

MEETING NOTES

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS TECHNICAL TASK FORCE

DATE: Friday, November 17, 2000

TIME: 12:30 P.M.

PLACE: COG, 777 North Capitol Street, NE
First Floor, Room 4/5

CHAIR: Emil Wolanin, Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation

VICE CHAIRS: Wils DerMinassian, D.C. Department of Public Works
Donald McCanless, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Alex Verzosa, City of Fairfax

ATTENDANCE:

Armen Abrahamian, Prince George's County DPW&T, aabrahamian@pg.co.md.us
Michael Bomgardner, Town of Vienna/VA DPW, ce@ci.vienna.va.us
Jim Bunch, Mitretek Systems, jabunch@mitretek.org
Randy Carroll, Maryland Department of Environment, rcarroll@mde.state.md.us
Karen Cavallo Miller, Battelle/PIM, cavallok@battelle.org
John Collura, Virginia Tech, collura@vt.edu
Kathleen Donodeo, WMATA, kdonodeo@wmata.com
John Frankenhoff, DCDPW, jfrankenhoff@dpw.dcgov.org
Craig Franklin, TriChord, caf@trichord-inc.com
Doug Frye, George Mason University, dfrye1@gmu.edu
James Gaston, GDI Traffic Mgt & Trans. Systems, gastonjg1@aol.com
Kamal Hamud, DC DPW-DOT, khamud@wam.umd.edu
Doug Hansen, Fairfax County DOT, doug.hansen@fairfax.va.us
Fatimah Hasan, MDOT, fhasan@mdot.state.md.us
Brian J. Hug, MDE, bhug@mde.state.md.us
Frank Mirack, FHWA
Jean Yves Point-du-Jour, MDSHA, jpoint-du-jour@sha.state.md.us
Kaz Safarian, DC DPW-DOT, doc10e@aol.net
Sharmila Samarasinghe, NVTC, sharmila@nvtc.org
Alfie Steele, Mont. Co. DPWT/Ride On, alfie.steele@co.mo.md.us
Denis Symes, Fiber Optics, d.symes@worldnet.att.net
Amy Tang, VDOT/NOVA, amytang@vdot.state.va.us
Kenneth Todd, NCBW

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Alex Verzosa, averzosa@cf.fairfax.va.us

Ron Welke, M-NCPPC, welke@mncppc.state.md.us

Emil Wolanin, Montgomery County DPW&T, ewolanin@dpwt.com

COG Staff:

Andrew Austin, aaustin@mwcog.org

Andrew Meese, ameese@mwcog.org

ACTIONS:

1. Review of Notes from the October 27, 2000 Meeting

Chair, Emil Wolanin called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. The October 27, 2000 meeting notes were accepted.

2. Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2001 Officers

Mr. Wolanin requested volunteers to serve on the 2001 Nominating Committee, which would be expected to appoint possible Chairs for next year:

The following members would serve on this committee:

- Amy Tang
- Doug Hansen
- Ron Welke

Any additional members interested in volunteering for this committee should contact Andrew Meese.

3. Regional Electronic Payment Partnership Report- Recommendations to go to the ITS Policy Task Force (11-20-00)

Mr. Meese discussed the proposed November 20 briefing to the ITS Policy Task Force regarding the Electronic Payment Systems (EPS) Partnership Action Plan. The presentation would include:

- A basic background of EPS within the region;
- Description of underlying issues associated with implementing a seamless EPS across modes, agencies and geography, (i.e. interoperability, funding, future connection to nearby regions, clearinghouse);
- Discussion of the EPS reports ten-year vision;
- Possible action steps recommended by the ITS Technical Task Force.

The committee approved the presentation and suggested minimal changes. Mr. Meese stated that this item would be presented to the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) on a later date, however some activities would be planned prior to that meeting.

