

**TRB Road Pricing Joint Subcommittee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 27, 2004**

1. **Introduction** – Patrick DeCorla-Souza
2. **Approval of Minutes of January Meeting:** Minutes were approved.
3. **Update from TRB Staff** – Claire Felbinger discussed the following subjects:
  - Annual Meeting – papers were due August 1, 2004 (update: we received 37 papers).
  - 2.2 sessions are allowed per committee and subcommittees are not guaranteed sessions. She noted that Patrick submitted nine sessions and she will give whatever she has leftover based upon level of participation/support of committees/subcommittees. She did promise us a session. The good news was that although poster sessions are only supposed to be peer reviewed papers, when there is a topic of extreme interest, they make exceptions. Road Pricing can have a poster session.
  - Dave Forkenbrock is a candidate for the Wooten Award.
  - Claire also promised that there would be adequate room-space for our Subcommittee meetings.
  - The Joint Subcommittee received approval for Committee Status. The next steps include choosing committee members. There is a limit of 25 members. An additional 4 international members and 2 members under age 30 are allowed. New committee status will be presented and finalized at the annual meeting. Patrick thanked everybody for their assistance and reminded the group that a lot more work needs to be done including developing a strategic plan.
4. **Reports from Subcommittees-**
  - Outreach Subcommittee - Lee provided an overview of the goals of the afternoon meeting of the Subcommittee: (1) Focus on establishing a steering committee to prepare for the Road Pricing Managed Lanes workshop in conjunction with TRB Annual Meeting; (2) Provide short updates on pricing projects; (3) Discuss reauthorization and provide an update on meeting with Jack Basso (4) Plus a discussion on sessions for next January's TRB meeting.
  
  - Managed Lanes Subcommittee - Bill Stockton briefly discussed the outcome of the meeting held the previous day. The focus of the ML Subcommittee was on the upcoming January Road Pricing workshop. There appears to be a wide range of interest in managed lanes from different groups.
  
  - Pricing Economics Subcommittee - Steve Fitzroy briefly discussed the outcome of the meeting. He noted that a new subcommittee was formed on the Economics of Pricing. The new subcommittee will allow members to focus their attention on

the economic aspects of road pricing such as equity, elasticity, etc. The group expressed interest in sponsoring a pricing related session for TRB.

Forecasting and Evaluation Subcommittee – David Levinson, Chair of this Subcommittee, was unable to come to Park City (There was no update).

NCHRP Proposals – Patrick reminded members that NCHRP proposals are due by the end of August. The goal of the Road Pricing Joint Subcommittee is to submit a variety of proposals for funding consideration. Outlines for proposed topics were developed at a workshop in conjunction with the International Symposium on pricing November 2003. The outlines are available on the FHWA Knowledge Sharing website at:

[http://knowledge.fhwa.dot.gov/cops/hcx.nsf/All+Documents/DAE43153E53594B185256E220049AC27/\\$FILE/Managed%20Lanes%20Research%20Proposals.pdf](http://knowledge.fhwa.dot.gov/cops/hcx.nsf/All+Documents/DAE43153E53594B185256E220049AC27/$FILE/Managed%20Lanes%20Research%20Proposals.pdf)

Members were asked to review the topics and work with their State DOT to coordinate submittals. Patrick informed representatives from State DOTs present that the subcommittee needed their assistance. The perception is that projects received from State DOTs appear to receive priority in the review process. Proposal topics available fell into 3 categories. FHWA Staff distributed copies to those present.

Patrick agreed to send a link to the websites and send information for coordination purposes. The due date is August 31. Lee agreed to send something out to the Project Partners. Adeel Lari emphasized the need to make sure members understand that State DOTs also need to provide high evaluations when NCHRP sends proposed projects to them for review.

5. **Update on Value Pricing Pilot Program** - Angela Jacobs briefly summarized the outcome of the 2004 solicitation for proposals. FHWA received 22 proposals requesting over \$20 million in funding. There were questions about whether or not a solicitation process will occur next year.
6. **Presentation on Current Projects** - Ferrol Robinson presented information on the Minnesota I-394 project and Jean Hart presented information on the I-680 project in Alameda County, CA. Their presentations are available on FHWA's Highway Community Exchange "Value Pricing" web site at: <http://knowledge.fhwa.dot.gov/cops/hcx.nsf/home?openform&Group=Value%20Pricing&tab=REFERENCEBYALPHA&Start=1&Seq=2> For the I-680 presentation, go to "PRICED NEW LANES - CALIFORNIA: HOT Lanes on I-680 in Alameda County", then download the third file attachment. For the I-394 presentation, go to "HOV LANE CONVERSION - MINNESOTA: HOT Lanes on I-394 Twin Cities" and then download the fourth file attachment.

## 7. Committee Liaison Updates

Taxation and Finance Committee- Eight research areas were defined and there were four major goals that came out of the joint meeting with the AASHTO financial members. A working group was established for each research area. Case studies will be prepared that will be submitted through AASHTO. After they set a research agenda, the four major goals were as follows: (1) Financing mega projects; (2) Alternative user fee strategies to replace the gas tax. This will build upon current TRB research. The focus will be on transitioning and institutional issues of collecting and sharing data; (3) Design/Build; (4) Revenue Allocation/Performance.

TRB International Symposium Steering Committee - People from 15 countries attended and 160 people were in attendance. Proceedings should be available by the end of the year.

TRB Panel on Alternatives to the Fuel Tax – The committee is taking a long-term look at the fuel tax as a viable alternative and attempting to determine what would an alternative look like if it occurred.

Transportation Economics Committee- Mark Burriss announced that the committee would jointly submit one of our proposals with the Freight Economics committee. It appears there is the possibility of a double session. In addition, the Benefits subcommittee is also considering sponsoring one of our session topics. At the Economics Committee's meeting, there was a presentation of a paper by Brad Shirley. Mark discussed some controversial results from the paper. Mark is checking with Doug Lee to see if the results can be put on the website.

Economic Development – One session proposal on public/private partnerships was submitted. It appears that AASHTO might be sponsoring a workshop in 2006 on Economic Analysis and Transportation Investment that will focus on user benefit analysis. They are looking for sponsorship from NARC, AMPO and AASHTO. It might be a winter meeting.

HOV Systems Committee – Ginger Goodin announced a request for abstracts for the TRB Spring 2005 HOV/Managed Lanes Conference to be held in Houston, Texas. Abstracts were due August 31. (Update: The due date has been extended to September 17). Presentation abstracts should be no more than 250 words. Please submit your presentation abstract to HOVConference@ttmail.tamu.edu.

Freeway Operations –No update.

Joint Freight Committee – One of the discussions was about a session on Truck Only Lanes.

Public Involvement - Conducting a Poster session. Maggie Campbell will send out a notice seeking participation.

8. **Road Pricing Workshop** - Susan Lee mentioned that she and Lee Munnich would be looking for volunteers to work on the development of the annual meeting workshop.
9. **January 2005 Sessions** – Patrick reviewed the sessions and reminded everyone that he sent out 9 proposals that would be discussed in greater detail at the afternoon meeting. Mark Burriss indicated that he found a sponsor for session 4. Jonathan Skolnik, Tony Rufalo, and Steve Fitzroy will provide assistance in refining the proposals and getting speakers. Patrick requested that everyone provide comments to Patrick and the session proposers. The group reviewed each topic area and went over the status of getting sponsors. Claire reminded the group that there is an opportunity to get a poster session.
10. **Round Table Discussion** –There was some discussion on the potential for session topics for the HOV conference.