

NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES PEDESTRIAN TASK FORCE

SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES: January 9, 2013, Crystal City, Virginia

Chair Eagan Foster reported that the Pedestrian Task Force met on Wednesday, January 9, 2013 at 5:10 PM. 22 people were in attendance, including 12 Technical Committee members.

Ron VanHouten looked for input on a possible change to the UVC regarding motorist responsibility to yield to pedestrians on a multilane roadway. He was focused on two cases – standard multilane mid-block crossing and multilane roadway with a refuge island. Ron took input for a refinement of his thoughts on this to forward to Rules of the Road Task Force.

FHWA and new Traffic Control Device Pool Fund studies were discussed. The 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.

Kay Fitzpatrick made a presentation on the study underway to analyze the used of several flashing devices including the RRFB. Study to date has been in a closed course driving situation, Kay is looking for a community willing to be the test bed for on-street study.

Access Board review of Federal Register comments (including those from the National Committee) regarding the draft PROWAG, is still underway, with final promulgation expected sometime in 2013.

A review of a list of pedestrian-related NCHRP projects was made asking that those attending provide updates on the status of those projects. I would encourage anyone with additional information to include me in status updates, so that I can distribute the information to the rest of the Pedestrian Task Force.

Beezy Bentzen made a presentation to the group about the challenges of using passive pedestrian with Accessible Pedestrian Signals. With APS, passive detection can be used to place pedestrian calls to traffic signals or beacons or to turn on locator tones used in APS installations

Eagan Foster took the opportunity to mention that a long-time member of the Pedestrian Task Force had passed away in 2012 – Paul Box. Paul had been quite ill during our summer meetings in 2012 and did not attend. He passed away the week after the summer 2012 NCUTCD meeting. Members of the Task Force reminisced a few minutes about their spirited exchanges with Paul over the years. Eagan talked about having Paul as an instructor at the Traffic Institute at Northwestern in Evanston in 1976.

I also wish to report that I have a deeper appreciation to the job performed by John LaPlante, my predecessor as the chair of the Pedestrian Task Force

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Report by Eagan L. Foster, P.E., PTOE, - NCUTCD Pedestrian Task Force Chair