

**2015 Meeting of the
 TRB Rural Public and Intercity Bus Committee (AP055)**
 Tuesday, January 13, 2015 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM
 Marriott Marquis, Mount Vernon Square (M3)

In Attendance

Members

Name	Agency	Email	Phone	Young Profssnl?
Jacklyn Montgomery	CalACT	jacklyn@calact.org	916-920-8018	
Jill Hough	NDSU	Jill.hough@ndsu.edu	701-231-8082	
Carrie Kissel	NADO	ckissel@nado.org	202-624-8829	X
Patti Monahan	Nelson\Nygaard	pmonahan@nelsonnygaard.com	857-305-9078	
Thomas Cook	ITRI-NCSU	tjc@ncsu.edu	919-515-8622	
Charlie Rutkowski	CTAA	rutkowski@ctaa.org	202-298-6593	
Karen Honeysett	PREVOST	Karen.honeysett@volvo.com		
Caroline Ferris	Transystems Corporation	crferris@transystems.com		X
Mark Wall	Mark Wall Associates	mwaconsulting@comcast.net		
Jon Burkhardt	Consultant	jonburkhardt@comcast.net		
Nathan Belz	University of Alaska Fairbanks	npbelz@alaska.edu		X
David Kack	Montana State University	dkack@coe.montana.edu	406-994-7526	
Fred Fravel	KFH Group, Inc.	ffravel@kfhgroup.com	301-951-8660	
Robin Phillips	National RTAP	rphillips@nationalrtap.org	202-780-4595	
Linda Cherrington	Texas A&M Transportation Institute	l-cherrington@tamu.edu		
Patrisha Piras	Pat Piras Consulting	patpiras@sonic.net	510-278-1631	

Friends of the Committee

Stephanie Gonterman	Isaacs & Associates	Stephanie.isaacs-assoc.com	972-239-4401	
William Bivin	University of Nebraska	William.bivin@unl.edu		
Timothy Geibel	Crawford Area Transportation Authority	tgeibel@catabus.org	814-336-5600	
Jay Lindly	University of Alabama	jlindly@eng.ua.edu	205-348-1724	
Gordon Shaw	LSC	gordonshaw@lsctahoe.com		
Lyubov Zuyeva	Land of Sky Regional Council	lyuba@landofsky.org		X
Shuman Tan	Texas A&M Transportation Institute	s-tan@ttimail.tamu.edu		
Joel Zhengyi Shon	Tainan University of Technology, Taiwan	joelshon@ms4.hinet.net		
Richard Schultze	RLS & Associates, Inc.	Schultze5@aol.com	937-304-6333	
Dimiltra Pyrialekou	Purdue University	vdpyriala@gmail.com lvdp@purdue.edu	515-817-3747	X
Jennifer Frost	Dallas Area Rapid Transit	jfrost@dart.org		X
Heather Menninger	AMMA Transportation Planning	heather@ammatransitplanning.com		
Aaron Bonfilio	Ventura County Transportation Commission	abonfilio@goventura.org		X
David Chia	The Collaborative, Inc.	dc@thecollaborative.com	617-338-0018	
Eric Holeman	Chicago Transit Authority	eholeman@transitchicago.com		

TRB Representatives

Stephan Parker, TRB/TCRP Staff
 Steven Andrie, TRB Staff, Incoming Program Officer
 Rick Pain, TRB Staff, Interim Program Officer
 David Wilcock, AP055 Section Chair

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NOTES

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of the Agenda

Burkhardt asked to add discussion of creating an additional award to the Rural Conference Committee. Agenda order may be modified to accommodate TRB staff announcements.

3. TRB Annual Meeting Schedule for AP055 Sessions (See Attachment 1)

4. Recognitions – Pat Weaver

Jacklyn Montgomery and Patrisha Monahan were recognized for their service as Co-Chairs of the 21st National Conference on Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation, October 2014. Weaver awarded certificates of recognition, and announced that both have agreed to serve as Co-Chairs for the 22nd National Conference (to great applause)!

5. Research Report – Nathan Belz (See Attachment 2)

- a. Paper Submissions & Reviews
- b. Rural and Intercity Bus Research Needs
- c. Paper Reviews for 2016

Nathan Belz, Committee Research Co-Chair, called attention to the Committee Research Report in Attachment 2. Belz distributed a sign-up sheet for all who are interested in serving as paper reviewers in 2016.

