

**SOUTHEASTERN TRANSPORTATION CONSORTIUM  
FALL 2011 MEETING MINUTES  
October 25, 26, & 27, 2011**

The annual meeting of the Southeastern Transportation Consortium (STC) meeting was held in Baton Rouge, LA on October 25-27, 2011. The meeting was hosted by Louisiana (lead state) at the Louisiana Transportation Research Center. The member states were represented as follows:

<u>STATE</u>	<u>NAMES</u>
LOUISIANA	Mark Morvant (chair)
ALABAMA	Jeff Brown
ARKANSAS	Elisha Wight-Kehner
GEORGIA	David Jared
KENTUCKY	Joe Crabtree
MISSISSIPPI	Cindy Smith
NORTH CAROLINA	John Kirby
TENNESSEE	Not represented
VIRGINIA	Not represented
WEST VIRGINIA	Not represented

Meeting attendees also included the following LTRC personnel as schedules allowed or as input was needed for specific session topics.

LTRC	Skip Paul
LTRC	Doc Zhang
LTRC	Bill King
LTRC	VJ Gopu
LTRC	Louay Mohammad
LTRC	Emily Wolfe

FHWA Louisiana Division was also represented at the meeting as his schedule allowed.

FHWA	Jamie Setze
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The meeting began with an ice breaker reception on Monday night, continued for two full days on Tuesday and Wednesday, and ending at noon on Thursday. The meeting program is attached. The following is a summary of discussions, decisions and action items.

**Introduction & Review of Meeting Goals**

- The consortium budget and expenditures were reviewed
- The pooled fund commitments were reviewed
  - Georgia to confirm allocation of last year funding
  - No funds from Tennessee received
- Meeting agenda and goals were discussed
- STC pooled fund was extended for three more years
- Funding allocation and priorities

**Review of STC Project Database & Website**

- Consortium Website was reviewed

- Website can be found by Google search for Southeast Transportation Consortium or through the LTRC website
- Project Database
  - Project database has not been updated since projects were initially solicited
  - Each state provided with STC database project and RIP search data
  - The TRID/RIP database will be used to maintain the STC database
  - Each state will provide LTRC with the appropriate search organization to search RIP to obtain project information
  - Each state will compare the current information in the database to the current information in the RIP to determine if any projects are missing
  - Each state will supply LTRC with missing projects by November 30.
  - LTRC will search the RIP database quarterly to add new project to the database from each state
  - Abstracts will no longer be a feature of the STC database
  - LTRC will solicit completed projects from each state on a quarterly basis

### **Development of Synthesis Projects**

- Reviewed philosophy of the synthesis program
  - Synthesis of research results consists of a review of completed research projects
    - Warm Mix Asphalt
    - Asphalt Surface Treatments for Preventive Maintenance
    - Water Quality Management at Construction Sites
  - Synthesis of State-of-Practice consist of a review of current practice, procedure or process.
    - Methodology for Determining Research Results Cost-Benefits
  - Solicitation of PI's will have to be through a Request for Proposals
    - LTRC cannot legally solicit RFQ's
    - Solicitation will be through LTRC standard RFP and contracting process
    - Open solicitation process
  - Schedule
    - Draft reports will be due by next annual meeting

### **Development of Synthesis RFP's**

- Request for proposals were developed for approved synthesis topic
  - Warm Mix Asphalt
  - Asphalt Surface Treatments for Preventive Maintenance
  - Water Quality Management at Construction Sites
  - Process/Methodology for Determining Research Results Cost Benefits
- LTRC to finalize formatting of RFP's to resubmit to members for final review
- Proposed schedule
  - Advertise RFP in Dec
  - Select PI in Jan
  - Notice to proceed in March
- Selection of PI's by technical committees
- Final approval of project PI's by vote of member states. One vote / state.

### **Field Trip**

- Member took field trip to LTRC Pavement Research Facility

### **Collaboration Opportunities**

- Development of Strategies for next 3 years funding cycle
  - Future funding allocation will be determined after completion of first round of synthesis projects
- High RAP pooled fund Solicitation

- Briefing provide to on solicitation activities for project
- Presentation on project objective and tasks was given
- Solicitation posted
- Members to determine individually if they will
- Timber Bridge Inspection Collaboration
  - LTRC gave presentation of opportunity for states to participate in demonstration activities for new technologies for timber bridge inspection
  - LTRC to send follow up information to states for participation
  - Commitment of interest needed by Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>

### **Roundtable on Implementation Best Practices**

- Georgia
  - Focus more on implementation efforts. FHWA is requiring an implementation annual report.
- Louisiana provided preliminary presentation to be given to DOTD executive staff
  - Implementation Tools
  - High Value Research projects
  - New publication initiative
    - Implementation Impacts Brochure
    - Project Implementation Fact Sheets
- General discussion from all members on implementation efforts

### **State of Each State Research Program**

- Each state provided a brief discussion of research program activities