

**SOUTHEASTERN TRANSPORTATION CONSORTIUM
SPRING 2013 MEETING MINUTES
March 4-7, 2013**

The annual meeting of the Southeastern Transportation Consortium (STC) meeting was held in Baton Rouge, LA on March 4-7, 2013. The meeting was hosted by Louisiana (lead state) at the Louisiana Transportation Research Center. The member states were represented as follows:

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>STATE</u>
Mark Morvant (chair)	LOUISIANA
Michelle Owens	ALABAMA
Elisha Wight-Kehner	ARKANSAS
David Jared	GEORGIA
Joe Crabtree	KENTUCKY
Cindy Smith	MISSISSIPPI
Moy Biswas	NORTH CAROLINA
Jimmy Smith	VIRGINIA
Not represented	TENNESSEE
Not represented	WEST VIRGINIA

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

Skip Paul	LTRC
Doc Zhang	LTRC
Bill King	LTRC
VJ Gopu	LTRC
Kirk Zeringue	LTRC
Michael Boudreaux	LTRC
Allison Landry	LTRC
Bridget LeBlanc	LTRC
Joubert Harris	LDOTD
Mary Stringfellow	FHWA

Invited guests attending the meeting were:

Baabak Ashuri	Georgia Institute of Technology
Hesham Ali	Florida International University
Richard Sheffield	Thompson Engineering
Thad Hooper	Thompson Engineering
Trae Welch	Thompson Engineering
Alex Aguilar	Thompson Engineering

Joining the meeting by teleconference (go-to-meeting format) were:

Clark Graves	Kentucky Transportation Research Center
Darryl Dockstader	Florida Department of Transportation

Others viewing selected synthesis presentations

Illinois DOT
Ohio DOT
Georgia Institute of Technology

The meeting began with an ice breaker reception on Monday night (March 4), continued for two full days on Tuesday and Wednesday (March 5-6), and ended at noon on Thursday March 7; (program attached). The following is a summary of discussions, decisions and action items.

Introduction & Review of Meeting Goals

- The consortium budget and expenditures were reviewed.
- Last Quarterly Report provided to members (attached).
- The pooled fund commitments were reviewed (summary of commitments attached).
 - No funds from Tennessee or Kentucky received.
- Meeting agenda and goals were discussed.

Review of STC Project Database & Website

- Project Website
 - Usage of the database has been minimal, per below:
 - Homepage hits: 185
 - Member state hits: 34
 - Projects hits: 85
 - Quarterly Reports hits: 31
 - Meetings hits: 74
 - Database hits: 81
- Project Database
 - Current process to manage the information in the STC project database was reviewed as noted in the below bullets:
 - The TRID/RIP database will be used to maintain the STC database by LTRC staff search.
 - Each state will provide LTRC with the appropriate search organization title to search RIP to obtain project information.
 - Each state will compare the current information in the database to the current information in RIP to determine if any projects are missing.
 - Each state will supply LTRC with missing projects.
 - LTRC will search RIP quarterly to add new project to the database from each state.
 - LTRC will solicit completed projects from each state on a quarterly basis.

- Discussion ensued on how this process has not worked:
 - Each member was provided with project data from their programs in the database.
 - LTRC manual search of RIP database was not providing accurate state DOT sponsored projects.
 - Response from states to confirm state projects were inconsistent among members.
 - LTRC staff will no longer make attempts to manually download project data.
 - A motion by LTRC to archive data as time specific and discontinue active updates was discussed and deferred.
- Action items include:
 - LTRC will pursue automatic entry from RIP into database similar to process used by RPM database. Tools will be investigated.
 - Report to members on outcome of this automatic entry will be made at July meeting in Baton Rouge.

Synthesis Project Reports

- ***BEST PRACTICES FOR DETERMINING VALUE OF RESEARCH RESULTS***

Babaak Ashuri

- Presentation given (attached).
- Project still needs input from several states re: projects for which value was determined.
- Determination as to need for project extension will be made by the end of March.
- Draft report proposed to be provided to Value of Research Task Force at RAC annual meeting.

- ***ASPHALT SURFACE TREATMENTS FOR PAVEMENT PRESERVATION***

Hesham Ali

- Presentation given (attached).
- Project survey was late being released.
- Minimal response to survey received to date.
- Request to extend project was approved.
- Anticipated completion of project to be September 2013.

- ***WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AT CONSTRUCTION SITES***

Richard Sheffield, Thad Hopper, Trae Welch & Alex Aguilar

- Presentation given (attached).
- Draft report submitted for TAC review.
- Comments from TAC to be addressed.
- Additional member state (NC DOT) research conducted on topic to be added to final report.
- Project expected to be completed on time.

