

# Transportation Association of Canada

## Road Safety Standing Committee

### Draft Minutes

Date/Time: Saturday, September 25 from 09:00 to 17:00

Location: Room 200E of the *World Trade Convention Centre (WTCC)*, Halifax, NS

Morning Session

#### **1.0 Introduction: 9:00 to 9:15**

Roundtable introductions – member's list was circulated

#### **1.1 Review and Approval of Agenda**

Fall 2010 Agenda was approved

Mike Skene motioned

Kent Speiran seconded

#### **1.2 Review and Approval of April 2010 Meeting Minutes**

Walter Burdz motioned to approve

Glenn Furtado seconded

#### **1.3 RSSC executive – vote for secretary**

No other nominees from the floor

Deborah de Grasse was approved as role of secretary

#### **2.0 Presentations and Q & A: Session: 9:15 to 10:15**

**2.1** HSM and Related Activities – Geni Bahar

**2.2** Toward Zero Death Vision in the USA – Geni Bahar

**2.3** Rest Areas for Commercial Motor Vehicles, Study by Transport Canada – Deborah de Grasse

**2.4** Presentation on Adoption of Highway Safety Manual Methodologies for Safety Assessment of Canadian Roads a TC and MTO project – Bhagwant Persaud

Morning Break: 10:15 to 10:30

#### **3.0 Potential Projects Discussion: 10:30 to 12:00**

Walter Burdz – International Highway Engineering Conference (INEEP 2011)

**3.1** Project initiation procedures and protocols TAC secretariat on the project initiation process, approvals process, how TAC manages projects, and funding models – Sarah Wells (10min)

TAC is a fertile environment for cooperative work through the sponsored project process. See presentation for details. Sole sourcing to consultants is possible however there is a \$25K or \$50K limit – Sarah will confirm and get back to us. This can be done if the group is convinced that there is a single consultant that is able to do the work. Some projects do get started without full funding but the scope has to be reduced. Otherwise, the project will stay on a central list (projects in development) until required funding is obtained.

**ACTION** – Sarah Wells to confirm sole source dollar limit.

### **3.2 CRASH Subcommittee - Gerry Forbes**

Gerry Forbes – subcommittee met yesterday (Friday September 24<sup>th</sup>) at 11am. The Applied HF road engineering guide has been launched. Limited funds were available so the document needed to be re-scoped to fit the revised funding envelope. This is one of the most important documents that will come out of the CRASH committee. RSA guide, in service guide and engineering management guide will be under the same umbrella, other publications are still to come addressing urban/rural roads, speed management etc.

The documents have been moving slowly due to the volunteer work therefore alternative delivery mechanisms need to be considered. It is currently quite difficult to obtain funding, many priorities are competing for the same funds – can we leverage funding in other ways?

There may be possibilities of using academics – graduate students or potentially procuring smaller portions elsewhere and compiling together with a smaller scope under TAC sponsorship model.

There was a discussion as to whether the RSSC is putting out the right materials, also a discussion on coordination in order to avoid being repetitive or risk overlap with something that TOMS or GDG is doing. We need good monitoring what is going on in other steering committees. Funding is scarce and we need to work together.

Level of funding for a student's literature review – university of Manitoba is approximately \$20K. This amount would contribute to the education of a group of students under the guidance of a professor. This may be interesting to the CEC. The PSC would still be involved in steering the project. The green guide to roads was written by a student for \$10K.

Generally speaking – consultants and the academic community will give more than a 100% effort; TAC likewise does not always recoup all the management costs.

Educational council – students matched against educational scholarships. The educational council is meets tomorrow at 7:00 am. There may be an opportunity to say something at that meeting.

If TC had an in-house document that would fit under the crash umbrella, TAC would adopt it if intellectual properties could be negotiated, and it was endorsed by the RSSC and the CEC. This committee will continue to emphasize the importance to the CRASH manual.

