research team has continued to process scan data, test beam specimens, and do the finite element analysis work.</p> <p>Twelve beams have now been tested.</p> <p>The team continues work on the analysis of the trends between the dirty (corrosion, rust, delamination, paint) versus clean (bare metal) scans for 10 beam specimens on site.</p> <p>The team team delivered the report for the ME bridge scanning demonstration and are arranging a scanning demonstration for RI.</p> <p>Aidan will present on the scanning and some of the experimental results at the New York City Bridge Conference at the end of August.</p> <p>TC meetings are scheduled for 9/11/23, 10/12/23 and 11/13/23.</p>	1/31/2024 \$179,995

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
<a href="#">20-2: Current Status of Transportation Data Analytics and a Pilot Case Study Using Artificial Intelligence (AI)</a>  Speed Collection on Horizontal Curves	Yuanchang Xie, UMass Lowell E. Parkany K. Seeber Susan Klasen, NH DOT	The research team is almost done with fine-tuning the AI models for processing the video data. The video data analysis will be completed in August.  The team will finish the radar speed data analysis in August and draft the final report in September.  A TC meeting is scheduled for 11/15/23 to review draft final deliverables.  Emily - TC members are waiting for the final report to see if things fall into place and all of the information makes more sense.	12/31/2023 \$200,000
<a href="#">20-3: Investigating Thermal Imaging Technologies and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to Improve Bridge Inspections</a>	Kevin Ahearn, AECOM D. Peabody K. Seeber John "Sam" Maxim, ME DOT	This project is complete.  The project webinar was held on 8/8/23 with nineteen attendees. Kirsten will post the recording and slides on the NETC website and send the links to the attendees and NETC mailing list.	6/30/2023 \$174,931
<a href="#">21-3: Initiating Seed Production for Effective Establishment of Native Plants on Roadsides in New England</a>	Julia Kuzovkina, UConn D. Nash K. Seeber Arin Mills, NH DOT	The CT demo site has been planted. VT has identified a new demo site and is working with the research team to get it planted. MA is also looking for a new site due to bureaucratic hurdles (too close to a wetland) at the initial site.  The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for 9/12/23.	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 a reminder on 6/19/23.
- How can additional states use/implement the results of completed NETC projects?
  - Emily – Reach out to your TC chairs regarding their projects. It takes some work, but it is worth the effort. It’s important to continue to think about implementation of NETC projects. The more we try to share that staff cares about these projects, the better it is for the research areas at the agencies.
- If TAAC members knows of Tech Transfer Activities for any project, please let Kirsten know so she can add them to the project’s web page.

**3) Topical Discussion Events**

- A series of virtual in-depth Topical Discussions designed to bring together SMEs from the New England transportation agencies around specific topics. Topics:
  - Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan
  - Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance
  - Asset Management for ITS
  - e-Construction for Pavements
  - Geotech

- Asset Management for ITS – Event complete
  - **Action item:** Kirsten will post the presentations and the recordings on the NETC website behind a password protected page.
- Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan
  - Planning Team meeting held on 7/13/23.
  - They are looking at holding the event over two days, four hours each. Day 1 would be focused on UAS topics and Day 2 would focus on Advanced Air Mobility topics.
  - UAS subtopics and volunteer leads
    - ~ How DOTs using UAS – Matt Mann, UMTC
    - ~ Uses of drones beyond DOTs – Jeanne Kannegieser, ME
    - ~ How to apply lessons from surface transportation to UAS and AAM – Carol Niewola, NH
  - AAM subtopics and volunteer leads
    - ~ Workforce development – Chris Bailey, MA
    - ~ Community outreach – Chris Bailey, MA
    - ~ Low level flight corridors – Jeanne Kannegieser, ME
  - Event format
    - ~ Four hours
    - ~ Day 1 – State presentations and discussion
    - ~ Day 2 – Panels and small group discussions
  - Event timing – Looking at November 2023 and February 2024
    - ~ Nicholas not in favor of the two days split by several months. **Action item:** Nicholas will share this thought with the planning team. He doesn't want to lose the momentum and Day 2 may be predicated on Day 1 topics. Emily wants people to feel they can attend the sections of the days that fit their interests and schedules.
  - Next planning meeting scheduled for 9/6/23.
- Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance
  - Planning Team meeting held 7/21/23.
  - Three subtopics and has volunteer leads
    - ~ Mitigating the effect of collisions on reptiles and amphibians – Chris Slesar, VT
    - ~ Implementation strategies for wildlife avoidance – Richard Bostwick, ME
    - ~ Road mortality data collection activities – Rebecca Martin, NH
  - Event format
    - ~ Four hours
    - ~ Intro session to explain the importance of the main topic; Use cases/presentations; panel discussion and breakout groups at the end of the day to focus on highlights from the event
  - Event timing – February 2024
  - Kirsten is scheduling the next planning meeting and the event date.
- Geotech
  - Planning Team meeting held 7/20/23.
  - Three subtopics and volunteer leads
    - ~ UAS for Geotech investigations – Krystle Pelham, NH

