Summary of Proceedings of
ITS Program Advisory Committee Meeting
August 13, 2014

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1. General

   a. The Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Program Advisory Committee (ITSPAC) met August 13, 2014 at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel, Alexandria, Virginia.

   b. This document provides a summary of the meeting proceedings. For more details on the proceedings, please refer to the meeting transcript, which is available, along with other meeting materials, in the August 13, 2014 section of the ITSPAC website at http://www.its.dot.gov/itspac/index.htm.

2. Meeting Attendance

   a. Committee members

      Mr. Steve Albert, Director, Western Transportation Institute, Montana State University
      Mr. Scott Belcher, President and CEO, ITS America
      Mr. Roger Berg, Vice President, North America R&D, DENSO International America, Inc.
      Mr. Joseph Calabrese, CEO, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
      Mr. John Capp, Director, Electric and Control Systems Research and Active Safety Strategic Lead, General Motors Corporation
      Ms. Ginger Goodin, Director, Policy Research Center, Texas A&M Transportation Institute
      Ms. Debra Johnson, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Long Beach Transit
      Mr. Steve Kenner, Global Director of Automotive Safety, Ford Motor Company, Committee Chairman
      Mr. Scott McCormick, President, Connected Vehicle Trade Association
      Prof. Raj Rajkumar, Co-Director, General Motors-Carnegie Mellon Collaborative Research Labs
      Mr. Brian Schromsky, Director, Federal Government and Public Safety, Verizon Wireless
      Dr. Susan Shaheen, Adjunct Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of California, Berkeley
      Mr. George Webb, County Engineer, Palm Beach County, Florida
      Ms. Sheryl Wilkerson, Vice President, Federal Government Affairs, Michelin North America

   b. U.S. Department of Transportation

      Mr. Gregory Winfree, Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology
      Mr. Ken Leonard, Director, ITS Joint Program Office, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research Technology
      Mr. Walt Fehr, Systems Engineering Program Manager, ITS Joint Program Office, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research Technology
      Mr. Stephen Glasscock, Program Coordinator, ITS Joint Program Office, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research Technology, Committee Designated Federal Official
Mr. Steve Sill, Vehicle Safety Technology, ITS Architecture, and Standards Program Manager, ITS Joint Program Office, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research Technology
Mr. Bob Rupert, Technical Program Coordinator, Office of Transportation Management, Federal Highway Administration
Mr. Nat Beuse, Associate Administrator, Vehicle Safety Research, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

c. Others

Mr. Brian Hoeft, Rural Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada
Ms. Sheila Andrews, Government Affairs Manager, Auto Care Association
Ms. Allison Rupert, American Road and Transportation Builders Association
Mr. Carlos R. Vélez, Jr., Project Manager, Citizant, Inc.

3. Meeting Agenda

a. Call to Order

b. Opening Remarks – Mr. Winfree

c. Opening Remarks – Mr. Leonard

d. Introductions of Members of the Public

e. Committee Member Introductions

f. ITS Joint Program Office Briefing

g. Deployment Incentives Report Overview

h. ITS Strategic Plan 2015 – 2019 Overview

i. NHTSA Update

j. Committee Topics of Interest Discussion

k. Future Meeting Discussion

l. Adjourn
4. Summary of Proceedings

a. Call to Order – Mr. Glasscock

Mr. Glasscock welcomed participants, reminded them that the meeting proceedings would be recorded, then turned the meeting over to Mr. Winfree for his opening remarks.

b. Opening Remarks – Mr. Winfree

(1) Mr. Winfree introduced himself and explained that the former Research and Innovative Technology Administration was elevated into the Office of the Secretary of Transportation as the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology (OST-R) in January 2013 by a Congressional omnibus spending bill. This aligns OST-R with the most senior levels of the Department and affords a ‘bully pulpit’ and the flexibility to work more collaboratively with U.S. DOT operating administrations.

(2) Mr. Winfree welcomed committee members and thanked them for donating their time for service on the committee, which is a very important U.S. DOT initiative. He emphasized the multimodal nature of vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) technology development and stated that U.S. DOT is very much encouraged by how the technology has developed and especially encouraged by the NHTSA announcement to begin taking steps to enable V2V technology for light vehicles. He added that U.S. DOT expects another NHTSA decision on heavy trucks by the end of 2014 and also Federal Highway Administration vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2I) deployment guidance in 2015. This is a period of important announcements regarding ITS and a great time to be involved with this initiative.

(3) Mr. Winfree acknowledged the diverse expertise of the committee members and the value previous committees had provided by working collaboratively and ‘speaking with one voice.’

c. Opening Remarks – Mr. Leonard

(1) Mr. Leonard emphasized that it is unusual for him to be on the ITSPAC meeting agenda because meeting time usually is dedicated primarily to allowing committee members to collaborate on accomplishing their work. However, since there are several new committee members, he would provide some background information on the organization and functions of the ITS Joint Program Office and the new ITS Strategic Plan 2014 – 2019 later in the agenda.