### **3.3 Climate Change and Road Safety: Projections within Urban Areas – Geni Bahar**

Geni asked for feedback regarding the issues of funding. Robert Kahle (Ville de Montréal) asked if pedestrians and cyclists were included. Geni said if the whoever helps fund the project may contribute to the scope, such as modifying it to include the active transportation group. TC funding may lapse after this fiscal year but there may be ways to find new funds. Ville de Montreal is contributing to a portion of the funds.

**3.4 Discussion of potential projects list (identified from survey) - Cam Nelson** circulated the survey that produced some replies. There will be no request for funding commitments until there is a more detailed project description. Geni compiled them and is looking for feedback from the committee. RSSC was asked for project ranking in order of importance, and if they would be

willing to provide funding. Are some of particular interest to some agencies but not of wide spread interest? If agencies are interested would they be willing to work on the project initiation form? Are agencies familiar of similar research going on in this particular area? Is there overlap with other agencies or the US? Agencies ranked the projects one to five but expressed concern regarding funding commitment. Does the committee have any thoughts as to how we can proceed? Cam requested the members that have not responded to do so.

Raheem Dilgir expressed concerns regarding priorities if CRASH is what should be focusing on. Some agencies may want to proceed with specific projects rather than the crash manual. There have been funding re-adjustments due to the economy. Some of the publications may be able to be rolled into the crash guide at some point.

**3.5** Possible alignment of RSSC efforts with other Standing Committee projects – including explicit safety considerations - Cam Nelson

CMFs in the GDG need to be revisited.

Cam is meeting with TOMSC tomorrow. Needs to set up a meeting with the chair of the GDG regarding explicit safety within the new GDG and how we may potentially work with them on that topic. Explore presentations to our committee from TOMSC and GDGSC.

**Lunch Break**

**Afternoon Session**

**4.0 Task Force and Agency Update Reports: 1:00 to 1:30**

**4.1** TAC Green Guide for Roads Task Force Update - John Hammer  
Project fully funded, will be wrapped up by April 2012. The Steering Committee is aware of the US Guide and as part of the consultant assignment they will be reviewing this guide to see what can be incorporated from it into the TAC Green Guide for Roads.

**4.2** CITE Update Report - Patrick Lalach

Number of topics have already been mentioned this morning. Transportation safety council newsletter came out yesterday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> discussing interactive highways safety, alternative intersection designs, driver distraction, static roadside advertisement, and alternative strategies for safety improvement. Continue to offer webinars, nothing upcoming in road safety but provide other transportation educational sessions.

HHSM is now available \$325 for members available through ite.org. Mike Skene and Jeanette Montufar are part of the Canadian CITE, can be contacted for additional information. There are currently 7 road safety projects though CITE.

CITE conference 2011 in Halifax, Nova Scotia from May 29th to June 1<sup>st</sup>. Abstract due: November 26, 2010

**4.3** Updates on National Initiatives – Paul Boase

**4.3.1** CCMTA Update Report  
Road safety strategy presentation

#### **4.3.2 PDO reporting threshold discussion at CEC**

Opposition between users and providers of data. Level of damage to the vehicle will now be \$2,000.00.  
CARSP update – articles to distribute in this forum. Next conference May 8-11, 2011, Halifax

SHARP II Andy Horosko – The safety program of SHRP 2 (the second Strategic Highway Research Program) is undertaking a Naturalistic Driving Study that will collect data over the next 30 months of approximately 3100 volunteer participants. The participants will have their vehicles (cars, SUV's and light trucks) instrumented at six different sites across the USA. Installation of the specially designed instrumentation is planned to start in late October.

The SHRP 2 NDS study is the largest of the NDS studies being undertaken or planned in the USA. Other planned NDS studies include a Commercial Truck study and a Distracted Driving (cell phone) study  
ERSC - Costs of collisions consistent across the board

#### **4.4 PIARC (World Road Association) Update – Deborah deGrasse**

Safer road infrastructure – HF sub group.

Developing best practices with respect to road design that incorporates human factors elements.

