

Upper Midwest Freight Corridor Study

Summary

Research Team Meeting

January 23, 2004 – 1:00-2:00pm Central

Participants

Ernie Wittwer (MRUTC)
Travis Gordon (MRUTC)
Peter Lindquist (Toledo)
Kazuya Kawamura (UIC)
Lisa George (UIC)
Lane Pille (UW-Madison)

Teresa Adams (UW-Madison)
Jiwan Gupta (Toledo)
Sue McNeil (UIC)
Mark Vonderembse (Toledo)
Laura Franke (UW-Madison)
Suphawut Malaikrisanachalee (UW-Madison)

Project Management Update

Gordon reported that the progress reports were received all on time and that the compiled version would be submitted to ODOT by the end of January. Research team to receive a copy. Gordon also pointed out that the draft final report is scheduled to be delivered by the end of June 2004. Researchers that may find this a problem should make this known now.

March Meeting

Gordon and his staff have selected the Holiday Inn in Milwaukee for the conference site. Research team does not need to make room reservations at this time (MRUTC to handle for the block of rooms to be paid for by the project).

Wittwer shared an idea to have the steering committee meet for a couple of hours on Monday afternoon before the reception. One idea is for them to do a “show and tell” of their activities in freight. We could also ask them for what they want to do with that time.

Gordon suggested an early start to the bigger meeting on Tuesday, gives us more flexibility later in the day.

Kawamura brought up the issue of next steps for this larger effort and how do we want to address them in this meeting. He called for the committees’ help in moving this ahead.

Wittwer to draft an agenda and distribute before the next conference call. *Done 2/3/04*

Date Issues

Lindquist reported on current work, from exploring GeoFreight to the addition of Ontario data into the FTP site. Discussion centered around this FTP site and the data to be documented.

- Kawamura reported that Minnesota DOT has data links and that we’re just waiting for the GIS variable for capacity from that group

MPO Meetings

Vonderembse reported on a successful meeting with TMACOG, the Toledo area MPO on Thursday, January 22. Some highlights include:

- Learning of a website from Ohio DOT that could help us with some data gaps
- Better understanding of the customer's needs, the MPO view at least
- A full summary of this meeting can be found in the file titled, "Summary TMACOG 1-22-04.doc" that was sent out to the group on 2/5/04

Toledo reps are working on scheduling a meeting with SEMCOG reps, the MPO of the Detroit and SE part of Michigan. Requested that the new version of the MPO listing be sent out to the group. *Done 2/5/04* Also a request for an Interchange List (?)

Outreach

Gordon and Vonderembse reported on their discussions the previous day regarding outreach strategies for this project. The notes of this conversation follow:

1. Customers for the Study
 - a. General public: the shippers, carriers, stakeholders in freight for the region
 - i. Try to get them on our side
 - ii. From Toledo's perspective, trucking and ports have been more receiving of this message.
 - b. Funding partners: the public agencies
 - i. How can we get them excited?
 1. Link between transportation and economy that was brought up by ODOT at last meeting
 2. Give them info to make point in the political forum, leading to funding
 - ii. How can we build a more strong coalition of the states?
 - iii. The higher-level presentation, being worked on by Gordon and Wittwer
 - iv. Look back at the state meetings and give states feedback on what they wanted
 - v. "What are we telling them that they think they don't already know?"
2. Three questions
 - a. Why are we stitching data?
 - b. Why are we building a coalition?
 - c. How do we use this info to make a political point?

Best Practices

Gordon's presentation on this can be found in the file "BP-Final Products.doc" that was sent out to the group on 2/12/04.

Other

Due to the length of discussion on data issues, Vonderembse suggested a data subcommittee that would discuss issues outside of these conference calls and report back during these calls.

Adjourn (2:05pm)

Next conference call is scheduled for Thursday, February 05, 2004 at 11:30am Central time. Stay warm!