Lengthy discussion of the research needs discussed at the research needs session at the 21st National Conference. Three topics for identified for development into research needs statements: (1) Emerging TNC Alternatives in Rural Communities (Montgomery) (2) Impact of Veterans Transportation Grants to Mobility in Rural Communities (Belz), and (3) Health Access Impacts in Rural Communities (Mark Wall). Nathan will send out a call for volunteers on the list developed both at this meeting and at the Rural Conference last fall for treatments as research needs statements either for synthesis or full problem statements.

6. Rural Conference Report – Jacklyn Montgomery and Patti Monahan

- a. 21st National Conference Committee Report (See Attachment 3 for Summary Report)

Jackie Montgomery and Patti Monahan referenced the attached conference report. The conference attracted over 500 attendees.

- b. 22nd National Conference Committee – Site Selection and Preliminary Planning. The conference planning committee representatives submitted information about the process used to solicit local hosts for the 2016 conference. While we received general interest statements from two other states, North Carolina submitted an extensive packet with letters of support from throughout the state, suggesting Asheville, North Carolina as the site. We received proposals from three facilities in

Asheville. The first choice, based on location, sleeping room rates and amenities was the Renaissance Asheville. The hotel is slightly smaller than needed; however, they have presented options for plenary sessions adjacent to the hotel which the committee believes should meet our needs. Jackie Montgomery has been designated as the primary contact to negotiate the contract with the hotel. We ask that TRB continue as a "cooperating organization," providing assistance with marketing the conference but not responsible for contracting or financial management.

- c. Additional Award – Jon Burkhardt. Discussion to follow up on decision at last year's meeting to establish a second award, in addition to the Roger Tate is Smiling Award which began in 2004. This award would be intended as an award to exemplary professionals in the field who may not have a national presence, but who have significant accomplishments in their communities or state. Names suggested included "Rural Mobility Champion" and "Rural Transportation Leadership" award. Karen Honeysett, Pat Piras and Jill Hough agreed to work with Jon to develop the description and application procedures to be presented to the committee.

7. Committee Communications Report – Jonathan Brooks, Communications Chair (See Attachment 4). Linda Cherrington distributed the report in Jonathan Brooks' place since he was unable to attend TRB. He is considering several options for 2015 for the committee. The most pressing option is to migrate the committee's web site and conference web site to a central server that can be accessed by designated individuals (currently resides on the University of Kansas server, with access available only to Pat). Caroline Ferris agreed to assist Jonathan with communications activities since she is communications chair on the Paratransit Committee.

8. Committee Liaison Reports (See Attachment 5)

- a. Transportation in Military Communities Joint Subcommittee of ADA20, AT035, AP055
- b. Paratransit Committee Report (AP060) – *David Chia, Chair*
- c. Long Distance and Intercity Travel Joint Subcommittee
(Host committee is ABJ10 National Transportation Data Requirements and Programs)
- d. Parks and Public Lands Committee –Nathan Caldwell
- e. Other Liaison Reports

CTAA – Charlie Rutkowski provided a brief overview of CTAA activities including announcement of the EXPO planned for May in Tampa (see information below).

9. Membership Report (2015 Rotation)

AP055 is due for membership rotation this year for terms beginning April 2015. A solicitation for membership nominations was sent out in the fall and a number of nominations were received. Several committee members will rotate off this year, but will continue as part of the Rural Committee family!

10. Status of Related TCRP Research Projects – Stephan Parker

- TCRP FY15 Projects (See Attachment 6). Panel nominations due January 26, 2015
- Other Related TCRP Research Projects

11. TRB/TCRP Business Report – Steve Andrle, TRB Staff and David Wilcock, Chair, AP000 Public Transportation Group

- a. Steve Andrle was introduced as the incoming TRB program officer for AP055, replacing Jennifer Weeks who left to take a position at WMATA.
- b. TRB will be distributing an online evaluation survey after the annual meeting and encourages each attendee to fill it out, particularly in light of change of venue this year.
- c. Bob Skinner, Executive Director of TRB is retiring after many years of service. Neal Peterson is the incoming Executive Director.