Audited international design documents – Canada, Australia, Portugal, Chinese, Japanese, French, Netherlands etc. with respect to three HF rules:

1. Perception reaction and visibility rule
2. Field of view rule
3. The logic rule

Two African countries will be using this document when finalized – Burkina Faso and Mali

### **5.0 RSSC and Other SC Projects Updates: 1:30 to 2:30**

#### **5.1 Wider Pavement Markings for Standard Applications – Mike Skene**

Still looking for funding – have not started yet

About 20% funded

#### **5.2 Canadian Model Rules of the Road Update - Mike Skene**

About 10% funded

#### **5.3 MUTCD Update Scoping Study –Mike Skene**

About 20% funded

#### **5.4 TAC Pedestrian Crossing Control Manual Update Project - Jeannette Montufar**

By U of M, Navigats and Transport Information Group

Technical report and guide

Decision support tool

Takes the environment/location specific issues into considerations. Provides guiding principles re prescriptive

This will be a living document and other devices will be added gradually

Afternoon Break: 2:30 to 2:45

#### **5.5 Guidelines for Network Screening of CPL – Geni Bahar**

An RSSC project. Seeking a motion to endorse the project and take it to the CEC.  
Presentation

Comments:

UNB – Eric Hildebrand - Data scenarios are based on data availability - collisions, traffic volumes and roadway inventory. Many jurisdictions are not far along the network screening process, may see this document and be overwhelmed by the recommended procedures and the formulas. It is not clear for small jurisdictions as to what they may gain by collecting all this data and implementing it over and above the more traditional approach. However, the document does show some pitfalls of not using the best methodologies.

Safety performance functions may not be as good as expected/required. Geni noted that all jurisdictions should be working to developing their own safety performance functions.

Require a motion to adopt for presentation to the CEC and make a recommendation that it goes to letter ballot.

Motioned by Gerry Forbes and seconded by Eric Hildebrand  
Motion carried

## **6.0 RSSC Sub-Committee Updates: 2:45 to 3:15**

**6.1** Work Zone Safety Sub-Committee Update - Greg Junnor – see presentation  
We've reached a consensus in the scoping of the project. Seeking a motion for project initiation.  
Motion made by Robert Kahle (Ville de Montreal)  
Greg Junnor seconded

**6.2** Climate Change Working Group – Geni Bahar  
Presentation

Ralph Ehlers will meet with the climate change task force on Monday to present our case regarding the funding issues and how we can effectively continue. A few of the RSSC members completed the climate change survey – Geni again circulated the survey and asked the members to fill out. She will revise the feedback that she brings to the climate change task force.

Road safety was not well represented – it did not come up as one of the high priorities as it pertained to climate change.

**6.3** CRASH – Gerry Forbes – see above

**6.4** RSSC sponsored sessions – Geni Bahar

We are sponsoring 5 sessions:

1. Accommodating pedestrians | road design and traffic operations (Monday 2:15)
2. Canada's road safety vision successor plan to 2015 and other safety plans (Wednesday at 2:15pm)
3. Low-cost road engineering safety countermeasures and their application across Canada (Tuesday at 9 am)
4. Adapting transportation safety to climate change (Tuesday at 9am)
5. Naturalistic driving study research – driver behaviour and crash risk (Wednesday at 9:00 am)

## **7.0 TAC Committee Update Reports: 3:15 -3:45**

## 7.1 GDSC Update Report – Dr. John Morrell

### Main activities of the GDG

#### 1. TAC GDG update scoping study

- A one day workshop was held on September 24, 2010. The facilitation was done by Jeff Ward.
- Phase I was presented by Geoff Millen and John Robinson
- The following subject areas were selected by the steering committee for the detailed scoping study:
  - i. VRU (separate bike lanes to be included)
  - ii. Roadside Design (Changed from roadside safety)
  - iii. Design Flexibility (included a discussion of design exceptions)
  - iv. Human Factors
  - v. Intersection (including non-standard intersections such as jug-handles; also discussed roundabouts)

Discussed the format of the manual – five options were discussed

1. Paper;
2. Paper and electronic (pdf) format
3. Paper and e-version 13 separate chapters - Austroads style
4. E-version with live links – similar to the new Geometric Design Guide for Argentina (with hyperlinks)
5. Smart guide, includes web links to tools, spreadsheets for warrants and tool sets, decision trees and has collaborative potential.

