

**TSAG Winter 2010 Meeting Record**

December 16, 2010 / 8:30am-4:00pm

ITS America Board Room / 1100 17 St NW, Washington, DC 20036

**Attendance**

TSAG Members	US DOT Partners
• Dia Gainor, Chair	• Linda Dodge, ITS, JPO
• Dan Dytchkowskyj, Vice Chair	• Laurie Flaherty, NHTSA
• Jim Goerke	•
• John Corbin	•
• Bill Hinkle	•
• Mike Brown	•
• Skip Yeakel	
• TJ Nedrow	ITS America Staff
• Ted Delbridge	• Kelley Pecheux, ITS America
• Tom West	• Chris Sullivan, ITS America
• Jim Misener, ITSA Safety Forum	• Manny Puentes, TSAG Administrator
•	•
• Rick Comerford (A)	TSAG Stakeholders / Partners / Friends
• Jill Ingrassia (A)	• Kevin Dopart, Noblis
•	• Cynthia Manley, TX Technologies
	• Steve Wisely, APCO

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

By Agenda Item

**1. Chair’s Welcome / Special Introduction (Dan Dytchkowskyj for Dia Gainor)**

Dan Dytchkowskyj opened the meeting noting that Chair Gainor would be arriving later in the morning as she was attending an EMS meeting at US DOT. Dan welcomed members and guests and introduced new member Jim Misener, Chair of ITS America’s Safety Forum, noting that the Safety Forum is represented on TSAG as an ex officio member, as part of TSAG effort to strengthen its liaison with ITS America and its Forums and Councils.

**2. Self-Introductions / Announcements / Agenda Review**

Dan invited self introductions (see attendance roster above), and invited changes or additions to the prepared Agenda. Hearing none, he proceeded with the meeting.

**3. Chair’s Report (Dan Dytchkowskyj)**

**June Meeting Record** - - Noting that the June 2010 Meeting Record was included in the Meeting Packet, Dan invited comments, or edits to the Record. Hearing none, the June 17, 2010 Meeting Record was approved as distributed.

**US DOT Briefing** - - Dan reported that the previous day US DOT Executive Briefing had successfully addressed briefing objectives, noting that the briefing saw a record attendance by both US DOT executives and observers. Dan complimented Dia and John Corbin for their

presentations, adding that from the questions and discussion he surmised that all participants came away with a positive experience. Dan invited John Corbin Chair to summarize the briefing presentations and outcomes.

John echoed Dan's observation that the Briefing delivered jointly by TSAG and NTIMC was by all accounts highly successful. He noted that the briefing was attended by a record 13 executives and agency representatives, adding that TSAG and NTIMC have aligned their respective missions and priorities well, and are synchronized with top-tier US DOT initiatives including NG911, IntelliDrive, ITS for Public Safety, and Incident Management. John noted that Dia Gainor had reported on TSAG activity highlights, including:

- Some 3000 volunteer hours invested in 2010 by TSAG members
- TSAG Website recorded over 100,000 visits
- Provided input to RITA's Strategic Research Plan
- TSAG IntelliDrive Listening Session (recommended DMAs for public safety)
- Case Studies Workshops and Webinars
- Leading NG9-1-1 What's Next Project (through L. Dodge & L. Flaherty)
  - ✓ Assembled 4 Volunteer Emergency Responder Groups (20 persons)
  - ✓ Completed NG9-1-1 What's Next Forum
  - ✓ Completed Forum Proceedings
  - ✓ Development of Final Report Underway
- Undertaking to promote accurate documentation of Injuries and Fatalities by Emergency Responder Sector
- Highlights of adopted TSAG 2011 Work Plan
- ITS Strategies for Public Safety

John continued with an overview of NTIMC's briefing highlights, including:

- National Unified Goal (NUG) - - continues as a cornerstone of NTIMC activity, with work focusing on standards and training. John referenced the NTIMC Quarterly Newsletter in the briefing packet - - and its highlights of key 2110 NTIMC activities.
- NUG Summit II - - a second NUG Summit was successfully convened last September, with agenda focused on best practices and discussions of ongoing initiatives and successes, self assessments, TIM training, etc. A NUG II Summit summary is forthcoming.
- TIM Network - - continues to grow, to over 100 members exchanging information and providing a 'connection' between incident management practitioners and policymakers.
- Interoperability Working Group (IWG) - - the IWG periodically discusses issues and opportunities associated with communications interoperability for first responders
- Practices & Procedures Working Group - - working to identify 'best practices' from which standards may emerge - - more recently promoting a lane designation terminology.

