MINUTES OF MEETING (FINAL)

PROJECT: PENNDOT Agreement E00229
Open-end Agreement for ITS, Traffic and Highway Safety Engineering Services
Work Order 015- District 1-0 Regional Operations Plan (ROP)

PURPOSE OF MEETING: NW PA Regional Operations Plan
Task Force Meeting #3: Congestion Management

LOCATION: PennDOT District 1-0 Office
Oil City, PA

DATE OF MEETING: April 3rd, 2007
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

ATTENDEES:
PennDOT Engineering District 1-0 (D-1)
Randy Brink (814-678-7181 / rabrink@state.pa.us)
Cheryl Pastor (814-678-7047 / cpastor@state.pa.us)
Sue Roach (814-678-7177 / sroach@state.pa.us)
Nate Nunez (nnunez@state.pa.us)

PennDOT BHSTE
Brenda Murphy (412-638-9269 / bremurphy@state.pa.us)
Bill Laubach (717-787-9787 / wlaubach@state.pa.us) – via conference call

Mercer County Planning Commission
Dan Gracenin (724-981-2412 ext. 220 / dgracenin@mcrpc.com)

Northwest Commission
Bob Skarada (814-677-4800 / bobs@nwcommission.org)

EMTA
Lorene McGuire (814-454-4012 / lmcguire@emtaerie.com)
Michael T. Will (814-452-2801 / mwill@emtaerie.com)

Edwards and Kelcey (EK)
Keith Mullins (215-355-3577 / kmullins@ekmail.com)
Megan Gould (215-355-3577 / mgould@ekmail.com)

The purpose of the Regional Operations Plan (ROP) Task Force Meeting: Congestion Management is to review the recommended project deployments and their components that were developed during the first Task Force Meeting. Project Deployment tables were provided to the group so that discussions could be held based on the projects that need to be prioritized for the NW PA region.
Congestion Management Projects Discussion

The meeting opened with introductions, Bill Laubach (BHSTE) joined the meeting via conference call to provide input on project deployments from the statewide level. Keith Mullins (EK) then gave an overview of the ROPs purpose and explained how this Task Force Meeting provides an opportunity to review projects developed out of the needs areas and project concepts identified at the first Task Force Meeting.

Keith reviewed the project discussions from the morning Task Force meetings on Incident Management and Traveler Information. The projects discussed earlier in the day for District 1-0 included:

- The ongoing Statewide 511 Implementation project that the District 1-0 ROP will support,
- Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) deployment
- CCTV Deployment
- DMS Deployment
- RWIS coverage planned as part of the Bureau of Maintenance Operations (BOMO)
- A need for a Traffic Management Center (TMC)

The projects that are being recommended as part of the District 11-0 ROP for Traffic Signals generally match the needs of District 1-0. District 1-0 plans to create a GIS Database for Traffic Signals in the District. This system will allow integration with the statewide Traffic Signal Asset Management System (TSAMS) being completed as part of TSOP 08. A comment was made about the availability of Aerial Photography for the NW PA Region that could be used for GIS coordination and mapping of Traffic Signal locations. The aerial photography will be updated every three (3) years.

Keith offered EK’s services of making a Traffic Signal GIS map for the District similar to the map used for the Existing/Planned ITS devices, but until the details of the statewide efforts are determined this effort will be on hold so that efforts are not repeated. Bill Laubach said he would address the coordination of Traffic Signal GIS maps for each District with the Statewide GIS coordinator. The District 1-0 GIS person can be contacted for GIS coordination with the statewide efforts.

A project concept developed from Congestion Management Task Force Meeting #1 was to investigate corridors and identify them as “Strategic Corridor/Signal Investment Plan”. Several corridors in the region are a priority for signal upgrades. The list provided in the tables was reviewed and several others added. Keith suggested they be listed according to priority in the Final ROP document and even recent corridors that have been upgraded can be put on the list as a lower priority. The ROP is planned to be updated every 2 years, so that corridors at the bottom of the list can be updated as the ROP is updated.

A preliminary list of important corridors that can be prioritized at the Workshop Meeting:

Strategic Corridor/Signal Investment Plan
- Downtown Oil City (CCIP Candidate)
- Bayfront Connector (I-90 to Bayfront Parkway)
- 38th Street (City of Erie)
- Route 5 (Millcreek/Erie)
- Peach Street (Erie)
- Downtown Meadville
- State Street (Sharon/Hermitage) - noted as a high priority
- Route 18 (Hermitage)
- Route 62 (Hermitage)
- City of Franklin
- City of Sharon
- Grove City (Rt. 58)
- Mercer Borough

**Coordinated Corridors for Interstate Detour Routes**
- I-90 Detour Route
  - 12th Street
  - 26th Street
- I-80 Detour Route
  - Route 62 (Hermitage)
  - Route 18 (Hermitage)
  - City of Franklin
  - Downtown Clarion

In the event of an incident on I-80 and on I-90, the parallel corridors are used for detour routing. If the District has real time control of the traffic signals on these routes, the signals can be programmed with incident timings to help move traffic more efficiently.

PennDOT can provide additional information on corridors/signalized intersections that need updates and can be added to the ROP. Dan Gracenin (Mercer MPO) commented that the lists of corridors can be adopted by the MPO Boards. This would involve an amendment to the Long Range Plans (LRPs). If needed a presentation can be provided to the MPOs in order to share the completed ROP and project deployments.

Transit was the other topic addressed during the Task Force Meeting and representatives from EMTA attended to help define their project deployments. The deployment of AVL and AITS is occurring now part of Phase 1 of their EMTA RFP. Phase 2 is programmed for AVL deployment on the remainder of the EMTA Fleet. The possibility of PennDOT sharing CCTV images when they are deployed in the City of Erie is an interest and can be explored during the CCTV deployment project.

**Questions / Comments**

If additional information is needed or documents wanted about the ROP, the ROP website is [www.paits.org/rop](http://www.paits.org/rop). The website includes updated information on meetings, ROP background and the process.

**Next Steps / Action Items**

Workshop #2 will gather all the stakeholders as a large group and bring together the entire list of projects developed from all three (3) Task Force Groups. The stakeholders will be given the opportunity to prioritize each project that is to be programmed in the ROP by voting. Projects will be prioritized and programmed in the ROP as short-term (immediately to 2 years) and long-term (2 to 4 years) for deployment.
The 2nd Workshop Meeting has been set for May 16th at 9:30 am at the PennDOT District 1-0 Office in the 1st floor Conference Room.

- EK will distribute Workshop Meeting #2 invitation.
- EK will edit project deployments as was discussed at the Task Force Meeting and distribute a revised copy to all stakeholders.

We believe the foregoing minutes to be an accurate summary of the meeting and related decisions. Failing written notification to the contrary, after ten (10) days, we will consider these minutes a statement of facts.

Minutes prepared by:

Keith R. Mullins, P.E.
Edwards and Kelcey

cc: All Meeting Attendees
EK Project File 040015.038
EK Project Team