

2005 MEETING MINUTES

Research Subcommittee ADA30(3) Transportation Planning for Small and Medium Sized Communities

Monday, January 10, 2005, 7:30 to 9:30 PM
Washington DC

ATTENDEES

Michael Anderson, Subcommittee Chair
Ron Poole, retired NCDOT
Jerry Schutz, Chair of ADA30
Jeff Wilson, University of Alabama at Huntsville
Stacey Bricka, Secretary

1. Review of NCHRP, TCRP, and Synthesis Submittals made by committee in 2004.
 - a. Mike A – Synthesis of Trip Generation parameters and equations
 - b. Jerry S. – Regional Planning in Rural (non-Metropolitan) areas – TEA21 specifically addressed the requirement for collaboration. CA, WA, CT, NC, AL, maybe half the states do. Similar to MPOs, must have regional TIP, transportation plan, and work plan. – synthesis is to go out and survey the states that have formal mechanisms for doing that collaboration and present the information to help those states and rural areas within those states, to help facilitate the development of these programs in those areas.
 - c. Problem statement for NCHRP -was to be submitted through NCDOT and was not due to staff turnover at NCDOT.
2. New NCHRP, TCRP, and Synthesis Submittals options for 2005.
 - a. Ron – Synthesis topic or research? What is the impact of land use and zoning on urban goods movement. There are a lot of land use and zoning decisions made at the local level that impact urban goods movement. For example, where truck terminals can be located. This is often made without consideration of the impact on goods movement, which then results in increased costs for the consumer.
 - b. What are the needs for small and medium-sized communities in addressing security concerns and what can help them in implementation?
 - c. Jerry S. Research – the need for planning in technology transfer. At the national level for technology transfer (LTAP and RTAP), there is no planning. At the regional level, at the T-Centers, there has been some planning but that has been done on their own, without centralized guidance. Purpose of the research is to find out what needs there are (to transmit info on planning) and what technology is needed to meet those needs.
3. Future NCHRP, TCRP, and Synthesis Submittal Ideas for after 2005.
 - a. AQ subcommittee – discussed possible need for a synthesis of what is taking place right now in small and medium-sized communities. Needs to be focused primarily on NEW rural or small urban areas that have been newly declared as non-attainment. There is

some research going on right now in this area, so the attendees agreed to wait until next year to allow the current work to be completed. Since right now, it seems that states have to address these issues, it may increase the appeal for funding.

- b. Goods movement committee noted a need for a manual that would provide details about urban goods movements in small and medium-sized communities. In the past, there was the “Characteristics of Urban Transportation Systems” manual, which was very useful for Ron in the past (such as fuel consumption characteristics). There is probably something similar needed for rural systems too. Ron will make copies of the index and cover pages for the summer meeting.
4. Reminder. General support process requires marketing to other committees, sections, and agencies. Strategy is to have 4-5 ideas out there and get everyone familiar with them. Then, when it becomes more a hot topic, it can get funded. Jerry S. would then market it and try to get the support necessary for funding.
5. Subcommittee Web Page. Each subcommittee should have its own page under the main committee website. For the research subcommittee, we should plan to have summaries of research submitted, research in progress, and consider a link to a web database to manage research ideas.
6. Research & Practice Briefs. Currently assigned to John Edwards. These are summaries of planning documents designed to aid small and medium-sized communities. These should be posted to the research subcommittee site.
7. Using the Conference to Identify and Generate Research Needs. We will build research ideas and needs in to the caucuses at the 2006 Conference, using the needs of the conference attendees to build a research agenda. The research committee will cover the state, MPO, and transit caucuses at the 2006 conference and ask the attendees for research ideas and research needs. These details will be summarized and used to support the identification and development of research and synthesis statements.
8. State and University Research Programs. We should use our university connections to suggest research topics for students. In addition, we should work with our state DOTs to (1) use as a conduit to get our research sponsored and (2) determine what type of research is going on or desired that will benefit small and medium-sized communities. Mike will bring this to the attention of the full committee tomorrow.
9. For Summer Meeting: Review subcommittee’s portion of the strategic plan.
10. For all future meetings, we will assign a research subcommittee member to attend the AQ subcommittee and have an AQ representative attend this meeting. Ron agreed to take on this task for the summer meeting and we’ll review how it goes at the next annual meeting. Mike will talk with Libby about having a liaison between the conference subcommittee and this one as well, given item #7.