John concluded that from the briefing, a conceptual project on first responder safety was discussed, and would involve the development of a national database on "struck-by" and "near-miss" incidents. Such a

project appeals to FHWA (performance measurement), to RITA (technology and research component), to and to NHTSA (highway safety / responder safety).

Tom West asked if TSAG identifies 'special 'needs' during the briefing. John noted while presenters do seek general 'guidance' on US DOT priorities, no requests for specific support or resources are proposed. John did point out that John Augustine (ITS JPO) did ask what DOT might do to assist TSAG and NTIMC efforts. Kelley Pecheux reiterated this, noting that Augustine left the door open for providing specific example of projects that TSAG is might identify and adopt.

## **5. Member Vacancies Report**

Manny Puentes reported on this item, noting that over the last three months the TSAG Executive Committee serving as the Membership Committee, consistent with Bylaws, had worked to fill three vacancies, including vacancies in Law Enforcement, Academic and Research and Technology and Telematics. Manny referred members to the Member Vacancies Report included in the Meeting Packet. The report discussed the process of seeking nominations and selecting candidates for recommendation for TSAG membership.

Dan Dytchkowskyj continued with processing nominations, including:

- Law Enforcement - - Sergeant Philip Strom, Delaware State Patrol was proposed by IACP and is recommended for membership by the Membership Committee. On motion (Hinkle) and second (Brown), Sgt Strohm was **Approved**.
- Academic and Research - - Four nominations from University Transportation Centers were received with the Membership Committee recommending Dr. Aemal Khattak for membership. Skip Yeakel appealed this nomination in favor of Dr. Robert Gray, a well recognized researcher from Penn State University and an extensive record in safety research. Following extensive discussion and a review other UTC nominees, it was moved (Delbridge), seconded (West) and voted unanimously that Dr. Gray be **Approved**.
- Technology and Telematics - - Cynthia Manley, Director of Public Safety, Cross Country Automotive Services was recommended from among three nominees by the Membership Committee. Following a motion (Delbridge) and second (Brown), Ms Manley was **Approved**.

## **6. NTIMC Report**

John Corbin reported on NTIMC activity, noting the following 2010 activity highlights:

- Completed its research agenda, noting that among its research recommendations was development of a "Struck By" / "Near Miss" database".
- September NUG Summit was successfully completed
- TIM Network (social media network) designed and launched
- FHWA campaign to address TIM outreach, a two-part outreach program to included training TIM program leaders and TIM policy makers

John continued that during 2011, NTIMC will focus on additional areas, including:

- FHWA development of a National TIM framework comprised of a common set of 'principles' and 'processes' similar to NIMS or to ICS.

- Traffic Incident Management Pooled fund program
- Development of the reporting systems and database relating to 'near miss' and 'struck by' emergency responders

Beyond the foregoing John noted that an additional key area of interest to NTIMC is the promotion of a National Transportation Operations Center of Excellence, hoping to have this deployed by 2012.

#### **7. ITS America Safety Forum (Jim Misener)**

Jim Misener reported Safety Forum activities, including Cooperative Systems; Vehicle/Roadway Telecommunications; Emergency Response & Homeland Security; and Human Interaction with ITS. Current activities include:

- Safety Forum Webinar Series, addressing 'issues of the day'
- Defining a Public Safety Track for 2011 World Congress
- Research and deployment of ITS safety systems

Bill Hinkle notes that owing to previous poor experiences with Annual Meetings (NYC World Congress), TSAG should ensure a 'fair billing' if involved in a WC public safety track. Manny reminded members that TSAG would not be scheduling a business member meeting in conjunction with WC 2011, so that a speakers for a public safety track would be identified through other interest groups.

#### **8. ITS America Report (Kelley Pecheux)**

Kelley Pecheux reported on ITS America activity including:

- ITSA leadership is working to fill Rod Mackenzie's position. Also, Chris Sullivan is fulfilling some of Brei Whitty's (recently resigned) responsibilities, including TSAG support
- Houston Charrette --- ITS America has been contracted to bring together a select group of national public safety experts for a dialogue with policy makers from first responder and other incident management communities for identifying issues, challenges & opportunities.
- FHWA State Operations Survey --- ITS America will soon be awarded a contract to complete a State Operations study on behalf of FHWA. There might be some overlap between this survey and TSAG's *ITS Strategies for Public Safety* project and will work with Manny and others to determine what dovetail opportunities might be identified.

