



New England Transportation Consortium

NETC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, December 15, 2020, 10:00am – 11:30am ET

LOCATION: GoToMeeting Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/628554149> Dial-in: 646-749-3122;
Access Code: 628-554-149

Attendees:

Ulrich Amoussou-Guenou, MaineDOT	Dale Peabody, MaineDOT
Matt Mann, UMass	Kirsten Seeber, CTC & Associates
Tanya Miller, VTrans	Jo Sias, UNH
Andrew Mroczkowski, ConnDOT	Maina Tran, CTC & Associates
Dee Nash, NHDOT	Nicholas Zavalas, MassDOT
Emily Parkany, VTrans	Ann Scholz, NHDOT

1) Open Project Review (December 2020)

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
18-2: Framework of Asphalt Balanced Mix Design for NE Agencies	Walea Mogawer, UMass Dartmouth A. Scholz M. Tran Joseph Blair, NH DOT	All tasks are complete. Poster and Fact Sheet delivered. Final report is being finalized. PI will hold a webinar in early 2021. Maina will ensure Walea knows he will not be paid for work after 12/31/20.	12/31/20 \$127,499
18-3: Integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems into State DOTs	Jag Mallela, WSP E. Parkany M. Tran Jeffrey DeCarlo, MA DOT	Task 4 is complete. Project status meeting was held on 11/12/20. PI will begin drafting final report. Final meeting will be held 1/19/21. PI will hold a webinar in early 2021. Maina will invite AC members and they will invite others from their organization to attend the final meeting.	3/31/2021 \$146,632
19-1: Curved Integral Abutment Bridge Design	Adam Stockin, WSP E. Parkany K. Seeber Alex Bardow, MA DOT	PI is revising the Task 1 report. This will be submitted without the state bridge engineers survey results, which they will add later. Task 2 is underway.	3/31/2022 \$151,316
19-2: Multi-Scale Multi-Season Land-Based Erosion Modeling and Monitoring for Infrastructure Management	Aimee Mountain, GZA A. Scholz M. Tran Neil Olson, NH DOT	Task 2 is 85% completed and is due by 12/31/20. Task 3 began in September and is expected to be completed by end of February 2021. Next project status meeting will be planned for mid-January.	2/28/2022 \$148,035

Project # and Title	PI, Organization AC Liaison CTC Project Manager TC Chair	Update	End Date Budget
19-3: Experimental Validation of New Improved Load Rating Procedures for Deteriorated Steel Beam Ends	Simos Gerasimidis, UMass Amherst N. Zavolas K. Seeber Alex Bardow, MA DOT	Task 1 is in progress. PI has received bridge inspection reports from all states. Some bridge demolitions have been identified so UMass can test corroded beams. There was confusion on who would be paying for the transportation of beam ends to the UMass Amherst lab. The goal is for the states to pay for this if possible. If they can't, other options will be explored.	3/31/2023 \$179,995
20-1: In-Service Performance Evaluation of NETC Bridge Railings	Christine Carrigan, RoadSafe D. Peabody K. Seeber Jeff Folsom, ME DOT	RoadSafe LLC conditionally awarded. ME will begin contract negotiations. Hope to have contract signed by the end of January 2021.	6/30/2022 \$120,000
20-2: Current Status of Transportation Data Analytics and A Pilot Case Study Using Artificial Intelligence (AI)	TBD A. Scholz M. Tran Susan Klasen, NH DOT	UMass Lowell conditionally awarded. ME is in contract negotiations. Hope to have contract signed by the end of January 2021.	TBD \$200,000
20-3: Investigating Thermal Imaging Technologies and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to Improve Bridge Inspections	TBD D. Peabody M. Tran John "Sam" Maxim, ME DOT	AECOM Technical Services Inc. conditionally awarded. ME is in contract negotiations. Hope to have contract signed by the end of January 2021.	TBD \$175,000
20-4: New England Connected and Automated Vehicle Legal and Regulatory Assessment	Stantec, Greg Rodriguez E. Parkany/N. Zavolas K. Seeber Daniel Sullivan, MA DOT	Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. conditionally awarded. ME is in contract negotiations. Hope to have contract signed by the end of December 2020. Kirsten will schedule the kickoff meeting with the TC.	12/31/2021 \$100,000
Re-Creating NETC	Kirsten Seeber/Chris Kline, CTC & Associates A. Scholz K. Seeber A. Scholz	CTC sent the Task 2 and Task 3 surveys on 12/10/20 with a due date of 12/24/20. Chris will send reminder emails. Responses have already been received for all surveys.	8/12/2021 \$50,000

Discussion:

- 19-1/19-3 – Nicholas and Lily are checking with Alexander Bardow on his availability for both projects.
- 19-3
 - ~ Dale – Transportation of beams to the UMass-Amherst lab is not included in the contract with UMass because of the overhead that would have to be added. ME doesn't allow that in their contracts.
 - ~ Emily – VT bridge project will pay for the salvage expenses, transport to the maintenance yard and transport to the lab. Have other states gone through the exercise of how to pay for this? Dale – ME is figuring it out now via their bridge program but he doesn't know the details.

