

SPC Transportation Operations & Safety Committee

Wednesday, June 20, 2007, 10AM

Regional Enterprise Tower, 23rd Floor, O'Neill Room

ATTENDEES

Lucinda Beattie, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
Steve Buckley, PB
Anthony Castellone, PBS&J
Frank Cippel, PennDOT District 11-0
Robb Dean, PennDOT District 12-0
Ray DeMichiei, City of Pittsburgh EMA
Chuck DiPietro, SPC
Rich Feder, Port Authority of Allegheny County
Dave Freudenrich, Maguire Group
David Ginns, SPC
Stephanie Groark, Olszak Management Consulting
Keith Johnson, URS Corporation
Todd Kravits, PennDOT District 11-0
Dave Kundrat, GAI Consultants
Kevin McCullough, PennDOT Program Center
Tony Mento, FHWA
Liz Nahm, Oakland Transportation Management Association
Doug Smith, SPC
John Stahl, URS Corporation
Carol Uminski, SPC

MEETING SUMMARY

- Following introductions, Steve Buckley provided a recap of the process to develop the Regional Operations Plan (ROP), as well as an update on recent comments and edits to the draft document. Any additional comments are to be submitted to PB by COB Friday, June 22nd. Steve also provided an update on ROP development activities in other regions of PA including common themes that are emerging from various ROPs. The ROPs will be used to update the statewide TSOP. Two potential projects to be added to TSOP 2007 are:
 - TSOP 20 – Operations Organization; and,
 - TSOP 21 – Performance Metrics.
- Todd Kravits reviewed the incident management activities that PennDOT and other agencies were involved in related to two recent bomb threats – one on bridges in Beaver County and one on the Parkway Tunnels. Todd indicated that both of these incidents were successfully dealt with and the involved agencies are now studying the events to identify lessons learned and potential improvements moving forward. Committee discussions indicated the potential need for ITS deployments in a number of locations in the region to help in responding to future security incidents including:

- CCTV on and within Liberty Tunnels and within Squirrel Hill Tunnels;
 - HAR in subareas (such as Beaver) in order to improve dissemination of traveler information; and,
 - Additional CCTV on major bridge crossings.
- Additional discussion related to ROP project IEM#3 and a regional study to close ITS equipment gaps. Once this study was completed, it could possibly be used to pursue Homeland Security funds for ITS deployments.
- Ray DeMichiei provided an overview and handouts related to the City of Pittsburgh's evacuation planning efforts. The City is currently finalizing a contract with Michael Baker Corporation to conduct this work, which will include a significant transportation component.
- Doug Smith provided an overview of SPC's efforts to develop a regional traffic signal program. SPC is currently working through its open-end contract with Maguire Group and URS Corporation to establish the framework for the program, which will include "soft side" elements such as a web-based information clearinghouse as well as funding and manpower resources to undertake other elements of the program. The physical improvements and implementation components of the program will include program management, equipment upgrades, and mechanisms to undertake on-going retiming and coordination of signals.
- Todd Kravits indicated that the number of traffic signals in the region, which was illustrated in the presentation, appears to be low. SPC will work with the Districts to gather updated information. Doug also mentioned Central Office's efforts to establish a statewide traffic signal asset management database, which will be an important tool in gathering, maintaining, and sharing consistent data on traffic signals.
- Doug Smith provided an update on data collection efforts for the regional Congestion Management Process. Analysis for the 16 corridors collected in Fall 2006 is complete and will be up on the website in the next couple weeks. Data collection for the 18 corridors in the Spring 2007 cycle is complete and analysis will begin soon.
- Doug also provided the District Traffic Units with a list of potential corridors for data collection in the Fall 2007 cycle, which is being planned now. The Districts will review this candidate list and identify corridors where construction is likely to impact travel times, volumes, and/or traffic patterns. SPC anticipates gathering travel time and delay data on 16-18 corridors during the Fall 2007 cycle.
- The next meeting of the regional Transportation Operations & Safety Committee is tentatively scheduled for October 24, 2007. Committee participants are encouraged to submit potential agenda topics for future meetings.