- d. New Member orientation was very well attended on Sunday. Membership profile is not approximately 25 percent women and 17 percent minority.
- e. A Mid-Year Retreat for Chairs in AP055 is being planned. Please provide input to your chair for any issues you would like to have included in the planning session.
- f. TRB-Hosted Webinars are growing, with 96 held in 2014. The slots for the first half of 2015 are filled, but there are still slots available for the second half of 2015. Consider sponsoring a webinar for this committee.
- g. The Transit Safety Task Force for AP000 was approved and is now in operation. It has a 3-year life.
- h. Connected and Automated Vehicles are a focus for TRB and AP000 has put together four questions to determine how each committee is involved or might be involved. The four questions will be sent out to committee members after the Annual Meeting for input.
- i. The theme for the 95th Annual Meeting will be: Research Convergence: Delivering in Our Connected Multimodal Future, January 10-14, 2016.
- j. Invited to attend the Public Transportation Caucus at the Convention Center, Tuesday, January 13, from 5:45-7:15 pm.

12. Other Business

- a. Recommendations, request for Executive Board or Staff Action – none provide
- b. Conferences, workshops, other activities of interest
 - i. National RTAP Technical Assistance Conference, Denver, CO; October 28-31, 2015
 - ii. CTAA EXPO, Tampa, FL; May 31-June 5, 2015
 - iii. APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference, Ft. Worth, TX; May 3-6, 2015
- c. Strategic Plan. The strategic plan is due for update and we are awaiting guidance from TRB on the process and scheduling for update. Some guidance is expected to come from planning work completed during the Chair's Retreat this summer.

13. Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Attachment 1
AP055 Session Schedule

<p>Monday 1:30PM- 3:15PM</p>	<p>Session 359 Research and Best Practices in Regional and Intercity Bus Transportation Frederic D. Fravel, KFH Group, Inc., presiding <i>Lectern Session</i> Public Transportation More Details...</p>	<p>Convention Center, 149</p>	<p>AP055</p>
<p>Tuesday 10:15AM- 12:00PM</p>	<p>Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation Committee Patricia Weaver, University of Kansas, presiding Public Transportation More Details...</p>	<p>Marriott Marquis, Mount Vernon Square (M3)</p>	<p>AP055</p>
<p>Tuesday 3:45PM- 5:30PM</p>	<p>Session 699 Special Topics in Rural and Small Urban Public Transportation Nathan Patrick Belz, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, presiding <i>Lectern Session AICP Certification Maintenance Session</i> Planning and Forecasting, Policy, Public Transportation More Details...</p>	<p>Convention Center, 147A</p>	<p>AP055</p>
<p>Tuesday 7:30PM- 9:30PM</p>	<p>TRB Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation Conference Planning Subcommittee, AP055(1) Jacklyn Montgomery, California Association for Coordinated Transportation, Inc., presiding Public Transportation More Details...</p>	<p>Marriott Marquis, Congress (M4)</p>	<p>AP055</p>
<p>Wednesday 8:00AM- 9:45AM</p>	<p>Session 763 Veterans' Transportation Needs - Strategic Thinking on Ways to Close the Gap Billy Terry, American Public Transportation Association, presiding <i>Lectern Session AICP Certification Maintenance Session</i> Planning and Forecasting, Policy, Public Transportation, Society More Details...</p>	<p>Convention Center, 146B</p>	<p>ADA20</p>
<p>Wednesday 10:15AM- 12:00PM</p>	<p>Transportation in Military Communities Joint Subcommittee of ADA20, AT035, AP055 Thera Black, Thurston Regional Planning Council, presiding David D. Metcalf, ATCS, P.L.C., presiding Planning and Forecasting, Policy More Details...</p>	<p>Marriott Marquis, Independence A (M4)</p>	<p>ADA20</p>

AP055 Research Sub-Committee Report

January 13, 2015

Nathan Belz, Research Co-Coordinator

Paper Submissions & Reviews

- a. 10 papers submitted (3 for presentation; 7 for both presentation and publication)
 - i. 5 assigned to Rural Public
 - ii. 5 assigned to Intercity
- b. Each paper received 4 reviews
- c. 6 papers selected for presentation
 - i. JWS15-002: Special Topics in Rural and Small Urban Public Transportation
 1. **Improving Veterans' Mobility in Small Urban and Rural Areas** (15-2818)
 2. **Cost-Benefit Analysis of U.S. Rural and Small Urban Transit** (15-2286)
 3. **Toward Flexible Integrated Transport Systems: Requirement Analysis for Prototype Platform** (15-4007)
 - ii. JWS15-003: Research and Best Practices in Regional and Intercity Bus Transportation
 1. **A Methodological Macro Level Tool to Restructure Intercity Bus Network: The Case of Albania** (15-5240)
 2. **Intercity Transit Supply in China: State of the Practice** (15-3020)
 3. **Rural-to-Urban Intercity Deviated Fixed-Route Design: Application in Tennessee** (15-2012)
- d. 2 papers recommended for revision and re-review for publication
 - i. **Improving Veterans' Mobility in Small Urban and Rural Areas** (15-2818)
 - ii. **Cost-Benefit Analysis of U.S. Rural and Small Urban Transit** (15-2286)

