

# Upper Midwest Freight Corridor Study

## *Summary*

Research Team Meeting

February 5, 2004 – 11:30-1:00pm Central

### Participants

Ernie Wittwer (MRUTC)

Travis Gordon (MRUTC)

Peter Lindquist (Toledo)

Kazuya Kawamura (UIC) *late*

Lisa George (UIC)

Lane Pille (UW-Madison)

Suphawut Malaikrisanachalee (UW-Madison)

Teresa Adams (UW-Madison)

Jiwan Gupta (Toledo)

Sue McNeil (UIC)

Mark Vonderembse (Toledo)

George Zhu (UIC)

Laura Franke (UW-Madison)

### Updates

UW-Madison

1. Clearinghouse has entered over 70 items so far. Lindquist requested the web address of the test site to link onto Toledo's site. *Address sent 2/9/04*
2. No progress since last call on Best Practices report
3. Adams and Franke reported on status of Administrative Issues

Toledo

1. Meeting has been scheduled for 2/27/04 to meet with UIC reps regarding the data issues
2. Discussion on segmenting the GIS data
  - a. TransCad-dynamic
  - b. Mile post markers
  - c. Adams can just overlay, but Gupta and Kawamura need same formula (?)

UIC

1. Worked continues on the Freight Analysis Framework and Waybill data analysis
2. McNeil and George reported that documentation is taking place for Minnesota data and water related data
3. McNeil reported gaps with Michigan and Illinois data, and had contacts to follow-up with

### March Meeting

Note: Participants were sent draft versions of the agendas to look over before the meeting, discussion is recorded here

Wittwer went over the drafts, first looking at the second day (March 30, 2004). Discussion concerned the overall structure of that day, specifically whether or not the whole group should be kept together during the presentation of the parts of the study. The other option discussed involved breakout rooms, as used in the Toledo meeting in 2003. Vonderembse and McNeil went on the record supporting keeping the group together and having dialogue at the tables.

The group also developed an idea where parts of the study could combine their presentation and discussion could happen for both at one time. The times would need to be increased for each

segment, but overall, the time for the presentations and discussions would decrease. Possible groupings of Wittwer/Adams and UIC/Toledo.

Vonderembse raised an issue regarding data, if it would be possible to have it ready by then. Group agreed that having a deadline is a good idea.

*From McNeil, after the meeting, due to communication issues:* She liked what we came up with at the end of the call. Also, should each focus on presenting a sample "product" so committees can see what we are trying to produce. So, instead of the "anticipated" products, it would be some of the real thing. Should also think about products that are likely to interest the advisory committee.

Discussion then continued regarding the first day's schedule which involves the steering committee only. There was some agreement that the schedule should include more than just the sharing part, possibly:

1. Next steps
2. Research ideas
3. The corridor map

Continued discussion on whether we do this meeting of the steering committee before or after the larger meeting or maybe both? Also, how much material and warning do we give the committee? Group resolved for Wittwer to go back and draft a new agenda with the suggestions provided.

### **Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference (OTEC)**

Suzann Rhodes and Vonderembse have worked to get an entire session dedicated to this study on the agenda. OTEC is scheduled for Oct. 26-27, 2004 at the Great Columbus Convention Center. An abstract for a presentation is due by March 21, 2004. Submission requirements include abstract title, names, affiliations, address, phone numbers, and e-mail. Looking for:

- Something lively
- 90 minute presentation
- Presenters should be more than the researchers
- Multiple presentations during the time
- Organized, so that the audience can see how it fits together

Vonderembse to follow up on this issue. Gordon to send outline of high level presentation to Vonderembse for guidance.

### **Corridor Map**

A preliminary map of the exact corridor roads selected by the steering committee and research team was sent to the group before the conference call. Discussion to continue on this at the next call and at the meeting in Toledo (2/27/03). Toledo is awaiting the shape files.

### **MPO Meetings**

The files were re-sent to the group that included the list of info that the research team is looking for from these meetings. Since the last call, the UIC group has met with Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS)

**Adjourn (12:45pm Central)**

**Next conference call scheduled for Thursday, February 19, 11:30-1:00pm Central.**