#### **9. ITS America State Chapters Council Report (Tom West)**

Tom West, Chair of the ITS America State Chapters Council (SCC) reported on SCC and activities, noting that:

- SCC includes 26 Chapters serving states or combinations of states (e.g. Gulf Region)
- State Chapters a resource for networking and information sharing at the local level
- Public safety is among the SCC interest areas
- Tom and Manny are working to identify common interests between SCC and TSAG

Mike Brown asked if SCC might connect state chapters to the NTIMC as it tries to get a foothold at the state level". TJ Nedrow noted that TIM is on the 'radar screen' of MPO's in Washington State but that there aren't enough resources to support coordination between the state and national organizations like NTIMC and ITS America.

Mike continued that there is a disconnect between TSAG and ITSA State Chapters, asking for example if the fire & rescue community may be aware of and affiliated with the Washington State's State Chapter. Tom did not have information on this, noting that these type of opportunities may indeed be of interest to individual state chapters, adding that each chapter is an autonomous organization.

Skip Yeakel noted that it might be useful for state chapters to form alliances with UTC's as well. Both Jim Misener and Tom West noted that the Council of UTC's might be approached with this question. More information on the foregoing items will be pursued.

### **WORKING LUNCH - - US DOT Reports (Linda Dodge)**

#### **IntelliDrive (supported by Kevin Dopart)**

TSAG input on the RITA ITS Strategic Research Plan (Feb 2010) and the follow on Intellidrive Listening Session in October has been incorporated into the Mobility and The Environment Workshop, Nov 30 – Dec 1 at George Mason University. The workshop was attended by some 160 participants.

*Note: Meeting Packet includes spreadsheet titled Intellidrive Public Safety Concepts, and includes TSAG initiated concepts adopted as priorities for advancing to further research (visit: [www.its.dot.gov/meetings.htm](http://www.its.dot.gov/meetings.htm))*

Kevin Dopart noted that public safety participation at the Mobility and Environment workshop was limited but there were public safety focused individuals present from the federal level so the voice of the community was represented at the meeting. IntelliDrive priorities will be announced at TRB 2011.

#### **Rural Safety Initiative Program (supported by Ted Smith)**

The Rural Safety Innovation Program (RSIP) initiated in 2008 is focused on reducing highway fatalities and injuries in rural areas and includes ITS technologies as well as traditional safety items (e.g. rumble strips, guard rails, etc.). Twelve projects are funded through the Rural Safety Innovation Program. Ted highlighted two of these projects, both currently in their test phase, and include:

- CalTrans/Western Transportation Institute Project (Augmented Speed Enforcement System) through which:
  - ✓ Speed data collected through work zones is communicated to downstream enforcement officer for enforcement action
  - ✓ Testing a special 'vibrating belt' worn by work zone personnel to warn of work area encroachments
- Iowa DOT Project (Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS))
  - ✓ Project initiated as an R&D project in 1994-1995 (Linda notes that this project raised considerable interest yesterday's DOT Briefing)
  - ✓ TraCS allows tracking of traffic incidents and criminal events but currently operates through 'local' software
  - ✓ Iowa DOT is testing a web-based version, showing significant reductions in the number of data entry errors

- ✓ Ted notes that the applications for this database are diverse, including the ability to integrate with GIS software and show incident histories

Jim Goerke asks if the TraCS system is state specific or whether it will ultimately utilize a national database. Ted notes that he is not really sure that this issue has been addressed and observes that any national database would necessarily require national use of TraCS to ensure uniform and accurate data. Linda agreed, adding that she sees a potential partnership with NHTSA's NCSA data office on this issue. Ted and Linda continued:

- Battelle is doing an evaluation of RSIP projects, in general looking at institutional issues, and on how technologies 'function' in rural environments, plus identifying the reductions in fatalities and crashes.
- Linda noted the possibility of identifying funding to support TSAG members' site visits to some of the RSIP test sites -- for the purpose of receiving TSAG feedback to DOT.

Tom West asked if there is going to be a second tier of rural safety projects. Linda responded that she doesn't see new funding for a second tier, adding that she does note that the successful projects will be forwarded to the FHWA divisional offices for possible replication.

#### **11. Technical Information Exchange (A Distributed Disaster Response System, Gregg Hogan, Lead Surveillance Systems Group, MIT Lincoln Labs)**

*Note: Mr Hogan's presentation is available through the TSAG's website*

Gregg Hogan thanked TSAG for its interest, and thanked Manny Puentes for the logistics in arranging for his presentation. He noted that the DDRS project is funding through March 2011 adding that Lincoln Labs is looking for a group that can continue the project, noting that this might be an academic consortium, or a private interest. He continued with his presentation and responded to a number of questions.

