



No Boundaries Peer Exchange

June 2-4, 2026 - Indianapolis

Overview

- Dates: June 2nd to June 4th, 2026
- Location: Indiana Government Center, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Host State: Indiana Department of Transportation

For more meeting information, please visit maintainraods.org. Detailed documentation available for members with login.



Attendees

This year's event included 21 total attendees from 18 of the total 22 member state DOTs:

- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Maine
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- New York
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Utah
- Virginia
- Wisconsin

Indiana DOT Welcome

- State Representative: Todd May, Indiana
 - Director of Innovation, Research, and Emerging Mobility
 - Innovation:
 - <https://www.in.gov/indot/innovation/>
 - Annual Competition to solicit and support ideas from across the state
 - Innovation Councils in each district
 - Highlighted innovations: [cable rail spreader](#) and [Project Greenlight](#)
- Opening Remarks from INDOT Commissioner Lyndsay Quist
 - 13 years at INDOT
 - Previously in Louisiana at Army Corps of Engineers

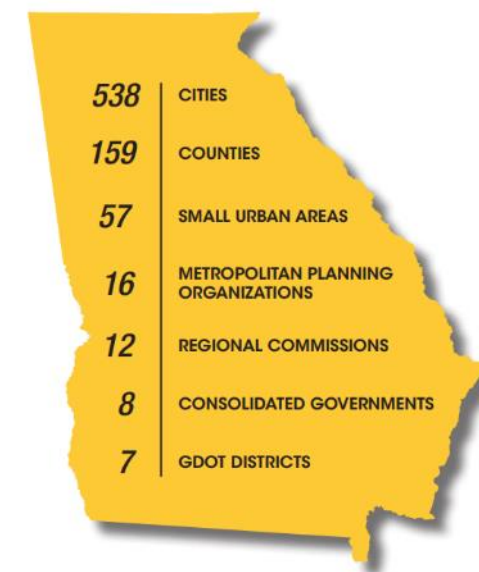


New Members

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New Members Introductions/Presentations

- Ryan Kellet, Maintenance Asset Manager, Georgia
- GDOT has seven districts and subdivided into Areas, covering 250 counties
- State Routes & Interstates Maintained: 17,910 Miles / 49,690 Lane Miles
- Challenges: Employee Retention
 - Over half of GDOT employees have less than 10 yrs of service
 - Critical skills gap / career ladder
- Development Efforts
 - Target trainings, e.g., Foreman's Academy, Pavement Distress, etc.
 - Bootcamps that cover a variety of topics offered every two months
 - District equipment training, e.g., Loader, CDL, Skid Steer, etc.



New Members Introductions/Presentations

- Andy Firment, Chief of Operations and Performance, Pennsylvania
- Operations and Performance Division: statewide team of 9 employees
- Core functions include quality assurance, quality control, education, innovation, and hands-on support
- Maintenance Innovations:
 - Pavement Preservation (Fog, Cape, & Scrub Seals)
 - Living snow fence
 - Air foil
- Safety Innovations:
 - Guardian Lights on Stop / Go Paddles
 - Work Zone Speed Safety Cameras



Sharing of Innovations

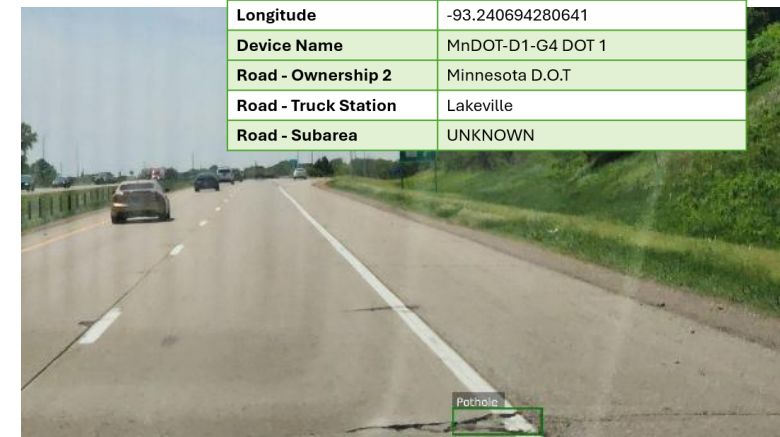
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General Innovations Discussion

