

NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES PEDESTRIAN TASK FORCE

SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES: June 26, 2013, Portland, Maine

Chair Eagan Foster reported that the Pedestrian Task Force met on Wednesday, June 26, 2013 at 5:10 PM. 16 people were in attendance, including 8 Technical Committee members.

Ron VanHouten gave an abbreviated presentation on an experience using in-street signage R1-6 and R1-6a at locations alone and as supplements to Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (PHB). One treatment was an installation that included one of the signs on the centerline and signs in the gutterpan of the roadway creating a “gateway” effect. This improved compliance with yielding action by the motorists to pedestrians crossing to levels of a PHB.

Theo Petritsch spoke about his project to create a new AASHTO Ped Guide. This document will compile information from a wide range of design documents including the AASHTO Green Book, as well as many other sources. Maggie Cusack-Steciuk volunteered to join the review panel for the project representing the Ped TF.

Jim Shurbutt took the lead reporting on FHWA and new Traffic Control Device Pool Fund studies.

Ray Derr reported on a number of pedestrian-related NCHRP projects.

Notable studies

- effect of eliminating the Flashing Don't Walk, when countdown signals are used, is getting underway;
- Guidance for Peds at Roundabouts;
- Complete Streets study;
- accessibility issues for non-signalized traffic controls;
- ped crossing at transit facilities;
- signal prioritization for transit with possible impacts on pedestrian intervals;
- development on Pedestrian Crash Modification Factors;
- decision guide for choosing lane widths;
- Pedestrian operations at Diverging Diamond Interchanges;
- the use of RRFBs at roundabouts;
- Ped safety countermeasures at mid-block crossings

Early information concerning RRFB's is that the intensity of the display and flashing pattern/rate indicates that the more important features contributing to their efficacy than the rectangular configuration of the device. Study to date has been in a closed course driving situation. The second phase for on-street study is start soon.

I would appreciate that during the time between meeting anyone provide updates on the status of pedestrian-related 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.

I have set up a moderated discussion group on LinkedIn for the Task Force to use to share items and discuss issues. NCUTCD members interested in joining this “members only” forum, please leave a request.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

After the meeting, I was approached by Lee Billingsley to take on the task of reviewing Article V – “Pedestrian Rights and Duties” of Chapter 11 “Rules of the Road” of the Uniform Vehicle Code and Model Traffic Law. The Ped TF will be taking this on. I plan to attempt to use a discussion group on LinkedIn

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