(2) Mr. Leonard reiterated Mr. Winfree’s appreciation to committee members for volunteering their time to serve on the committee.
d. Introductions of Members of the Public

Mr. Glasscock requested that non-committee participants introduce themselves (see paragraphs 2.b. and 2.c.)

e. Committee Member Introductions

Chairman Kenner requested that committee members introduce themselves (see paragraph 2.a.)

f. ITS Joint Program Office Briefing

(1) Mr. Leonard summarized the ITS Joint Program Office organization and the annual ITS Research Program budget, focusing on the multimodal nature of the Program. Mr. Leonard also summarized key past and ongoing ITS activities and programs. Mr. Leonard’s major points included:

(a) The Nation’s transportation system is nearing deployment of incredibly exciting technologies in connected and autonomous vehicles that have a tremendous ability to save lives, increase mobility for everyone, and change the environmental and energy footprint of the transportation system. Self-driving vehicles may also introduce additional challenges associated with increased vehicle miles traveled, fuel consumption, and pollution.

(b) The ITS JPO currently has a few vacant staff positions. The staff of 15 is a very small, but senior staff of professionals who work across the different transportation Modes.

(c) The ITS budget is about $100 million annually, and it has been at about that level annually for the last 20 years.

(d) Although the ITS JPO is a research organization, a major goal of the research program is to ensure ITS technologies are implemented as quickly and as effectively as possible.

(e) Although the current focus of the ITS Research Program is the Connected Vehicle, the Program is very broad; for example, high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes is a technology developed by the Program. Congestion mitigation is another ITS Research Program focus area.

(f) The ITS JPO is working with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) concerning the FCC proposal to make the dedicated short-range communications (DSRC) spectrum available to unlicensed users, which could result in interference with connected vehicle safety.
(g) The ITS JPO is looking at other forms of vehicle connectivity in addition to DSRC to maximize connected vehicle interoperability.

(h) In 2014, the Program completed a Safety Pilot deployment field test of connected vehicle technology at Ann Arbor, Michigan using almost 3,000 connected vehicles. Another round of connected vehicle Safety Pilots is planned for 2016 and 2017.

(2) Mr. Leonard closed his presentation with a brief description of the Connected Vehicle Test Beds that provide the industrial base interested in connected vehicle technologies the opportunity to work with their peers in testing devices for interoperability with emerging standards. Mr. Leonard then entertained questions from several committee members.

g. Deployment Incentives Report Overview


(2) Mr. Rupert presented an overview of the Deployment Incentives Report that U.S. DOT is preparing in response to a Congressional mandate in MAP-21 that the Department develop a detailed and comprehensive plan to address how deployment incentives may be adopted.

(3) The ITS JPO is coordinating preparation of the report, which is in the final stage of completion and is due at the end of September.

(4) Mr. Rupert described examples of current deployment incentives and significant findings concerning their use, and entertained questions from several of the committee members.

h. ITS Strategic Plan 2015 – 2019 Overview

(1) Mr. Leonard prefaced his comments with an apology that committee members could not be provided copies of the Strategic Plan since it is not yet ready for public release.

(2) Mr. Leonard described and addressed questions concerning the following aspects of the Strategic Plan:

(a) The strategic planning process;

(b) Strategic Plan components and hierarchy;

(c) Strategic Plan framework;
(d) Strategic priorities, vision, and mission;
(e) Strategic themes;
(f) ITS technology lifecycle and operational disciplines;
(g) Program categories; and
(h) Strategic and operational plan elements.

i. NHTSA Update

(1) Mr. Beuse presented an update on recent NHTSA activities related to V2V technologies for light vehicles.

(2) Mr. Beuse made the following major points:

(a) On February 3, 2014, NHTSA announced that it would pursue a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for DSRC V2V devices on light vehicles, and that it would release for public comment a research report on V2V communication technology based on data gathered by the Safety Pilot model deployment. However, NHTSA decided that, in lieu of the research report, it would first release an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM). Upon release, the ANPRM will be available for public comment for 60 days.

(b) V2V communications security is a major concern, so approximately 30 to 45 days following release of the ANPRM, NHTSA will release a Request for Interest to identify entities interested in developing/operating a Certificate Security Management System.

(c) Development of the underlying DSRC standards and driver distraction are examples of important issues that must be addressed.

(d) The goal is to resolve potential major issues identified by public comments and to deliver an NPRM by 2016.

(e) Mr. Beuse entertained questions from several of the committee members.

j. Committee Topics of Interest Discussion

(1) During a wide-ranging discussion, committee members identified the following topics/sub-topics for further study in developing advice to the Secretary:

(a) Strategic Plan Guidance Discussion

(b) Multimodal Transportation
1) Public transportation  
2) Shared-use mobility  
3) Freight  

c) Data Policy  
1) Usage management  
2) Privacy  
3) Ownership  

d) Institutional Issues  
1) Funding  
2) Administrative issues  
3) Implementation issues – AASHTO footprint  
4) Deployment incentives  

e) Future +10 year – U.S. DOT Secretary’s 30-year briefing, others?  
1) Incorrect assumptions/disruptions  
2) Connected society  
3) Worse-case scenario  

(2) Mr. Kenner stated that a plan would be developed to provide the committee briefings on the topics of interest, but not the strategic plan, which already has been discussed.  
k. Future Meeting Discussion  

(1) The committee discussed date and venue alternatives for its next meeting. Mr. Kenner stated that committee members would be surveyed for their availability for a meeting in all weeks until the end of December, and that the meeting might be a two-day meeting.  

(2) The main objectives of the next meeting will be to receive briefings on the topics of interest and to decide on a committee structure to pursue the three or four topics the committee selects for follow-up.
1. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

We certify, to the best of our knowledge, that the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

Ken Leonard  
Director, Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology  
U.S. Department of Transportation

Steve Kenner  
Committee Chairman  
Global Director of Automotive Safety  
Ford Motor Company