Rural and Intercity Bus Research Needs

1. **Research Ideas** (From 21st RIBTC Conference in Monterey)
 - a. A fuller and standardized set of demand response data-is needed (via NTD)
 - i. Data needed for service planning
 - ii. Data needed for comparison purposes – now, there are so many undocumented and untracked factors that the numbers that are tracked are meaningless.
 - b. Long-term benefits of rural public transportation and coordination/ mobility management strategies need to be assessed, particularly in relation to:
 - i. Common set of metrics need to be developed
 - ii. Non-traditional metrics such as economic benefits and health & wellness
 - iii. NTD-required data needs to be more comprehensive, with one (robust) report
 - c. Best practices for inter-city bus (synthesis)
 - i. Amtrak feeder system—duplication?
 - ii. Inter-state coordination
 - d. Modification of demand-responsive DRT scheduling software to reflect:
 - i. Different ground rules for different sponsoring organizations; different sponsors in a coordinated system. There may be different values/parameters/service standards for OTP vs. service efficiency Value depending on the sponsoring organization. Goals (beyond

Attachment 2

Research Sub-Committee Report

OTP and productivity) that have value for specific subsets of riders (like social justice).

- e. Vanpools
 - i. Application to aging population?
 - ii. Volunteer drivers—what drives them?
 - iii. Application in Rural America? Use by RPT systems? Best Practices?
 - iv. FTA/NTD performance measures?
- f. Tribal Transit—Cost/Benefits
 - i. Non-traditional measures
 - 1. Using such measures as a way to prioritize investment, e.g., which of the two projects under consideration does a better job advancing wellness as opposed to which will likely have the lowest cost per trip
 - 2. Perhaps routing should be based on wellness as a goal vs. efficiency,
 - ii. Best practices in coordinating tribal transit with regional public/coordinated transportation
 - iii. FTA financial allocation has left some tribal transit systems with a windfall and others with a loss. What now?
- g. Flex transit compliance and dysfunction – there's a need to research and develop a cookbook or toolkit that shows things like:
 - i. How to design flex transit for smaller/rural communities
 - ii. Case studies of flex services that really do meet ADA customer needs and those that don't – a kind of do's and don'ts synthesis
 - iii. How newer technology (such as that used for TNCs) can support real-time requests
- h. A synthesis/case studies of rural/coordinated public transportation systems that successfully garnered more local investment for rural public /coordinated transportation and those that used human service agency contracts to either (a) leverage more 5311 funding; or (b) (reduce the burden on local community investment, with the difference used to support the implementation of new mobility options. Such a project should also include research the cost of NOT funding transit.
- i. TNCs in rural areas
- j. Planning and operation of transit in extreme climates (synthesis)
 - i. Need for documentation of best practices with anticipation of changing climates

2. TCRP Projects in the 2015 Fiscal Year (see handout for more information)

- a. A Guidebook on Improving Bus Transit Reliability
- b. Defining the Criteria for Requiring a Secondary Train Control System When Implementing Communications-Based Train Control (CBTC)
- c. The Relationship Between Asset Conditions and Service Quality
- d. Identifying Best Practices and Sharing Resources for Transit Technical Training
- e. Projecting Workforce Replacement Needs for Benchmark Transit Occupations/Knowledge Management as Part of Transit Agency Strategic Workforce Development
- f. Frontline Workforce Training: Moving from Past Practice to Best Practice
- g. Applicability of Public-Private Partnerships for Smaller-Scale Transit Projects
- h. Understanding Changes in Demographics, Preferences and Markets for the Transit Industry
- i. Toolkit for a Sustainable Transit Agency

3. TCRP Panel Member Nominations are due 1/26/15

4. TCRP Synthesis Topics are due 3/16/15

Paper Reviews for 2016 (see signup sheet if interested in reviewing papers for next year)



Summary Report
21st National Conference on Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation
Monterey, California
October 26-29, 2014

The 2014 RIBTC, hosted in Monterey, CA by CalACT, Monterey-Salinas Transit, and Caltrans, was a great success as measured by attendance, participation by vendors, participant evaluations, and comments made throughout the event. Key aspects of the conference are summarized below.