- ~ Geophysics – Steve Madden, VT
- ~ Geotech asset management and data management– Callie Ewald, VT and Kate Macguire, ME
- o Event format
  - ~ Four hours
  - ~ Panel and presentations/use cases
- o Event timing – November 2023 or February 2024.
- o Kirsten is scheduling the next planning meeting and the event date.
- e-Construction for Pavements
  - o Planning Team meeting held on 7/26/23.
  - o Subtopics and volunteer leads
    - ~ Risk-Based Inspection/Automated inspection – Ryan Darling, VT
    - ~ Materials Delivery Management System/e-Ticketing – Jarret Moore, CT
    - ~ Other topics being considered
      - Density Profiling System, Paver-Mounted Thermal Profiler, Intelligent Compaction also is e-Construction/Smooth Ride System
  - o Event format
    - ~ Four hours
  - o Event timing – February 2024
  - o Kirsten is scheduling the next planning meeting and the event date.
- Emily would like to see these first events advertised and then how well they are attended. The Asset Management for ITS was a focused group so it’s not a good example. Maybe when people see advertisements for February events and they turn out to be popular, the Advisory Committee can identify an additional topic or two to hold in April or May. We need to get the word out there about the current events first.

**List of volunteers**

Topic	Volunteer	State
Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan	Jeffrey DeCarlo	MA
Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan	Chris Bailey	MA
Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan	Fred Bedard	MA
Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan	Terrance McKenna	MA
Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan	Scott Uebelhart	MA
Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan	Nicholas Zavalas	MA
Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan	Jeanne Kannegieser	ME
Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan	Alan Lambert	ME
Advanced Air Mobility Regional Plan	Evan Robinson	VT
Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance	Christopher Samorajczyk	CT
Animal Vehicle Collision Avoidance	Richard Bostwick	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	Ryan 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	Ulrich Amoussou-Guenou	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

#### 4) Other Business

- 508-compliance for final reports from this phase of the pooled fund
  - Approximately 52-67 hours\* of remediation is needed.
  - Approximate funds would be \$6,213 - \$8,005\*.
  - \*These numbers do not include the yet to be delivered reports for projects 19-3, 20-2 and 21-3.
  - Funds remaining in CTC contract from 8/1/23 to end of pooled fund - \$188,374.
    - ~ If CTC contract is extended until 8/31/24, this would leave available an average of \$14,490/month, which is higher than the normal invoice total.
  - See attached spreadsheet for details.
  - **Action item:** Kirsten will send the spreadsheet to the TAAC to get approval from everyone.
- Activities if NETC website moved from CTC servers after pooled fund ends.
  - Prepare site for transfer; clean up files, organization – CTC time would be 2 hours.
  - Export files and database – CTC’s web server company time would be 30 minutes
  - New site owner would need to purchase and install licenses for two WordPress plugins
    - ~ Advanced Custom Fields Pro - \$49/year
    - ~ Posts Table Pro - \$69/year
  - Documentation on how to use site, manage projects, etc. – CTC time would be 3 hours.
  - Total funds = Approximately \$800.

- Nicholas – Question for everyone. What about the idea of each state having their own copy of the website?
  - ~ Emily – VT wouldn't be interested in that but is interested in the material living somewhere. What if some states wouldn't be able to host a copy of the website due to their IT policies?
  - ~ Emily - Do we really need a policy to hold the information for a number of years? Can we make it a sub-contract to the CTC contract somehow?
    - **Action item:** Kirsten will produce an estimate of fees for CTC to host the website for 10 years. Fees could include hosting, licenses, domain name, hours need to maintain the site, etc.
  - ~ Nicholas would like CTC to provide a fuller description of people a fuller description of size of the website/database so if he can tell his IT folks if he discusses hosting a copy on the MassDOT site.
    - **Action item:** Kirsten will produce a description of what is on the site and the number of pages, documents (final reports and others), recordings, etc. If there is other information that would be helpful to his IT folks, please include.
- Nicholas – Are there any federal agencies who might take this website? TPF, NTL, etc.
  - ~ On 8/21/23 Kirsten asked Tricia Sergeson, TPF Manager, if the TPF program is looking at ways to preserve pooled fund websites.
    - **Response from Tricia Sergeson:** *“Right now the TPF program doesn't support other external TPF websites. If staff wanted to maintain the site this would be the responsibility of the participants interested.”*
- Melanie – Can we put the recordings on YouTube? Kirsten – Yes.
  - ~ Emily - This might be a way to preserve and share what they want to keep around. CTC could do this.
- The AC should really think about what they want to preserve? Who should then preserve it?
- **Action item:** Kirsten will include the website as a topic for the next AC meeting.
- Lily Oliver has left MassDOT Research. Kirsten will remove her from the NETC distribution lists.

## 5) Adjourn

**Next meeting:** September 26, 2023, from 11:00am–12:00pm ET