4. ITS Strategic Plan and Input to the CLRP

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Mr. Meese introduced the ITS Task-Order Consultant for COG, Craig Franklin of TriChord. Mr. Franklin gave a brief overview of his presentation to the November 20 ITS Policy Task Force, which overviewed potential benefits of ITS if appropriate funding was available within the Metropolitan Washington Region. Mr. Franklin based his information primarily from the “*ITS Benefits: 1999 Update*” report from Mitretek. Mr. Franklin concluded the presentation by highlighting potential cost-benefit information should the following projects receive funding:

- Expand Motorist Assistance-
 - Estimated Cost: \$5 million/yr.
 - Benefit: Improved customer service and safety.
- Traffic Signal Optimization-
 - Estimated Cost: \$4 million/yr.
 - Benefit: Reduce travel time 8%-25%

Mr. Franklin noted that despite the report showing possible technical biases in the numbers, the benefits of deploying ITS should outweigh any marginal errors within the presentation. COG Staff is expected to continue to quantify ITS benefits in relation to the Metropolitan Washington Region for the ITS Strategic Plan. Mr. Franklin continued to support that ITS projects have shown benefits and the current experience to date shows that ITS projects continue to provide a good return on investment. COG Staff would continue to examine benefits as the ITS strategic plan is developed.

5. Report on the Working Groups

511: Mr. Meese distributed the George Mason University final draft titled, “*Implementing 511 in Virginia and the Washington DC Metropolitan Area*”.

Mr. Meese noted that Virginia had been dealing with possible legal issues in relation to 511, and the committee would keep the ITS Technical Task Force abreast of any progress in the future. Fatimah Hasan reported that there had been a meeting scheduled on November 16 with the Maryland Chief Information Officer to discuss beginning stages and compile information on 511.

Partners In Motion: Karen Cavallo Miller stated the following progress with PIM:

- PUSH Technology- The demonstration is finished and information on the service was being collected. Customers seem to like the overall service however issues about the large amount of information being disseminated were of concern. Battelle would be working on profiling the data.
- PIM Website is complete with Web Tops (the Web-able data mechanism for the agencies). Participants need to register for the training.
- Revenue Sharing was still low- original projections were \$60,000, but actual has been only about \$10,000.

In response to a question from Mr. Meese, Ms. Cavallo Miller noted that Bob Murphy was the new Smart Routes contact, after the departures of Steve Kuciemba and Sue Redshaw.

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CapWIN: Tom Jacobs discussed the progress of the CapWIN project. Currently the committee was working on the completion of the RFP and the strategic plan. Both are scheduled to be finished next month. Mr. Jacobs reported on the ad hoc Executive Committee, which was to be held on November 28, 2000. Representations from the public safety and transportation fields are expected to attend. Progress on securing funding for the FY00 for CapWIN was expected to continue.

Traffic Signals and Operations: Mr. Meese announced that Jeris White (Chair of this Working Group) was leaving VDOT and was expected to accept a position with Mitretek. The working group would be meeting on December 8 at 10 a.m. The agenda should include the following:

- Election of new committee Chair
- GMU/VT signal preemption/prioritization study
- White paper on regional traffic signal operations
- Awareness campaign for regional signal operations
- Expert system content suite Web application for signals problem reporting
- Feedback from group on future training needs
- Briefing on regional ITS architecture development
- Additional business

Professional Capacity Building: Mr. Meese stated that the committee has selected Carolyn Goodman of VA T² Center as the new Chair, in place of outgoing Chair Jeris White. The second phase of the training courses are expected to kick off for the upcoming year. Information on the four classes to be offered in the spring should be expected soon. James Gaston discussed the January 30, 2001 Communication Integration course to be held at GMU-Arlington Campus. For more information on this course please contact Mr. Meese. The next Working Group meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 14, at the GMU-Arlington Campus. Mr. Meese could be contacted for directions.

Regional ITS Architecture: Mr. Meese distributed an update on the Regional Architecture from Glenn McLaughlin. The next meeting date was scheduled for January 4, 2001 at 10 a.m. On December 13 at 1:30 p.m. the teams from the VDOT architecture development, the Maryland ITS Working Group Architecture and the Washington Regional Architecture development were to meet and further discuss coordination issues of the three efforts.

ITS As A Data Resource: Mr. Meese reported that the consultants of TransCore had completed the survey as well as the face-to-face and telephone meetings with specific agencies. A review of the draft report would be held on December 4 and comments from the committee would be discussed. Expected completion of the study was February 2001.

Other Business

The November 28, 2000 Electronic Payment meeting was cancelled and not rescheduled.

Mr. Wolanin adjourned the meeting at 2:15 pm.

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