1. Attendance Summary

- The conference had over 525 attendees from over 44 states in the United States. We had over 110 first-time participants that attended conference in Monterey. We had 65 attendees from non-profit organizations, 63 attendees from DOT's, 171 transit agencies, 18 city transit agencies, 29 county transit agencies, 27 universities, 18 intercity bus transportation providers, 31 consulting agencies, 13 tribes and over 90 vendors and miscellaneous attendees.

2. Program Highlights

The highlights of the program were numerous, and included:

- Three pre-conference training workshops
- Two plenary sessions featuring industry leaders
- An outstanding keynote presentation by National Geographic's Andrew Evans (rated an average of 3.95 out of 4 by participants who completed a conference evaluation)
- 88 presentations by transit industry researchers and practitioners in 30 breakout sessions
- Individuals were honored with the Roger Tate is Smiling Award (Pat Piras), FTA Administrator's Awards to Outstanding Rural Transit Systems, and Outstanding Student Paper Awards
- Five early morning roundtable discussions on current topics of interest
- A Town Hall Meeting on hot topics in rural transit
- A Future of Transit update by FTA staff
- Well-attended recreational events (golf and bicycling) prior to the conference, a trivia contest and scavenger hunt for first-time attendees, and an evening at the Monterey Bay Aquarium enjoyed by more than 400 people
- Record participation and sponsorship by vendors (more below)

3. Vendor Participation Highlights

The Vendor Fair had thirty-six exhibitors and eight bus dealers displaying a vehicle. The vendor revenue was over \$36,500 for the conference. We had eighteen additional vendors than at the 2012 Rural Conference and an additional \$14,500 in revenue. Eleven vendors sponsored events at the 2014 Rural Conference for a total of \$25,900 in sponsorship revenue. In addition, Moore and Associates designed the conference program and signs as an in-kind sponsorship.

4. Partnership Highlights

- a. FTA—Provided \$35,000 in funding, participated on the planning committee, staffed three roundtable discussions, provided speakers for the FTA Mini-States Program meeting. Administrator Therese McMillan attended the full conference, was a speaker in the plenary session on the “National Perspectives on Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation: Words from the Industry” and presented the Administrator’s Awards during a beautiful outdoor lunch with views of the Pacific Ocean.
- b. AP060 Paratransit Committee—The committee coordinated with the International Paratransit Conference Committee to host the TRB Paratransit conference immediately after the rural conference in the Monterey Plaza Hotel, to promote cross-registration and vendor participation.
- c. CalACT/Caltrans-CalACT provided administrative, accounting support and moderators for the conference. Caltrans provided speakers, committee participation and financial support for the conference.
- d. Monterey-Salinas Transit staff participated on the committee; provide speakers, including Representative Sam Farr, over twenty volunteers for room monitors and registration support and bus passes for attendees. Carl Sedoryk opened the conference with an overview and video about Monterey and Monterey Salinas Transit.
- e. MV Transportation provided transportation to the overflow hotels from the conference hotels.

5. Student Involvement

- Three undergraduate and eight graduate students submitted essays and papers to the student paper competition. Two winners were selected in each category, and all were awarded cash prizes as well as scholarships to cover their conference travel expenses. Graduate student winners presented their papers as part of conference breakout sessions, while all four winners displayed posters and discussed their work with conference attendees at the opening reception.
- Seven students attended the conference as an award winner/presenter and or an attendee.

6. Evaluation Summary

- 93 individuals completed a conference evaluation; a summary report is attached.

Overall, the ratings were extremely positive. Out of a high score of 4, virtually no element of the conference—including the website and registration process, communications, various aspects of the venue, logistics, content and format of sessions, and special events—received a rating below 3.

90% of respondents indicated that they benefited from the conference, 95% would recommend to others, and 80% are likely to attend the 2016 conference. The variety of sessions received an average score of 3.5, while the format of sessions and overall quality of breakout session content received average scores of 3.4. The keynote speaker, Andrew Evans, received a record-breaking 3.95 out of 4.