- ***REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF WARM MIX ASPHALT***

Clark Graves

- Presentation given via teleconference (**attached**).
- Project initiation was delayed significantly due to contact issues.
- Survey developed and reviewed by TAC.
- Survey comments to be addressed and distributed.
- Project expected to be completed on time.
- Presentation of research results to be presented at RAC annual meeting during regional breakout.

2013 RAC Meeting Planning Update

- Members visited the conference hotel: Hilton Baton Rouge Capital Center.
- Budget updates reviewed.
- Conference website reviewed:
 - Website launched.
 - Registration page to be operational in March.
- Offsite banquet reviewed.
- Exhibit and sponsor information discussed:
 - Request for sponsorship letters to be sent after registration page operational.
- Program reviewed and discussed:
 - Several session surveys have been or to be sent to RAC membership.
 - Session descriptions to be provided by coordinators by end of March.
 - Final details on sessions to be completed by May15.

Development of Future Action Plans

- Reviewed philosophy of the synthesis program.
 - There are currently two separate RFP task requirements:
 - Synthesis for State-of-Practice
 - Synthesis of Research Results
 - The RFP format will be updated include both state of practice and research results requirements.
- Reviewed problem statement submitted by members prior to meeting.
- Reviewed problem statements previously developed by STC in 2009.
- Member states nominated new projects for consideration:
 - Transportation Funding Alternatives Now and in the Future
 - Reflective Cracking Mitigation Strategies for Cracked Pavements
 - Best Practices for Achieving and Measuring Pavement Smoothness
 - Real time Driver Information for Congestion Management
 - Inclusion of Maintenance Costs in Life Cycle Cost Analysis
 - Use of Centerline Rumble Strips
 - Evaluation of Pavement Markings

- Members present voted on the nominated list (results attached):
 - Transportation Funding Alternatives Now and in the Future
 - Reflective Cracking Mitigation Strategies for Cracked Pavements
 - Best Practices for Achieving and Measuring Pavement Smoothness
 - Real time Driver Information for Congestion Management
- Suggestion was made to send the statements not selected by STC due to funding limitation to NCHRP synthesis program
 - Georgia to search for previous syntheses on *Use of Centerline Rumble Strips*.

Development of Synthesis RFP's

- Development of Strategies for remaining funds for the current 3-year cycle
 - Funding allocation allows for the conduct of four new synthesis projects
- Requests for proposals were developed for approved synthesis topics:
 - Transportation Funding Alternatives Now and in the Future
 - Reflective Cracking Mitigation Strategies for Cracked Pavements
 - Best Practices for Achieving and Measuring Pavement Smoothness
 - Real-Time Driver Information for Congestion Management
- LTRC to finalize formatting of RFP's to resubmit to members for final review.
- TAC committee nominations are as follows:
 - Transportation Funding Alternatives Now and in the Future

▪ Louisiana	Robin Romeo
▪ Alabama	Michelle Owens
▪ Kentucky	Tammy Branham
▪ Arkansas	TBD
▪ Virginia	TBD
 - Reflective Cracking Mitigation Strategies for Cracked Pavements

▪ Louisiana	Doc Zhang
▪ Mississippi	Cindy Smith
▪ Arkansas	Sarah Tamayo
▪ North Carolina	Mustan Kadibhat
▪ Kentucky	Nancy Albright
 - Best Practices for Achieving and Measuring Pavement Smoothness

▪ Louisiana	Chris Abadie/Mark Martinez
▪ Arkansas	Tymli Frierson
▪ North Carolina	Mustan Kadibhat
▪ Mississippi	Alex Middleton
▪ Georgia	TBD
▪ Alabama	TRB

- Real Time Driver Information for Congestion Management
 - Louisiana Steve Glascock
 - Kentucky TBD
 - Alabama Michelle Owens
 - Arkansas TBD
 - Virginia TBD

Collaboration Opportunities

- Timber Bridge Inspection Collaboration:
 - LTRC updated members on current activities with pilot states: Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina, & Georgia.
 - Project demonstration and data collection should be complete by the end of the summer 2013.
- Discussion was held on potential pooled fund research projects:
 - Load Capacity/Rating of Timber Bridge Utilizing Inspection Tools
 - Louisiana would be lead state and anticipates conducting the research in-house.
 - Mutual interest was determined
 - Louisiana to develop solicitation document with background information to submit to member states for consideration of commitment.
 - X-Ray Diffraction for Reactive Aggregates:
 - GDOT is to edit the research needs statement and follow up with states expressing interest.
 - Evaluating the Performance of Guardrail Systems Installed by Driving through Asphalt Layers:
 - GDOT is to discuss this with a Georgia university and look into a first-round, in-state study, before a TPF study is considered.
 - Research Management Software:
 - Demonstration was given on the LTRC Program Management and Tracking software.
 - Mutual interest was determined.
 - Solicitation was deferred until after the July annual meeting.