Chair John LaPlante reported that the Pedestrian Task Force met on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 5:30 PM. 18 people were in attendance, including 12 Technical Committee members.

FHWA and new Traffic Control Device Pool Fund studies include a newly completed study on side-of-road post mounted versions of the R1-6 in-road Stop/Yield to Peds sign. A study on the effect of eliminating the Flashing Don’t Walk when countdown signals are in place has not yet begun. And there are new studies underway on ped safety countermeasures at midblock crossing locations and the use of RRFBs at roundabouts.

A 3-year Access Board research project on the development of a rollability-roughness index for wheelchairs on sidewalks is now underway. And review of the many PROWAG Federal Register comments is still underway, with final promulgation not expected until next year.

There were also reports on several pedestrian-related NCHRP projects. An RFP for a new Project 3-78B proposal following up on Project 3-78A on ped signalization at roundabouts has just been posted. Theo Petritsch of Sprinkle Consulting described their two-year assignment to create a new AASHTO Ped Guide (Project 15-45), soliciting input from any Ped Task Force members. Other NCHRP projects underway include research on pedestrian CMFs for the HSM (Project 17-56), a manual on unsignalized intersections (Project 3-104), innovative bike-ped data collection techniques (Project 7-19), and bike-ped travel projections based on land use (Project 7-17), while a new study on designing Complete Streets (Project 15-48) is just getting started. Finally, there is a TCRP study on signal prioritization for transit vehicles (TCRP A-39).

Regarding issues that may be coming before the NCUTCD, the Signals TC is considering adding an all-red clearance interval to the HAWK between the solid Yellow and Walk intervals. They are also still discussing how to handle the truncation of the FDW during signal preemption. Richard Retting then presented a proposal to create a new Pedestrian Traffic Manager definition and qualifications for possible inclusion in Chapter 6.

Randy McCourt reported on the Sites Open to Public Travel (SOPuT) Task Force looking for input on pedestrian concerns on private roadways. Some potential issues were discussed at this meeting. Theo Petritsch was then appointed to be the Ped Task Force representative to SOPuT.

Finally, John LaPlante announced that he would be retiring and resigning as Chair of the Ped Task Force. Eagan Foster was selected to take over as Chair of the Task Force, and Michael Moule will act as Vice Chair.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.