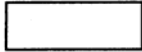




Chicago Area Transportation Study



MEETING NOTES

Project: *Implementation of the ITS Component of the RTP (UWP-5328.02)*
Task Force: *Advanced Technology Task Force*
Date: *October 5, 2005*
Location: *CATS, 300 West Adams, Chicago*

David Zavattero, Chair
Duana Love, Co-Chair

Attendees

Members:	Marty Anderson	<i>IDOT Elec. Op.</i>	Hardik Bhatt	<i>Chicago OEMC TMA</i>
	Jeff Galas	<i>IDOT TSC</i>	Tony Khawaja	<i>Lake Co.</i>
	Duana Love	<i>RTA</i>	Dean Mentjes *	<i>FHWA</i>
	Ruth Myers	<i>DuPage Co.</i>	Barry Resnick	<i>Metra</i>
	David Tomzik	<i>Pace</i>	David Zavattero	<i>IDOT ITS</i>
Interested Parties:	Jay DeWitt	<i>Road Stats</i>	Thomas Johnson	<i>Chicago OEMC TMA</i>
	Scott Lee	<i>NET</i>	Taqhi Mohammed	<i>Pace</i>
	Yadollah Montazery	<i>Chicago OEMC TMA</i>	Steve Peters	<i>IDOT Elec. Op.</i>
	Justin Potts	<i>IDOT IT</i>	Gary Rylander	<i>Edwards & Kelcey</i>
	Brian Saville	<i>Road Stats</i>	Heather Tarczan	<i>IDOT</i>
	Steve Travia	<i>IDOT Traffic</i>	Larry Wilson	<i>Wilson Consulting</i>
	Ping Yu	<i>Motorola</i>		
Staff:	Parry Frank	<i>CATS</i>	Craig Heither	<i>CATS</i>
	Dan Rice	<i>CATS</i>	Mark Thomas	<i>CATS</i>

* Dean Mentjes was teleconferenced.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS:

1. Approval of meeting notes from May 18, 2005 Task Force meeting – The notes were approved as submitted.

2. TMC Progress Reports – Progress reports were provided for the following:

DuPage County – Ruth Myers stated that a multi-agency steering committee has hired a consultant for Phase 1 of the project. This will be a planning effort to examine ITS strategies for the county and will develop a DuPage Transportation Coordination Initiative (TCI) strategic plan, which will address issues such as allocating funding and integrating information. Some of the specific goals of the TCI include improving signal system coordination, enhancing incident detection

and verification, and examining transit vehicle signal priority. Development tasks include:

- an outreach needs assessment
- a concept of operations
- an ITS Architecture for DuPage County
- integration strategies and potential technologies for a operations center
- a strategic plan

In addition to the outreach efforts, a Traffic Incident Management work group will be formed as a standing committee to develop a work plan for dealing with incidents. The kick-off for the one year project is expected to be in November or December. Dave Tomzik identified Pace's interest in participating as a representative for the coordinating groups. Dave Zattero suggested that the ATTF could provide a coordinating opportunity. Barry Resnick suggested the need to coordinate with the surrounding counties.

Lake County – Tony Khawaja stated that Lake County received an occupancy permit for the Lake County TMC last week, but it will take some time before the systems will be functioning at full capacity. A number of pieces of equipment are operational including some HAR towers, five new cameras on the tollway and 43 signals. The Computer-Aided Dispatch system has been tested and will be online soon, the ATMS should be delivered next week, and multiple video images should be available within the next two months. He also noted that IDOT's Lake County signal engineer has a workstation at the TMC and will be there part time. An open house will be held at the TMC in January 2006. Barry Resnick asked about the location of DMS's. The DMS's are portable and intended for spot congestion and accidents. There may be an opportunity for permanent DMS's at arterial locations that would provide travel information on the Tri-State.

Chicago – Hardik Bhatt stated that a Traffic Management Authority has been created by Mayor Daily under the city's Office of Emergency Management and Communications and they are leading the TMC effort. The original TMC concept has been revised from building a standalone facility to integrating the TMC functions into the existing OEMC center. There will also be positions for snow removal dispatch and water management dispatch. The Phase 1 document has been revised and is awaiting IDOT approval, and they hope to have an RFP in 2-3 months for the next phase of development.

Jeff Galas asked if there were opportunities to integrate the OEMC with the State Police. Dave Zattero suggested that that integration function could be developed through the Gateway's distributed hub system. Tom Johnson described an emergency ramp closures as another opportunity for integration.

