



# New England Transportation Consortium

## NETC Advisory Committee Meeting - Notes

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 26, 2019, 11:00am – 12:00pm EST

**LOCATION:** Conference Call – 1-800-444-2801 (Access Code: 1930608)

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Chris Jolly, FHWA	Flavia Pereira, ConnDOT
Matt Mann, UMass University Rep.	Ann Scholz, NHDOT
Dee Nash, NHDOT	Kirsten Seeber, CTC & Associates Coordinator
Lily Oliver, MassDOT	Jo Sias, UNH University Rep.
Emily Parkany, VTrans	Maina Tran, CTC & Associates
Dale Peabody, MaineDOT	Deane Van Dusen, MaineDOT

### AGENDA

#### Open Project Review (February 2019)

Project # and Title	PI, University <i>AC Liaison</i>	Update	End Date
13-1: Development of High Early-Strength Concrete for Accelerated Bridge Construction Closure Pour Connections	Brena, UMass Amherst <i>E. Parkany</i>	This project is complete, and the final invoice has been approved for payment.	8/31/2018 (NCE)
13-3: Improved Regionalization of Quality Assurance (QA) Functions	Davse, UNH <i>M. Sock</i>	The Phase I report is complete and is on the NETC website.	4/2/17 (NCE)
14-1: Measuring the Effectiveness of Competency Models for Job Specific Professional Development of Engineers & Engineering Technicians	Ahmadjian, UMass Amherst <i>D. Peabody</i>	This project is complete, and the final invoice has been approved for payment.	12/31/17 (NCE)
15-1: Use of Forested Habitat Adjacent to Highways by Northern Long Ear Bats (and Other Bats)	Foster, UNH <i>D. Peabody</i>	This project is complete, and the final invoice has been approved for payment.	11/30/18
15-2: Using the New SHRP2 Naturalistic Driving Study Safety Databases to Examine Safety Concerns for Older Drivers	Knodler, UMass Amherst <i>D. Peabody</i>	This project is complete, and the final invoice has been approved for payment.	12/31/18
15-3: Moisture Susceptibility Testing for Hot Mix Asphalt Pavements in New England	Dave, UNH <i>D. Peabody</i>	This project is complete, and the final invoice has been approved for payment.	7/31/18
15-4: Quick Response: Optimizing Quality Assurance (QA) Processes for Asphalt Pavement Construction in the Northeast	Daniel, UNH <i>E. Block</i>	This project is complete, and the final invoice has been approved for payment.	1/4/19
17-2: Quick Response: Quantification of Research Benefits	Frank Gross, VHB <i>E. Parkany/F. Pereira</i>	This project is complete, and the final invoice has been approved for payment.	1/5/19

Project # and Title	PI, University AC Liaison	Update	End Date
Implementation of Project 133/Phase II	Dave, UNH <i>TBD</i>	The Phase II report, poster, and fact sheet are complete and on the website. We are waiting for the final invoice to be sent to UVM.	1/25/19
18-1: Development of MASH Computer Simulated Steel Bridge Rail & Transition Details	Chuck Plaxico, Malcom Ray, Roadsafe LLC <i>D. Peabody</i>	The next TAC meeting is on 2/28/19. No comments received from TAC on Task 1.	6/1/20
18-2: Framework of Asphalt Balanced Mix Design for NE Agencies	Wala Mogawer, UMass Dartmouth <i>A. Scholz</i>	Contract had been signed. Dennis Boisvert has retired from NHDOT, so Ann is looking for a replacement. In process of coordinating a kickoff meeting.	6/30/20
18-3: Integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems into State DOTs	PI TBD <i>E. Parkany</i>	MaineDOT is working on the final contract. WSP has final contract.	TBD
18-4: Quick Response: ICNet Workshop	Daniel, UNH <i>A. Scholz</i>	Maine has completed the modification to CTC's contract. CTC has received two invoices from UNH.	10/14/19

#### Open Projects - Discussion:

- All projects through the 17-series are completed.
- 13-3: Phase II report and poster are posted. Waiting for final invoice.
- 18-2: project is going well with regular monthly calls. TAC is engaged and is up-to-date on the progress.
- 18-2: Ann asked Matt Courser to replace Denis Boisvert and will follow up with him on a final answer. Emily has already checked with the Vermont member and he is not interested. Flavia will follow up with the Connecticut member and Maina will follow up with the Rhode Island member. Should there be a contingency plan with succession? Flavia suggested to have a Vice Chair with the expectation that should something happen with the chair, the VC can step in.
- 18-3: A contract with WSP should be finalized very soon.
- 18-4: Jo said the agenda looks good so far for the workshop and the logistics are moving forward. They are looking at next steps for potential funding for future workshops.