- City Rover (MN)
 - Technology classifies potholes into severity levels using dashboard camera video feed and AI-software
 - Pro: high reliability – few false positives
 - Con: Potential exposure to FOIA/public records requests
 - Generates a camera-based inspection record with spreadsheet-ready outputs for analysis and reporting
 - <https://www.cityrover.com/>
- iCone (Multiple States)
 - Smart, solar-powered traffic cone equipped with speed detection and wireless communications.
 - <https://www.awpsafety.com/equipment/smart-work-zones/icone/>



DETECTION DETAILS	
ID	112202
Address	I-35 E South, Burnsville MN 55337, United States
Direction	Southwest
Date	2026-05-28 13:04:43
Status	Approved
Severity	Low
Road Class	3
Road Ownership	Minnesota D.O.T
Latitude	44.763909051781
Longitude	-93.240694280641
Device Name	MnDOT-D1-G4 DOT 1
Road - Ownership 2	Minnesota D.O.T
Road - Truck Station	Lakeville
Road - Subarea	UNKNOWN



New York State Innovations

- Ken Relation, Statewide Guide Rail Program Manager/
Statewide Sign Program Manager/ Statewide Snow &
Ice Assistant Program Manager, New York
 - Kratz Rail Alignment Tool
 - Low cost; improves worker safety; improves efficiency
 - kratzexperttools@gmail.com, (845)807-2491
 - [Alignment Tool Instruction Video](#)
 - Remote Controlled Low Profile Loader
 - New nose prevents damage to culverts
 - Still solving for top heavy design
 - Log Loader Trailer
 - Easy to attach; extended tongue



Sharing of New Innovations – Selected Highlights

Homeless Encampments on State ROW

- Josh Burks, Maintenance Liaison, Missouri
- Three classifications for encampments:
 - Imminent Danger
 - Active
 - Abandoned
- Notice to Vacate Template
- Guide to Field Operations
 - Includes posting requirements and after-action report
- Issue of thermal runaways, when a lithium-ion battery overheats, leading to fires or explosions
- MoDOT utilizes contractors when needed for clean up



Round Tables / Research Spotlight

June 2026 - Indianapolis

Round Table #1: Impact Detectors on Transportation Assets

- Ryan Ferrin, Statewide Maintenance Engineer, Utah
- *Key Question: Are any states using impact detectors on any of their assets?*
- Utah: Trialed installation of Pi-LIT “AIMS” units in 2021 (50% false positives) and Lindsay “Impact Alert” units in 2025 (14% false positives)
- Discussion:
 - Some states have also tested out impact detectors (MN, CT, NY, Georgia)
 - Pros: Fast notification of damage can be helpful in rural areas, good for low bridges with restricted bridge access (NY)
 - Cons: Sometimes dislodges upon impact (Georgia), short battery life (1-4 years) (Utah), lots of false positives (Utah, and Texas)
 - Video to monitor maintenance needs is more reliable (Georgia, MN)



Round Table #2: Work Zone Safety Practices

- Chris Landry, Superintendent – Highway Operations, Maine
- *Key Question: How are other states working toward keeping staff safe in work zones?*
- Discussion:
 - Difficulty to get law enforcement in maintenance zones (MI)
 - Varying work zone safety campaigns, such as Operation Yellow Jacket (PA) and Director's Office in Work Zone (Utah)
 - Use of speed enforcement cameras (CO)
 - Caltrans mobile barrier example as "Cadillac"



UDOT "Director's Office In Work Zone" Event



Caltrans mobile barrier

Round Table #2 – Selected Highlights

Round Table #3: Management of Contracted Maintenance Work

- Bill Collier, ADA Maintenance/Hampton Roads District, Virginia
- *Key Question: How much of their work is contracted, how they monitor, types of contracts, etc.*
- VDOT has continued to increase their amount of contract work for routine maintenance activities
- Discussion:
 - Multiple types of contracts for contracted work
 - Difficulty monitoring and holding contractors accountable
 - Evolving performance targets and metrics

Round Table #4: Road Closures Gates on High-Speed Facilities

- Jason Peterson, NDDOT Grant Forks District – Asst. District Engineer, North Dakota and Matt Thorsen, Highway Maintenance and Roadside Management Section Chief, Wisconsin
- *Key Question: What are states doing for road closure gates on Interstate routes, ramps, or 4 lane expressways?*
- Discussion:
 - Varying authority regarding making the decision to close a road – local level versus governor authorization
 - Failures: high wind, vehicle strikes, mechanical
 - Lack of consistent data on crash testing rating
 - Communication to the public regarding closures
 - Considerations for gate placement and spacing
 - Multiple types of gates in use across states:
 - Manual vs. Automatic
 - Bifold, Single Arm, Double Arm, etc.