7. Planning for 2016

- In fall 2014, the conference planning subcommittee received proposals to host the 2016 conference from Massachusetts (two locations on Cape Cod) and North Carolina (several venues in Asheville). The subcommittee discussed both proposals in Monterey, and felt that the North Carolina proposal was stronger because of its solid and very enthusiastic support from NCDOT, the NC Public Transportation Association, and the local transit provider, Mountain Mobility, as well as the attractiveness of one of the proposed venues, the Grove Park Inn.
- RFPs were sent to the Grove Park Inn and several hotels in downtown Asheville. Late October, when the RIBTC is traditionally held, is peak season in Asheville, and the Grove Park Inn is unable to offer our desired room rates. The subcommittee is currently exploring the possibility of dates in early October with the Grove Park Inn as well as continuing to evaluate alternative venues in downtown Asheville.

Attachment 3
National Conference on Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation Report

Committee Communication Coordinators Council (CCCC)

2014 Year End Report

December 13, 2014

The Committee Communication Coordinators (CCC) and Council (CCCC) currently have 19 council members. Unlike committees, the CCCC rotates members every year as council activities and needs meet their interest. The CCCC's Goals / Objectives, which are reviewed and modified annually, are:

- Continue to expand the number of committees with a CCC
- Continue to expand the number of committees with websites
- Continue to expand the number of committees using social media/networking technologies
- Develop and provide guidance to TRB Committees on social media/networking technologies
- Reach out to transportation organizations - assisting with and educating them on the use of social media/networking technologies
- Support the efforts and guidance of the Technical Activities Council (TAC)
- Support and assist in carrying out TRB sponsored activities, such as implementation of the 'My TRB' and friends lists, webinar tool development, communication outreach, etc.

This year, the CCCC held one educational webinar for both CCCs and Council members. In addition, a Workshop and Council meeting will be held at the 2015 TRB Annual Meeting. The CCCC continues to provide website development support to committees. This includes webinars, workshops and individual website development assistance. Committee websites are at a steady 70%. This percentage is higher than it seems, as the full 100% includes Groups, Sections, and specialty task forces that do not necessarily require a web presence. Moreover, this has grown from 10% in 2008.

The CCC educational webinar, held on October 15, focused on communication essentials. Since the creation of the TRB CCCC in 2009, several essential communication webinars have been held to provide guidance to CCCs, including maintaining a committee friend list, developing a website, incorporating social media tools, and surveying committee members. A primary focus of the CCCC is to promote methodologies and educate TRB Committees as well as transportation organizations on communicating throughout the year, in addition to on-site meetings. This is particularly essential, as travel funding is becoming increasingly difficult for transportation organizations. This webinar, *TRB Communication Essentials: What Every CCC Should Know*, was held on October 15 for CCCs looking to re-energize their communication portfolio, as well as those that are just getting started. The communication topics that were presented and the speakers are listed below:

- **Friends List:** Brie Schwartz, TRB Staff
- **Website Content:** Hau Hagedorn, Conduct of Research - ABG10
- **Google Sites:** Antonio Massidda, Aircraft/Airport Compatibility - AV070
- **Facebook:** Renee Ray and Amy Ingles, Health and Transportation Subcommittee - ADD50-1
- **LinkedIn:** Stephanie Lind, Public Involvement in Transportation - ADA60
- **Twitter:** Fabian Cevallos, Light Rail Transit - AP075

Attachment 4
Committee Communications Coordinators Council (CCCC)

At the TRB 2015 Annual Meeting, the CCC is sponsoring or co-sponsoring the following seven Sessions and Workshops:

- Workshop 112: Raising the Transportation Communications Bar: Innovative Tools for Engaging and Promoting Active Communications
- Workshop 113: Interactive Communication About Complex Concepts
- Workshop 148: Communication Trends: The Shift to Mobile
- Workshop 153: Strategies for Improved Communication Between Traffic Data Practitioners and Transportation Decision-makers
- Session 451: Beyond Crowdsourcing 101: Applications for Future Public Involvement in Transportation
- Session 553: Information and Communication Technologies and Travel: An International Scan
- Session 772: The Effects of Weather on Mobility and Roadway Conditions

Updates to TRB's Communication Portfolio:

1. **MyTRB** is a self-service online application that allows people to update their contact information; join committees as a "friend;" assist Chairs in committee rotation; and more functions to come in the future.
2. **Online Conferences & Meetings** will continue to be supported by TRB. Committee meetings can be held online. Conferences can be live webcasted from onsite or held online through a webinar. To find out more, please contact your TRB Staff Representative.
3. **eGroups** is an online discussion forum and professional network. Currently, only the Technical Activities Council and Chairs/Emeritus have access. In the future, TRB's goal is to expand this service to provide space for committees in this online forum, as well.