#### NETC Fund Balance Update

- TPF-5(222)
  - ~ CT and RI have left over travel funds, \$19,021.02 and \$12,593.53 respectively.
  - ~ NETC "unallocated" balance as of February 22, 2019 - \$115,057.
- TPF-5(373)
  - ~ Funds spent through 2/14/19 - \$63,841
    - o CTC Contract - \$22,417
    - o RoadSafe LLC (18-1) - \$41,424
    - o ICNet Workshop - \$0
  - ~ Total commitments received - \$1,700,000
  - ~ Total funds available - \$762,256
  - ~ Balance - \$698,415

### Discussion:

- VT started their transfer in the past week.
- MA already initiated the transfer of \$100,000 for 2019 and \$37,000 from the previous phase. It should post next month.
- CT received email confirmation that the transfer was completed on February 11.
- Dale and Deane will provide a more detailed budget at the in-person March meeting.

### **Implementation of NETC projects**

- Added a discussion of implementation to the March AC meeting agenda prior to ranking of projects.
- Create an implementation page on the NETC website to house past implementation-related activities, forms, plan templates, etc.?
- Completed projects – Next steps (questions from Emily for discussion)
  - ~ Are each of the TACs charged with taking the report and implementing it at their DOT?
  - ~ Is there too much fatigue on some of these projects for there to be any enthusiasm?
  - ~ Should we ask the TAC members and/or PI of these project about next steps?
  - ~ Would it be useful for either the PI or Liaison or TAC Chair to give a five-minute presentation about each project at an Advisory Board meeting? Start with the three most recent projects at the March meeting?
  - ~ Should the AC discuss how to use the Fact Sheets and Posters?
  - ~ It's exciting that so many projects are now complete. Do we stop listing them in the agenda and stop paying attention to these now?

### Discussion:

- Emily asked is something should something be done to get information on whether any of the project TACs for the eight recently completed projects have plans to implement project results at their agencies? Should a technical brief on each project be created and used for dissemination?
- Kirsten asked if NETC needs an implementation page (accessible after log-in) to house all related implementation documents and resources? Ann stated that it is not necessary unless it is NETC specific. People can continue to use the RPPM website.
- Ann created a spreadsheet to follow up on the projects regarding implementation. She feels that not all projects are implementable. The results sometimes just validate or confirm a best practice already in use. They have asked TAC members about implementation. Ann said all (partial or full) implementation activities should be captured.
- Matt mentioned doing brief presentations to DOTs. Provide a technical brief document if DOT is not familiar with the project. **Question to consider:** Starting with 2019 projects, should we request webinars as part of the project?
- Can also ask for more activities such as a lunch-and-learn (bat study did this).
- If possible, reasons on why a project was not implemented should also be collected.
- Disseminate posters and fact sheets to specific audiences.
- Lily suggested to bring implementation as an item of discussion for each of the topics at the symposium. There will be state reps attending. **Action item:** Add implementation as a discussion item to symposium agenda.
- AC members should at a minimum check with their own TAC members to see if the project can be implemented and what the next steps are.
- Dale will share information he learns from his involvement with the NCHRP panel on implementation to the AC.
- **Action item:** Maina to send spreadsheet with all TAC members to AC members.

### **Research Problem Statements – Ranking**

- Kirsten sent an email to the AC DOT reps on 2/6/19 with a link to the website page with all problem statements received.
- DOT reps were reminded to ask their colleagues to keep the potential for implementation in mind when reviewing the problem statements.
- DOT reps should bring their completed Research Problem Ranking Sheet with them to the 3/13/19 meeting in Concord.
- A draft agenda for the 3/13/19 meeting is attached to this agenda.

#### Discussion:

- Ann is handling logistics on meeting day.
- Feedback on agenda: Should identify quantifiable metrics for selected projects.

### **Discussion on 2019 NETC Symposium**

- A reservation is being held for the Symposium on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 at the Grappone Center. CTC is reviewing the contract.
- The Symposium marketing email/flyer was completed and is being used to recruit interest. The current responses to the interest survey are attached to this agenda.
- The next working group meeting is scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am EST.

#### Discussion:

- Deadline for signing contract is 3/5/19. \$800 deposit due. Will discuss this at the 3/4/19 working group meeting. Payment will run through CTC's contract.
- Responses for interest survey so far includes: 2 from CT, 3 from MA and 3 from VT.
- Lily sent the Symposium information to the Highway Division Chief's office. They have more than 12 people interested. MA would be glad to send more people if space allows.
- Lily stated that John Grieco at MassDOT Materials Division is willing to take the lead on the Materials topic. What are the next steps as the lead person? We will discuss this role at next Symposium working group meeting.
- Dale will take the lead of the Bridges topic with help from the MaineDOT Bridges Department.

### **Other Business**

#### Discussion:

- Will wait until after March 13 meeting to decide if the scheduled March 26 meeting should be canceled. A reminder that Univ reps are not in attendance at the March 13 meeting so it may be good to keep the March 26 meeting.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019, from 9am – 2pm EST in Concord.