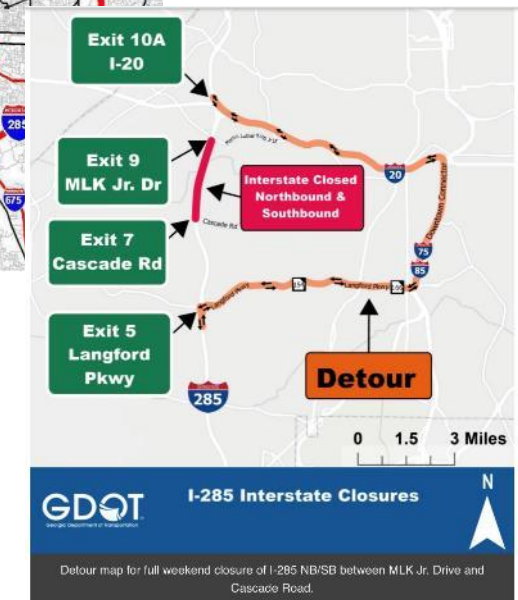
Round Table #5: Urban Litter Removal Methods

- Josh Burks, Maintenance Liaison, Missouri
- *Key question: What innovative solutions do states have for litter removal in urban areas?*
- Spent \$13 million last year to remove trash; on track to spend \$18 million this year
- Campaign: “Make Missouri Beautiful”
- Discussion:
 - Weekend Offender program not working well (Georgia)
 - “Trash Blitz” – day in spring when everyone (accounting to administration) at NYDOT has a chance to get in the field (New York)
 - Similar program in Connecticut but no office employees
 - Twice a year trash clean up (South Carolina)
 - Issue of trash flying off trash trucks (multiple states)
 - Some states have billed insurance companies for the labor to clean up highways, using photo evidence.



Research Spotlight #1: Maintenance of Traffic for Urban High-Volume Routes

- *Key question: How to handle maintenance of traffic on high volume routes in urban areas that need more in-depth maintenance or reconstruction?*
- Discussion:
 - Closure types and when to deploy (single-lane, multi-lane, full closure with detour)
 - Benefits of 30-hour mix – longer durability, shorter closure (ND)
 - Logistics of contractors and communications of closures (Georgia)



Georgia I-285 Closure Communications Example

Field Visits

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Indiana Sign Shop

- Innovation: Recycle and Re-Cover Program
 - Idea: Repurpose existing signs that have been taken out of service and recover them with new HIP (reflective material) and transparent film without stripping old material off
 - Benefit: Eliminates the step of hydro-stripping, saving time, resources, and money
 - Cost savings of approximately \$156,250 per year
- 3M has confirmed the warranty will hold for the materials for 1 layer
 - The warranty for type XI (diamond grade) with EC overlay film is 12 years for standard colors
 - The warranty for fluorescent is 7 years
- Resurfaced signs are expected to last an additional 14-17 years



Indianapolis Motor Speedway

- Tour from Tyrone Garrison, VP of Facilities for the Indianapolis Motor Speedway
 - 2.5 miles of track; dubbed “longest road with no potholes”
 - 1909 track include crushed limestone and tar – a disaster (see image with oozing tar in upper right)



Left – Tyrone Garrison, VP of Facilities

No Boundaries Business and Planning Meeting

- Commitments and transfers
- Budget
- Update on Phase IV commitments and progress
- Discussion of website and communications
- Future peer exchanges
 - October 2026 – San Antonio, Texas
 - April 2027 – Colorado Springs, Colorado

Takeaways

- “Great sessions”
- “I loved some of the technology that some states are using in their traffic control.”
- “Like new innovations and ideas shared by new members.”
- “Really enjoyed all the collaboration and discussions between the different states. Very interesting to see how other states operate.”
- “I think this group is fantastic, it is awesome to learn and share with different states.”
- New technologies and innovations, such as:
 - City Rover
 - I-Cone
 - Flashing green lights to enhance worker visibility and safety
 - Road closure gates & barriers for worker safety



Selected Highlights