- Ann – Should she have heard for her TC member about this? Dale – Not every state will provide beams. The goal to is identify and get beams from each state, but this may or may not happen.
- 20-series timeline review.
 - ~ The hold up point seems to be getting TC members assigned. Once the TC has four members, CTC can schedule the SOW meetings with the TC. Dale – ME can only shorten the process so much once they receive the finalized SOWs.
 - ~ Ann – Research Problem Statements have an identified TC chair. When TAAC members talk to SMEs about the statements, ask them to identify a potential TC member at that time.
 - Emily – That was the idea with the 4/15 due date for the identification of TC members for each project. Emily likes Ann’s idea.
 - Once a project is selected, Dale goes back to the SME who provided the RPS score to determine if they would be on the TC.
- Re-Creating NETC
 - ~ Emily – Wants to know the VT responses and to see the VT distribution lists. **Action item:** Chris will send a list of all respondents and distribution lists to the TAAC.
 - ~ Ann – Did everyone identify themselves? No, there were a few folks who chose not to identify themselves.

2) Implementation – Closeout webinars for closed projects

- TAAC members to report on any implementation activities for recently closed projects.
 - ~ NETC 18-1: Development of MASH Computer Simulated Steel Bridge Rail and Transition Details
 - ~ NETC 18-2: Framework of Asphalt Balance Mix Design for NE Agencies – Action item: Kirsten will coordinate a webinar for February 2021.
- NETC 18-3: Integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems into State DOTs – Action item: Kirsten will coordinate a webinar for early 2021.
- Emily – Is project implementation being discussed during the projects? Kirsten and Maina are bringing this up with PIs and AC liaisons prior to TC meetings.
- All webinar recordings/presentations can be found on the project pages or here.

3) Research Problem Statement Solicitation

- Schedule
 - ~ Original email sent 11/8/20. Follow up email sent to non-openers on 11/29/20. Reminder email to everyone to be sent on 12/22/20.
 - ~ Approximately 37% open rate, 126 opens
 - ~ January 22, 2021 – Statements due; Eleven-week timeframe
 - ~ Early February 2021 – Kirsten sends list of projects to AC for review and ranking
 - ~ March 2021 – Projects selected by the AC (virtual meeting). Action item: Kirsten will send a poll to TAAC members to find a date/time for the ranking meeting.
- How can the TAAC members support each other? Which problem statements/projects are the states supporting and which problem statements/projects would they like support for?
 - ~ Emily – She is getting research ideas this week internally and they may turn into NETC RPSs.
 - ~ Ann – Regional support for project ideas will come out at the ranking meeting in March.

4) NETC Website Refresh

- CTC is continuing to update the new site.

- Kirsten will present a list of further questions/topics for the AC to consider at the January 26th meeting.
 - ~ Members Only Section
 - ~ Project pages – what should be on them?

5) Symposium – Ideas

- AC will decide on holding a virtual Symposium in summer of 2021 after the TRB Annual Meeting in January 2021.
- CTC has not received any ideas for the Symposium.
- Would two members like to volunteer to work with CTC on the Symposium?
 - ~ Emily and Matt volunteered.
- Emily – A Symposium would probably be virtual if it happens this summer. Attendees will still need to social distance, even with a vaccine, through the fall. VT will not allow travel through the fall at least.
- Ann – Ann asked at a NHDOT townhall meeting if the NH travel ban would be lifted if AASHTO starts having in-person meetings. AAHSTO meetings will remain virtual through April. Also, revenues are down, so there are no travel funds anyway. She is okay with a virtual Symposium
- How much is the budget for the Symposium? **Action item:** Kirsten will present a number at the January AC meeting. Emily – If go with a fancy platform, then it will be more expensive. Using Microsoft Teams would be cheaper.

6) Other Business

- February 23, 2021 meeting – Can it be moved one week earlier? Kirsten, Maina and Brian will be tied up on this date. Would February 16, 2021 from 11:00am-12:30pm be a possibility?
 - ~ CT, MA, ME, NH and VT can attend an AC meeting on 2/16/21. **Action item:** Kirsten will send out a calendar invitation for 2/16/21 from 1:00-2:30pm ET.

7) Adjourn

Next meeting: January 26, 2021 from 11:00am – 12:30pm

NETC 20-series projects - Timeline

Project #	Start	TC with at least 4 members (Due date for AC to send members was 4/15/20)	Scheduling email to TC for SOW review mtg	SOW Review Mtg.	SOW received by ME	RFP Issued	Proposal Selection Mtg.	Award Letters	Contract Executed
20-1 In-Service Performance Evaluation of NETC Bridge Railings	3/31/20	5/26/20	6/3/20	6/23/20	7/15/20	8/25/20	11/5/20	11/16/20	
20-2 Current Status of Transportation Data Analytics and A Pilot Case Study Using Artificial Intelligence (AI)	3/31/20	6/3/20	6/4/20	Orig. - 6/18/20 Actual - 7/18/20	8/4/20	9/3/20	10/29/20	11/3/20	
20-3 Investigating Thermal Imaging Technologies and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to Improve Bridge Inspections	3/31/20	6/3/20	6/9/20	6/25/20	7/27/20	9/2/20	10/20/20	10/29/20	
20-4 New England Connected and Automated Vehicle Legal and Regulatory Assessment	3/31/20	4/15/20	?	Mtg. #1 - 5/15/20 Mtg. #2 - 6/11/20	7/27/20	8/25/20	10/15/20	10/22/20	