

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES
PEDESTRIAN TASK FORCE**

SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES: January 19, 2011, Crystal City, VA

Chair John LaPlante reported that the Pedestrian Task Force met on Wednesday, January 19 shortly after 5:00 PM. 26 people were in attendance, including 20 Technical Committee members.

Kay Fitzpatrick gave a final report on the FHWA-funded Crosswalk Marking Field Visibility study conducted by TTI. The study looked at the relative visibility of transverse, continental and the bar pair modified continental markings. The study recommended that high visibility crosswalk markings should be used where Ped Warning signs are deployed and on high-speed roadways.

There were reports on various pedestrian-related NCHRP projects. The final report for Project 3-78A on blind pedestrian solutions at roundabouts and channelized turn lanes has been completed and is awaiting final publication. The updated FHWA Roundabout Guide (Project 3-56A) is complete and the new Guide is available on-line. Data collection for Project 3-89 on pedestrian conflicts at channelized right turn lanes has been completed and a final report is expected soon. Balloting on the AASHTO Bike Guide (Project 15-37) resulted in a need for a follow-on contract with MRI to resolve the roughly 1000 comments before reballoting probably sometime later this year. Finally, the Project 20-7/263 survey to collect user data on the current AASHTO Ped Guide has been completed and ready to be used in the development of a new Ped Guide.

The Signals TC is again asking FHWA to give interim approval to use of HAWKs at intersections, where they have been shown to be particularly effective in reducing all crashes.

John LaPlante and Randy McCourt gave a brief progress report on the special task force on Sites Open to Public Travel. The Introduction to a possible new Chapter 10 is more or less complete and the signing section is now underway.

Other issues included a question on why there isn't a Ped Chapter in the MUTCD. The response is that pedestrian elements should be incorporated into all parts of the Manual and not hidden back in a separate chapter.

There was discussion in the Regulatory & Warning Signs TC on the proposed elimination of Paragraph 8 in Section 2B.39 which allows pedestrian prohibitions without any requirement to provide alternative accessible routes. A task force was formed to work on wording a replacement paragraph.

Following up on various snow emergencies around the country, there was a discussion on how to provide accessible sidewalks after major storms. There were many possible solutions reported but little information on efficacy, so a TRB or NCHRP synthesis report will be pursued outside of the NCUTCD.

Scott Windley reported that a final version of PROWAG was presented to the US Access Board and was approved to proceed to NPR, with expected Federal Register publication no later than April 2011.

Janet Barlow reported that the Temporary Traffic Controls language on pedestrian-oriented construction barriers is being modified to add clarity and more logical formatting.

Scott Kuznicki reported that discussion is continuing on replacing the Down Arrow W11-4 at crosswalks with a regulatory sign similar to the R1-6 and a joint working group to further this proposal has been formed.

Janet Barlow reported that the Signals TC is working with ITE to revisit the required APS tones to develop a more accurate standard, and they are also looking at how to address truncated pedestrian crossing phases at preempted traffic signals.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.