Research Committee

Meeting Minutes • January 20, 2011 • Arlington, VA

1) Introduction
   a) Paul Carlson gave a general introduction and welcomed all attendees (6:15 PM)
   b) 52 attendees were present for the meeting

2) Paul Carlson provided a review of the June 2010 meeting

3) Paul Carlson provided a summary of research committee activities:
   a) 1 of the problem statements from 2009 on Guide Sign Visibility is being undertaken as an NCHRP project
   b) 5 problem statements were submitted in 2010 and are currently under review
   c) Paul provided a review of the various mechanisms for NCHRP to perform research

4) Scott Wainwright provided a review of FHWA activities related to research
   a) FHWA is completing the development of a research database to look up experimentations
   b) FHWA would like to see the recommendations of Texas Transportation Institute’s pedestrian TCD experimentation document to be a basis for a broader implementation for other TCD studies
   c) FHWA mentioned potential funding mechanisms for TCD research related to FHWA hot topics such as driver distraction

5) Bryan Katz summarized activities being taken on by the TCD PFS:
   a) The 2011 Annual Meeting will be held in April in Portland, Oregon
   b) There are two studies that are recently completed
      (1) International Symbol Signs
      (2) Guide Sign Design State-of-Practice
   c) The Combined Lane Use and Destination sign study has been sent to members for comment and will be finalized after comments are addressed.

6) Rich Cunard provided an overview of the upcoming TRB Annual Meeting

7) Amanda Emo provided a demonstration of Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center’s eye tracking capabilities.

8) Sue Chrysler, Texas Transportation Institute, discussed the development of the Pedestrian TCD experimentation study and discussion included the development of a similar document to incorporate other types of TCD evaluations beyond pedestrians.
9) Potential new research ideas were discussed for consideration as future research project statements

   a) Scott Wainwright mentioned potential research on internally illuminated raised pavement markings
   b) Sue Chrysler mentioned that Minnesota is interested in starting a pooled fund study on alternative fonts for signs
   c) Barry Warhoftig discussed research needs on letter sizes for street name signs
   d) R/W committee is interested in lane reduction signs and pedestrian crossing signs
   e) Lee Rodegerdts mentioned a need for signing and marking research for multilane roundabouts
   f) Monica Suter mentioned a need for determining the appropriate height and size of rapid flashing beacons under various conditions

10) Paul Carlson adjourned the meeting (8 PM)