

Minutes
Transportation Research Board
Public Transportation Planning and Development Committee Meeting
Committee AP025 (formerly A1E02)
January 14, 2004

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Chairman David Miller in a room lacking adequate climate and sound control. Members and friends introduced themselves. Tara Barte, Foad Farid, Glenn Lunden and Larry Sauve sent regrets that they could not attend.
2. The minutes of last year's meeting and the summer meeting were approved.
3. Information items for TRB:



Dianne Schwager of TRB/TCRP discussed the TCRP program and encouraged people to serve as panel members and to solicit ideas for research. Call her at (202) 334-2969 or e-mail her at dschwager@nas.edu or consult the TCRP web site if you are interested.

Peter Shaw: TRB received 2,500 papers and there are nearly 1,500 being presented this year. There will be a summer meeting at Park City, Utah and a Bus Rapid Transit meeting in Denver and Rural Transit conference in Roanoke. Committees have reorganized and now are renumbered. Transit will now have direct representation on the Group A council.

Dave Miller: There are three "spotlight" areas for next year's annual meeting: transportation from user' perspectives; safety and security, and operations. Jim Gillespie will represent the committee at a transportation security workshop. Topics that need attention for the security workshop included: 1) Designing for security in transportation facilities and vehicles. 2) Appropriate response levels to security threats and actual incidents. 3) Striking the appropriate balance among security needs, freedom of travel, and civil liberties, and 4) Improving information flows and evaluation mechanisms re threats and incidents.

Committees are asked to update on long-term issues, similar to what was done on the millennium paper. Rich Bickel and Steve Polzin volunteered to help. Ed Beimborn will send the millennium paper out to people for comments. The ideas in the millennium paper should be incorporated into the committee strategic plan. Committees are being asked to bring more young members and more diversity to the committees.



Judy Meyer from the public involvement committee talked about their activities and indicated they are eager to work with other committees. They have a web site at: <http://trb-pi.hshassoc.com/>

4. Last Year's Activities:

The research topic on parking submitted by the committee last year was not accepted. New topics are being solicited and are due March 31 (synthesis) and June 15 (research topics). Rich Bickel agreed to resubmit it as a synthesis topic. Other topics discussed were suburban transit planning (Dan Bensen will draft something), conventional bus service planning in a regional context, experience with hub and spoke transit services in areas with multiple operations. TCRP and FTA are looking at ideas that affect ridership following the New Paradigms project of TCRP.

Project topics should focus on how improved transit planning can be used to increase ridership.

Paper Reviews: Members and friends were thanked for their help in paper reviews. The committee received 17 papers, eight were accepted for presentation in two sessions, and three were accepted for poster sessions. Decisions regarding publication will be made after the TRB meeting.



The committee also co-sponsored three other sessions.

FTA activities: Charlie Goodman of FTA discussed topics of interest to FTA – ridership, safety and security. One is called “united we ride” that involves better coordination between health care providers and transit agencies. Transportation capacity building is being used improve the state of the practice. See <http://www.planning.dot.gov/>

There will be a session at TRB about improving transit agency/MPC coordination. FTA is also looking at flexible funding, transit in MPO systems planning, improvement in transit alternatives analysis. Jim Bunch is looking at information on how transit agencies coordinate with others.

FTA and FHWA are looking at how to incorporate operations into the planning process.

Committee Liaison: Patti Post, Joana Conklin and Shirley Hsiao volunteered to develop ideas for better coordination between other TRB committees.

Committee Scope: The committee scope statement was circulated. It should be updated to match the committee mission statement. It should also include references to planning methods. Comments should be sent to Dave Miller.

5. Short Range Committee Work Planning:

Summer Meeting: A summer meeting will be held in Park City, Utah. Other committees attending will be discussing visioning planning. The meeting is a good opportunity for networking and informal discussion.

Call for Papers: These tend to be not very effective and it was felt the present process of assembling sessions from papers submitted to the committee works fine.

Succession Planning: Dave Miller's term will end next year. Suggestions for future officers (committee chair, secretary, and paper review coordinator) should be given to Dave Miller.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.