Duana Love noted that the RTA's Signal Priority Work Group has a database available to interested parties containing information on signals and technology in the field, including emergency vehicle preemption data for the region. Larry Wilson noted that CATS' Transportation Management and Operations Working Group is also developing an inventory of coordinated signal systems in the region.

3. Regional ITS Architecture Update and Maintenance Plan – Duana Love stated that the ITS Architecture Work Group met on September 23rd to discuss the draft scope of work for the architecture update and the maintenance plan. Mark Thomas reviewed the maintenance plan that the Policy Committee had approved in June 2003. Generally defined as being, “created as a consensus view of what ITS systems the region's stakeholders have implemented and what systems they plan to implement in the future”, the maintenance plan describes:

- Who will maintain the architecture
- What will be maintained (specific documents and databases)
- How it will be maintained (i.e. what configuration control process will be used)

Recommended changes will be accepted from Task Force members and the Task Force Approval will be forwarded to the CATS Work Program and Policy Committees. Formal updates should be coordinated with the Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program cycles. Dave Zavattero reminded the group that these maintenance efforts are directly related to federal funding requirements and that the efforts associated with the architecture provide an important framework for systems development and integration.

Craig Heither briefly described the elements of the draft scope of work:

- *Review of existing documentation* – this will include the changes to be made to the regional architecture identified in the ITS Deployment Plan Update. There will also be a discussion of what has been built since the architecture was approved and some narrative on how the architecture is used in project implementation.
- *Stakeholder outreach* – this task will expand stakeholder input to include new stakeholders such as Kendall County. Meetings will be structured to address functional areas moving away from the previous geographic approach focusing on counties. An open house webcast will be held prior to the outreach meetings to introduce the topic to stakeholders.
- *Update Regional Architecture* – this is the core technical work in the contract and involves using the Turbo Architecture tool to update the Regional Architecture and make it consistent with the National ITS Architecture, including adding new elements that exist. This will include a discussion of changes to the region and new agreements that may be needed.
- *Review of architecture maintenance plan* – the consultant will use the existing maintenance plan and recommend any changes based on “lessons learned”.

Craig Heither presented a sample Architecture Change Form for Task Force review using the DuPage County TCI as an example. Dave Zavattero asked to add a spot for contact information. Duana Love asked for an approval box and a way to identify the need for follow up information and status of approval. Dave Tomzik noted it would be helpful to include a change number. Marty Anderson suggested three improvements to the form: add a “Modify Information Flow” check box, allow space to provide a description of “Other”, and include a way to track the status of the change. Larry Wilson suggested including a “Change in National Architecture” check box, and proposed adding a place to indicate other systems and agencies affected by the change as a way to determine whether it is a minor or global change. Hardik Bhatt asked if it would be possible to search through the change forms

suggesting a journal of changes or a library of actions and status; Mark Thomas stated the information could be put on www.catsmpo.com, probably in an Access database format that could be searchable. Duana Love requested that CATS staff revise the form based on member comments and present it at the next ITS Architecture Work Group meeting on November 17th.

4. **GCM Travel Stats** – Scott Lee presented the latest enhancement to the GCM website. This tool, which became active on June 22nd, allows users to plot the current travel time for one of the pre-defined corridors on the site against the average travel time based on historical data. One standard deviation around the average is also shown to represent the normal fluctuation in travel times. This tool is available at www.gcmtravelstats.com or through the regular GCM site. An Operations Report tool is available at www.gcmtravelstats.com/opsreport.aspx which allows for customized queries of the data. Tom Johnson noted that the City uses the website frequently for special events management, particularly to gauge approaching parkers at special events. The City generally organized weekend events on the prior Tuesday.
5. **Northeastern Illinois ITS Deployment Plan Update** – Mark Thomas stated that the Work Program Committee approved the plan at their August 12th meeting and final approval by the Policy Committee was expected at their meeting October 13th.
6. **Upcoming Meetings and Conferences** – The following is a list of upcoming conferences and meetings.

<u>Meeting Title</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>
IDOT Fall Planning Conference	Chicago	October 13-14
TRB 85 th Annual Meeting	Washington, D.C.	January 22-26, 2006
GCM Meetings	Consult calendar at www.gcmcommunicator.com	

7. **Next meeting** – The next meeting of the Advanced Technology Task Force is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2006 at 10:00AM.

The above is an accurate summary based on staff meeting notes. Anyone who takes exception to the information contained in this summary should forward comments to CATS within one week of the submittal date noted below.

Submitted October 11, 2005