

Upper Midwest Freight Corridor Study

Summary

Research Team Meeting

January 8, 2004 – 1:00-2:00pm Central

Participants

Ernie Wittwer (MRUTC)

Mark Vonderembse (Toledo)

Teresa Adams (UW-Madison)

Lane Pille (UW-Madison)

Travis Gordon (MRUTC)

Kazuya Kawamura (UIC)

Jiwan Gupta (Toledo)

Sue McNeil (UIC)

Laura Franke (UW-Madison)

Progress Updates

Kawamura/McNeil (UIC)

- Sent out the data catalog this week to the group. Currently does not include the Ohio Freight Study data
- Also sent the gap list to the group this week, trying to get agreement on formatting. UIC gap list is 60% completed.
- Work began on cross-checking the Freight Analysis Framework data with what the states have
- Base map preparation to begin when student returns from China later in month
- Conference call with MnDOT took place last week, minutes were sent out to group this week. Noted that they have data in GIS format, more details under Data Issues.

Gupta/Vonderembse (Toledo)

- Work on the highway capacity model, including tollways and weigh stations, is 75% done. Noted gaps in the geometric conditions.
- Work on the intermodal facilities model is 50% done.
- Meeting has been scheduled with the Toledo MPO (TMACOG) for January 22.

Adams, Gordon, Wittwer (UW-Madison)

- Review of TRB Report 287 (Commercial Vehicle Size and Weight) has been completed
- Mapping work continues on CVISN related projects. There is still confusion on who is doing the base map work and what is completed in this area.
- Best Practices report outline has not been done, plan to complete by next conference call
- Clearinghouse is up and being worked on, over 50 items entered at this point
- The private sector survey has been tabbed, but not analyzed at this point

MPO Outreach

- Reached agreement on the listing of the MPOs in the first and second tiers
 - First tier: site visits to update them on the progress of the project and fill any data gaps if possible
 - Second tier: phone calls to update and fill data gaps if possible
 - UIC and Toledo to swap Twin Cities MPO and Des Moines MPO
- Vonderembse distributed a preliminary list of items to discuss with the MPOs

- Wittwer noted that the economic data are very important to look into
- Kawamura to make notes and suggestions on this before next week, possibly adding something about seasonal variation (*this has been done, 1/13/04*)

Data Issues

- The cataloging format issue has not been resolved. It seems that the differences are small (if any) and communication seems to be the major problem.
- Peter Lindquist to be the point person for the inventory task. This makes sense, since the electronic data is being stored on the servers at Toledo. The group needs a plan.
- UIC and Toledo agreed to resolve these issues in the next two weeks and report back at the next conference call. If not resolved, more drastic action may be required.
- Adams and Gordon also pointed out that the mapping tasks have not been resolved, talks to continue with Toledo
- Kawamura expanded on his summary of the conference call with Minnesota DOT, pointed out that they have a lot of data they are willing to share.

Outreach

- Website components have been added for each area except Best Practices
- Gordon and Vonderembse to coordinate their efforts on further outreach to the business community
- Gordon toured meeting facilities for the March meeting in Milwaukee. Most likely will go with the Holiday Inn.

Next conference call is scheduled for Friday, January 23 at 1:00pm Central time. Future conference calls will be held at 11:30am Central time on Thursdays—2/5, 2/19, 3/4, 3/18. Have a good TRB week.