Linda notes that she could envision TSAG convening a Summit that pulled together Federal agencies (i.e. DHS, DOJ, DOT, FCC) with a 'stake' in these types of projects to address related work by such stakeholders and for identifying ways to pool funds for underwriting projects and minimizing work overlaps. Dia agreed, noting that there needs to be a focus on ensuring that these projects don't become orphans once grant monies expire.

#### **12. Administrative Report (Manny Puentes)**

Manny presented his Administrative Report, addressing key highlights including:

- 2010 Work Plan – Q4 Status Report - - All Work Plan components have been completed
- 2011 Work Plan - - adopted by the Executive Committee and includes:
  - ✓ 2010 Annual Report
  - ✓ Multiyear Strategic Plan
  - ✓ ITS Strategies for Public Safety project
  - ✓ Case Studies Workshop / Webinar Series
  - ✓ NG9-1-1 What's Next project
  - ✓ US DOT Briefings
  - ✓ Interaction with NTIMC / Safety Forum / NRITS

- ✓ Strategic Partners Program
- ✓ Knowledge Transfer / TSAG Website programs

Dia Gainor noted that a multiyear Strategic Plan will require considerable time to develop, adding that perhaps a special TSAG Planning Meeting is in order, to be convened as a second day session prior to or following a future TSAG All Member Business Meeting. This will be pursued.

Dia continued that the NG9-1-1 What's Next Project is shown to continue 'active' through Q4, but should actually be completed during Q1.

Regarding the DOT Executive Briefings, Dia noted that from discussions at the previous day briefing it is more likely that future briefings will be once yearly rather than twice yearly as the Work Plan shows.

Manny invited TSAG members to think of future candidates for the 2011 Case Studies Workshops Series. He added that in the interest of time, he would defer his Website 'live report' and invited members to visit the TSAG Website routinely to identify suggestions for content and functional improvements. Manny concluded his administrative report by referencing the 2011 Meetings Calendar, to which Dia suggested that the Spring meeting be extended to two days to accommodate member participation in developing a TSAG Multiyear Strategic Plan. Members agreed to proceed with a two day meeting plan.

Members will be polled for moving the Spring meeting to March or April rather than February, owing to a number of conflicts that month. The possibility of co-locating the Fall meeting with the NRITS Annual Conference in Idaho was also proposed. This option will be investigated. .

### **13. NG9-1-1 What's Next Project (Laurie Flaherty)**

Laurie notes that December 21, the FCC will have an open meeting during which they will vote on releasing a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) regarding issues associated with transitioning from 911 to NG911. Laurie recommends that TSAG track the FCC NOI, adding that TSAG should formally respond, as the FCC is aware of the NG9-1-1 What's Next work by TSAG and anticipates a TSAG 'weigh-in' on NOI questions relating to transition issues. She added that a number of Federal agencies (e.g. DHS, HHS, DOJ, etc.) are interested in picking up where the NG9-1-1 What's Next Project leaves off (i.e. recommendations / next steps).

Mike Brown noted that owing to this and related NG9-1-1 What's Next follow on needs, such as stakeholder outreach and the thought of a follow on NG9-1-1 What's Next Summit, the 2011 Work Plan should extend its NG9-1-1 What's Next timeline into Q3 and Q4 as currently proposed.

### **14. Member Activity Reports / Special Announcements**

*Jim Goerke* notes that Steve Souder of the TIM Coalition has invited TSAG to hold a future meeting at VDOT's TMC in Fairfax, VA, adding that the facility is worthy of a TSAG tour and can accommodate a TSAG all member business meeting quite nicely. Manny will investigate.

*Stephen Wisely* notes that APCO has an opening on their standards committee and invites TSAG members to consider or to refer candidates to Steve. .

*Skip Yeakel* reports that a NYDOT project funded by RITA involves a VII project for heavy vehicles.

*Dia Gainor* asks the group to help identify future technical exchange recommendations, thanking Gregg Hogan once more, and noting that his is an outstanding example and model for future TIE sessions.

*Laurie Flaherty* notes that she was approached by Greg Rohde from the E911 Institute to do public education on 911 during April (National 911 Education Month). She will refer Greg Rohde to TSAG, adding that this activity weaves nicely into the TSAG mission.

**15. Adjournment - - The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm EST**

**Meeting Notes: Manny Puentes** ([mpuentes@itsa.org](mailto:mpuentes@itsa.org))