

TAC Conference Call

May 31, 2017

Webinar and dial-in Information

Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2017

Time: 8:00 a.m. Pacific / 11:00 a.m. Eastern

Webinar link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/314907069>

Dial: 646-749-3112, access code 314-907-069

Face-to-face meetings

- **Fall 2017 — Ohio (Primary Agenda Item for May 31 call)**
 - August 30 to September 1 in Columbus Ohio.
 - Logistics:
 - A travel memo was distributed to the TAC on March 1.
 - Travel arrangements — Kirsten Seeber
 - On the first day of the meeting we will be attending ODOT's Team Up innovations rodeo, and ODOT invited No Boundaries member agencies to exhibit their own best practices there. ODOT would need to know who is planning on exhibiting, along with space requirements, by August 9.
 - There is no cost to exhibit other than getting your materials to and from Columbus.
 - No Boundaries members who are interested should contact Thomas Lyden, thomas.lyden@dot.ohio.gov, 614-644-7105, and copy Brian Hirt.
 - **Official No Boundaries presence/exhibit/activities?**
 - Possible topics (to be developed further May 31)
 - How to launch and host innovation events. States could present successes, barriers, and practical advice. Several attendees were interested in this as a topic.
 - **Volunteer states to present on this topic?**
 - Maintenance management. This would be a continuation of an ongoing series from 2016, inviting states to talk about new developments or asking new states to talk about this topic.
 - Jay Wells said that Washington State might have an update to present in this area.
 - Melissa Longworth talk about guardrail tracking in Michigan and the use of a collector app that feeds into MDOT's management system.
 - **Other possible presenter states?**
 - **Other presentation topics?**
 - **Other agenda items?**

- *Spring 2018 — Pacific Northwest*

TAC members also expressed interest in working in coordination with the Pacific Northwest Snowfighters conference in spring 2018, likely in Portland or Spokane in late April or early May.

- Jay Wells noted that No Boundaries could present and make attendees from western states aware of this project. The meeting goes beyond winter maintenance equipment and covers management, leadership and topics that fall under the No Boundaries umbrella.
- Spring 2018 meeting presentation topics will be identified in the future based on interest, new developments, and what gets addressed previously at the Ohio meeting and in No Boundaries webinars (see next item).

Additional agenda items (time permitting)

Outreach and membership

- *Newsletter*

- No Boundaries published a March 2017 newsletter; it is linked on the website.

- *AASHTO SCOM collaboration*

- Thomas Lyden has put No Boundaries on the agenda for the SCOM Roadway/Roadside TWG meeting at the July 30-August 3 SCOM meeting.
- CTC provided a short article about No Boundaries that appeared in SCOM's [April 2017 SCOM Maintenance Manager newsletter](#).

- *TRB Annual Meeting*

- Diana Clonch gave an overview of her outreach efforts and her presentation at the January 2017 TRB meeting. This was distributed to the TAC and posted on the No Boundaries website.
- A summary of maintenance-related TRB papers was published on the No Boundaries website and featured in the March newsletter.

- *No Boundaries member participation at upcoming national meetings*

TAC members should contact CTC for fliers and presentation materials.

- Diana Clonch attended the APWA North American Snow Conference in April in Iowa.
- Diana Clonch presented her TRB presentation during an April webinar sponsored by TRB titled "The Evolving Surface Transportation Maintenance and Operations Workforce Part II: Developing a More Versatile Workforce Through Enhanced Training and Technology."
- Todd Rowley is attending the National Roadside Vegetation Management Association Annual meeting in September in Missouri.
- New York State might attend TRB Landscape Committee meeting this fall in Connecticut.

- *AASHTO Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council (TC3) [training website](#)*

Training is available at a reduced rate to AASHTO members and free to TC3 contributing states (see the [contributor map](#)). Steve Cook noted that AASHTO welcomes training modules submitted DOTs, which TC3 then further adapts into training tools.

- **ACTION: Brian** will link to TC3 training in the No Boundaries website and in the next No Boundaries newsletter.

- *Possible New Members*

No Boundaries has received membership interest from Minnesota and Manitoba. Mississippi remains another potential member.

Webinars

- *Schedule and format*
 - Development of No Boundaries webinars for 2017 will resume in July.
 - Each could be up to 90 minutes, with 3 to 5 presenters and time for questions.
- *Topics*
 - Workforce contracting (managing people/resources, seasonal needs, needs during emergencies). There may be big differences among states based on workforce makeup (Wisconsin, Michigan and Ohio were contrasted during the call).
 - Training and retention. Washington State has a tiered approach to training and then developing into leadership and management. North Dakota has a training academy.
 - Maintenance technology
 - Details requested from state DOTs via SurveyMonkey survey
 - Sent to AASHTO SCOM with an introduction letter from Steve Cook, Rebecca Allmeroth and Thomas Lyden
 - Seven responses have been received to date.
 - The survey collector is still open (an invitation to participate was included in the April 2017 Maintenance Manager article).

Coordination with other groups

- *No Boundaries members as liaisons*

The TAC previously discussed how best to avoid duplicating No Boundaries efforts with other groups. Several No Boundaries members are involved in these, such as Clear Roads, Pacific Northwest Snowfighters, various AASHTO and TRB committees, regional SHTOs, LTAPs, NCHRP panels, and others. No Boundaries members can serve as liaisons who bring opportunities back and forth between these groups and No Boundaries.

