

TBWG Meeting
April 29-30th, 2004
Washington, DC

The meeting started on Thursday morning with brief introductions by Guy and Jill. Unfortunately, due to time constraints/conflicts, several items had to be shifted from the original agenda shared with everyone.

The following is the order of the various topics discussed:

CBP Update:

Infrastructure Planning at CBP/Integrated Product Team Status

Greg Pence presented the status of where CBP is currently with their Infrastructure Planning efforts and the products that will be coming out of that process. This is a follow-up presentation to the one Renee Smoot presented during the last TBWG meeting up in Montreal. This is a newly formed effort similar to the one used by the Federal Courts to plan and prioritize facility improvements at the various Border Crossings. Greg discussed the current status, having at this point in time a draft list of projects for years starting in FFY 2007 and how pipeline projects will be phased into the process. Obviously, there is a potential for some projects that were identified long term for improvement, which may need to be shifted due to the phasing process. Greg indicated that CBP will be sharing this draft list with the Border Station Partnership Council meeting (May 5-6) and then will be devising a plan to share with others during the next few weeks. This list will be finalized by the beginning of July.

There was a very healthy Q and A session after his presentation. Greg expressed interest in the Border Needs Compendium and willingness to explore options of sharing information contained in the compendium.

ACE/ITDS

Valerie Newhart of CBP made a presentation on the current status of ACE and ITDS and several key components of the program. She highlighted the status of the various phased “releases” and indicated that release 4 will be going operational at 7 land crossings (including Blaine, Port Huron, Detroit, Buffalo, and Champlain). This release will concentrate on information exchange between ITDS and FMCSA for safety related regulatory enforcement.

In the future, other agencies will be brought into the ITDS releases including BTS, which has the statutory authority to collect various data elements. FHWA is working with BTS in order to verify the data elements for transportation needs and key information. Targeted timeframe for this release is 2006.

Establishment of Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)

Wayne Sauer (CBSA, former CCRA) made the presentation on how the changes to the various agencies at the border for the Canadian side. Several key components that were

done in the past by different agencies have now been combined under CBSA (similar to CBP, but not completely.) Several key components are still being decided so this is still a moving target. Thus, stay tune for updates. Wayne did use various slides and hopefully, his presentation will be captured in the formal meeting package.

2010 Olympics-Impact on the Border-Peer Review

Gordon Rogers of IMTC presented his findings from the recently completed peer-to-peer review conducted in corporation with a group from Salt Lake City and the findings for transportation planning for the Olympics. Even though Northwest Washington State will not be hosting the Olympics directly, it is anticipated that those traveling to the Olympics would use various modes of transportation and travel destination points, not just Vancouver, BC. Therefore, a transportation planning team was formed to visit Salt Lake City, Utah, in order to learn from their experience of the Olympics. The Washington team learned a great deal on that sight visit, as well as having the Utah team visit the Northwestern portion of Washington State. The information shared will be part of the planning process for the transportation component of any necessary improvements to the transportation system. The Peer exchange was financially supported by FHWA and a report will be issued on the planning findings.

Development of Performance Measures for the Border and Corridors

Bruce Lambert highlighted his various activities to date on capturing delay and drafting performance measures for the delay. He is using GPS data sources. Through the Data Steering Committee sub-committee group, Bruce is working closely with others organizations on what he develops.

Keynote Luncheon Speaker: Emil Frankel

Emil highlighted various related transportation activities and the current status of the legislation. This was done on a more general overview of the various programs and related activities.

Panel presentation on on-going Working Groups activities:

The chairs of each working group presented information on the status of various work items and next steps as part of the introduction for the afternoon working group sessions. Highlighted activities from the overall presentations and the report back include:

- Border Information Flow Architecture (BIFAWG): Crystal Jones and John Sabeau presented the activities to date for this working group and highlighted the formation of a smaller steering committee to provide direction to the larger BIFAWG. They are exploring the possibility of identifying a pilot project based on information they have received to date on what ITS systems have been deployed at various crossings.
- Trade and Traffic Data: Alicia Nolan presented the on-going activities including formation of the four data sub-committees including: counts/classifications; Border Survey; congestion/delay and performance measures and ITDS/ACE
- Border Needs Compendium: Jerry Cioffi highlighted the current status of the on-going activities including the transmittal of the needs compendium to various

members of the TBWG. The purpose behind the break out session was to make decisions on key points including what should become of the compendium, where do we house the information, who has access to the secure set of information, who will maintain and how we can access future information.

**External Stakeholder's discussion towards a more secure and efficient Border:
Collaborative Cross-Cutting Transportation and Planning Strategies**

This was a bi-national panel discussion with external Stakeholders representing various users' groups for transportation. Panelists included Karen Phillips of Canadian National Railroad, Jane Brochner of Federal Railroad Administration, Ron Lennox of Canadian Trucking Alliance, Martin Rojas with the American Trucking Association, William Cook of Daimler Chrysler and Leo Penne with AASHTO.

Each panelist discussed their relationship with cross-border transportation and the various programs that they thought were well done as far as cross-border trade. They indicated the importance of cross border trade to the various groups they represent. Also, several highlighted developing working relationships and activities of outreach that had worked well in the past, including CBP activities with FAST in the Detroit area.

There was a "roundtable" discussion after the panel to discuss Questions and answers and other key information components.

US VISIT

Manny Rodriguez made an update presentation on the US VISIT program and the current plans for implementation at the 50 largest land ports by the end of this year. Things have been scaled back farther to only have the actual biometrics readers deployed in secondary. At this point in time, the radio frequency readers, discussed in previous presentations, will not be implemented at the time. There will be no exit activities.

Action Plan Priorities and next steps for TBWG

There was a very lengthy discussion on next steps and action plan priorities for the next several months. Guy and Jill will be issuing short questionnaire to the various members and participants of TBWG to solicit comments on the various activities to date, future direction and other activities.

The various established working groups will continue to progress on a variety of different actions that have been identified and reported back to TBWG. In order to keep everyone abreast of the various activities, monthly status reports will be issued and posted on the web.

Discussion continued on how the various groups are related and potential for future groups and activities to be undertaken. This will be part of the questionnaire to solicit thoughts from the group.