Transportation in Military Communities Joint Subcommittee 2015 Report

Scope

The Transportation in Military Communities Joint Subcommittee explores complex relationships between military bases and the surrounding civil transportation system. The goal is to promote greater awareness and understanding of the military and civilian processes by which decisions are made that affect these transportation systems, and to foster a more coordinated, comprehensive, and continuing approach to decision-making and funding for improvements. Topics of initial interest include but are not limited to: coordination of Department of Defense needs and decision-making processes with federally-mandated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) or Regional Planning Organization (RPO) processes; timely evaluation and determination of mitigation measures that support defense restationing decisions which may impact state and local transportation systems, both in urban and rural communities; increased potential for travel alternatives to reduce congestion impacts and energy consumption; more effective integration of base, military personnel and military family travel behavior considerations into regional travel models; and to identify the role of federal, state and local programs to assist in mitigating congestion impacts. The Subcommittee will pursue relevant research, annual meeting workshops and sessions, and will disseminate this information as its primary tool to fulfill this goal.

Joint Subcommittee of:

- Metropolitan Policy, Planning, and Processes (ADA20) parent committee
- Military Transportation (ATO25)
- Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation (APO55)

Chairs: Thera Black, Thurston Regional Planning Council and David Metcalf, ATCS, P.L.C.
AP055 Committee Liaison Member: Mark Szyperki

Wednesday 8:00AM- 9:45AM	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Session 763</div> Veterans' Transportation Needs - Strategic Thinking on Ways to Close the Gap Billy Terry, American Public Transportation Association, presiding <i>Lectern Session AICP Certification Maintenance Session</i> Planning and Forecasting, Policy, Public Transportation, Society More Details...	Convention Center, 146B	ADA20
Wednesday 10:15AM- 12:00PM	Transportation in Military Communities Joint Subcommittee of ADA20, AT035, AP055 Thera Black, Thurston Regional Planning Council, presiding David D. Metcalf, ATCS, P.L.C., presiding Planning and Forecasting, Policy More Details...	Marriott Marquis, Independence A (M4)	ADA20

Attachment 5
Committee Liaison Reports

Transit Cooperative Research Program Projects in the Fiscal Year 2015 Program

Project No.	Title
A-42	A Guidebook on Improving Bus Transit Reliability
D-18	Defining the Criteria for Requiring a Secondary Train Control System When Implementing Communications-Based Train Control (CBTC)
E-11	The Relationship Between Asset Conditions and Service Quality
F-22	Identifying Best Practices and Sharing Resources for Transit Technical Training
F-23	Projecting Workforce Replacement Needs for Benchmark Transit Occupations/Knowledge Management as Part of Transit Agency Strategic Workforce Development
F-24	Frontline Workforce Training: Moving from Past Practice to Best Practice
G-15	Applicability of Public-Private Partnerships for Smaller-Scale Transit Projects
H-51	Understanding Changes in Demographics, Preferences and Markets for the Transit Industry
H-53	Toolkit for a Sustainable Transit Agency

Panel Nominations due January 26, 2015. Submit resumes to ablackwell@nas.edu, referencing the project(s) of interest.

Propose NCHRP and TCRP Synthesis Study Topics

The National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP), and Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) are seeking study topics for the Synthesis Studies Program. In the coming year, NCHRP will pick 15 new topics and TCRP will pick 5-7. These result in widely-used reports on key topics in transportation. Proposed study topics may be submitted by anyone or any TRB Committee. The deadlines for submissions for this funding cycle are-

NCHRP February 13, 2015

TCRP March 16, 2015

All proposals for topics must be submitted at the following site on TRB's webpage:

<http://www.trb.org/Studies/Synthesis/SynthesesSubmittal.asp>

A synthesis study documents existing knowledge and experience for specific transportation topics. The following factors are considered in the selection process for new topics.

- Does the topic address a problem that is widespread and of general interest?
- Is the topic timely and critical?
- Is there sufficient information on the topic to warrant synthesizing what has been learned and written.
- Is there no other ongoing or recently completed research on the subject?

If you require further information, please feel free to contact

Jon Williams, Program Director, Synthesis Studies

202-334-3245

jwilliams@nas.edu