 - **ACTION: No Boundaries TAC members** to advise their participation on affiliate associations and committees; CTC will compile this list and share it with the group.

Additional tech transfer activities

- *No Boundaries as a Performance Management Clearinghouse*
 - Scott Bush suggested that No Boundaries might be able to take on the role of a clearinghouse of practices for performance management requirements.
- *Additional items (for further future consideration after July)*
 - Website updates
 - Begin thinking about how to reorganize and expand the site using more topic areas (as more content is added).
 - Explore a way to limit what information is available only to members (such as innovations and meeting details) as a way to encourage more states to become paying members.
 - Implement strategies to improve No Boundaries site placement in search engine results.

- Have in mind that a site redesign will be possible after July when the additional committed funds will be available.
- Identifying and sharing innovations
 - Reach out to state and national programs as discussed in October (see the list at end of these notes) to identify innovations that could be shared on the No Boundaries site. Assist with populating the database.
 - Work with No Boundaries members to identify innovations for sharing on the site and at future meetings.
 - Consider categorizing innovations by their status (implemented throughout agency, just trying out, used successfully in some offices, etc.)
 - Develop a process for reviewing innovations and selecting those that should be promoted by No Boundaries through communication and technology transfer activities.
- Many more options possible once the additional committed funds are available in CTC's contract.

Administration

- CTC drafted the No Boundaries work plan and the TAC provided comments. The final version has been submitted to ODOT along with the contract amendment (work plan and budget).
- Draft operating procedures remain to be developed.
- The TAC may yet consider selecting a committee chair and vice chair.

ATTACHMENTS

2017 conferences/outreach opportunities

Western Snow Conference in (April 17-20 | Boise, Idaho)
<http://www.westernsnowconference.org/meetings/2017>

APWA North American Snow Conference (April 22-26 | Des Moines, Iowa)
<https://www.apwa.net/snow>

Clear Roads Spring Meeting (April 25-27 | Anchorage, Alaska)
www.clearroads.org

AASHTO Spring Meeting (May 22-25 | Portland, Maine)
http://mmsd.transportation.org/meetings_registration/

WASHTO Standing Committee on Maintenance (June 25-28 | Juneau, Alaska)
<http://www.washto.org/>

NASTO Annual Conference (July 10-12 | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
<http://nasto.org/>

National Conference on Transportation Asset Management (July 14-17 | San Diego, California)
<http://www.trb.org/Calendar/Blurbs/174677.aspx>

AASHTO SCOM meeting (Date? | Rhode Island)
<http://maintenance.transportation.org/Pages/default.aspx>

MAASTO Annual Meeting (July 25-27 | Cleveland, Ohio)
<https://www.dot.state.oh.us/MAASTO2017/Pages/default.aspx>

SASHTO Annual Conference (August 12-15 | Norfolk, Virginia)
<http://www.sashto2017.org/>

National Roadside Vegetation Managers Association (NRVMA) Conference (September 12-14 | Springfield, Missouri)
<http://www.nrvma.org/>

Sources of maintenance innovations

- State DOTs innovation programs (innovation events/rodeos/programs, No Boundaries TAC meetings and member outreach)
 - Missouri DOT Innovations Challenge: <http://www.modot.org/innovationschallenge/>
2016 Showcase Video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mnpQhLbKChY&feature=youtu.be>
 - TeamUp ODOT: <https://www.ocsea.org/news/Detail/see-the-team-up-odot-2016-photo-gallery/>

- Colorado DOT Lean Everyday Innovations and Ideas: <https://www.codot.gov/business/process-improvement/everyday-lean-innovations-ideas/putting-our-innovation-to-work>
- North Dakota DOT Transportation Innovations Program (TRIP): <https://www.dot.nd.gov/business/innovate/>
- Alaska DOT & PF Everyday Lean Innovations and Ideas: http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_documents.asp?session=29&docid=40280
- Michigan DOT Innovation Snapshots: http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-9623_26663_59797_59805_77948-396336--,00.html
- State DOT in-house research programs
 - MnDOT Maintenance Operations Research Program <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/maintenance/research.html>
- Local innovation programs – FHWA’s LTAP/TTAPs and APWA (city innovations)
 - LTAP Build a Better Mousetrap competition <http://www.ltap.org/resources/mousetrap.php>:
2016 winners: https://www.dot7.state.pa.us/BPR_PDF_FILES/DOCUMENTS/LTAP/2016_BUILD_A_BETTER_MOUSE_TRAP.PDF
 - Cornell Local Roads Program: www.clrp.cornell.edu
- National innovation programs – FHWA’s EDC, STIC Network, AASHTO Innovation Initiative: <http://aii.transportation.org/>
 - Pennsylvania STIC Innovation Day: <http://www.penndot.gov/RegionalOffices/district-5/Pages/details.aspx?newsid=377#.V1gaO4-cF9B>
U.S. Deputy Transportation Secretary Victor Mendez and Federal Highway Administrator Gregory Nadeau joined Pennsylvania officials at an Innovation Showcase and roundtable discussion on August 4. They recognized Pennsylvania’s State Transportation Innovation Council as a national model in using state-of-the-art technologies on highway projects. Many of the innovations the STIC has helped foster in Pennsylvania were promoted by the Every Day Counts initiative, including adaptive signal control technology, high-friction surface treatments, warm-mix asphalt, accelerated bridge construction and the Safety Edge paving technique.