Safety – the focus will still be on the explicit evaluation of safety

Timing – the scoping study is tentatively scheduled to be completed by December 2010

#### 2. Revisions and Additions Subcommittee

The R&A meeting was held on September 26, 2010

The agenda included the following

1. Errata and edits for the GDG
2. Previously balloted and approved revisions to the GDG
  - Intersection sight distance
  - Roundabouts
  - Radius on steep downgrades
  - Barrier warrants
  - Sight distance at underpasses
  - Context sensitive design
3. Ballot items
  1. Clearance width on bridges (table simplified)
  2. Additions to reflect NCHRP 641 Shoulder and Centreline Rumble strips
  3. Passing sight distance
4. New revisions discussed
  1. Object height 0.38 m or 0.6 m?
  2. Changes to intersection sight distance
  3. Intersections on curves (revise graphs)
  4. Interchange ramps (a working group will prepare an insert for the GDG)

Scoping will be wrapped up end of November

Revisions and editions – there are a number of changes – approved revisions that will be going out are:

Intersections sight distances, roundabouts, etc. some action items are to change the decision sight distance – urban vs. rural, HSTM discussion, design exceptions - ?

**7.2** TOMSC Update Report - Mike Skene  
Various project updates

**7.3** MCSC Update Report  
None provided

**7.4** TAC Staff Report - TAC Secretariat – presentation

**7.5** Fall 2011 conference – “Transportation Successes: Let’s Build on them”  
Finalized forms on workshops for October 8<sup>th</sup>

**8.0** Roundtable Updates & Other Business 3:45 – 4:30

Manitoba New cell phone policies and legislation – working towards a road safety plan. The 2011 I-HEEP (International Highway Engineering Exchange Program) Conference is taking place in Winnipeg next September, refer to the web link:

[www.IHEEP2011.com](http://www.IHEEP2011.com)<<http://www.IHEEP2011.com>>

Ralph Elhers – not seeing too many requirements from clients for road safety audits, as there was a significant push to do that a while back but not so much now. Cam is doing one for parks Canada. Apparently BC includes it in their infrastructure projects.

Gerry Forbes has just finished an NCHRP Synthesis project on high-to-low speed transitions. The report is expected to be ready by the end of the year but is in the clients hands for editing. It promises to be a fascinating read. <http://144.171.11.40/cmsfeed/TRBNetProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=2526>

Also, the NCHRP program has advanced a project on high-to-low speed transitions stemming from the synthesis. It is being conducted by Midwest Research Institute.

<http://144.171.11.40/cmsfeed/TRBNetProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=2721>

Kent Speiran – NS legislation on lowering the BAC (with TC and CCMTA)

Policy for the construction of shoulder rumble strips on all new highways and looking for applications of center line rumble strips. How to manage road safety horizontally and involving the NGO and enforcement community as they look forward to the road safety strategy.

Long combination program with MTO – turnpike, terminal within two kilometers, 2.5 million vehicle kilometers travelled without a collision ministry will be looking at a formal evaluation.

Robert Kahle– Ville de Montréal – transportation plan adopted two years ago and are still going with it, it provides orientation/opportunity for action.

City of Edmonton – top priority – paper on progress of Edmonton’s traffic safety strategy.

OECD – collision modification functions – Ezra Hauer is working on the technical committee for us, report will be available in 2012

Cam – legislation on cell phones and distracted driving

**9.0** Next Meeting: TAC Spring Meetings, Ottawa 2011

Adjournment

Eric Hildebrand motions, Ralph Ehlers seconded

Next Fall session – in Edmonton September 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>  
Theme – transportation successes – let's build on them  
Finalized forms on workshops for October 8<sup>th</sup>