



**TBWG Commitments & Agreements
Alexandria Bay, NY
May 17-18, 2016**

TBWG Action Plan Discussion – Status Update of Action Items

Action 1.1: Work cooperatively with Transport Canada and USDOT to facilitate a new Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on the TBWG

Status: MOU was signed by USDOT Secretary Anthony Foxx and Canada Minister of Transport Mark Garneau on February 9, 2016 in Washington, D.C. Both the English and French versions have been completed.

C&A: None, item completed

Action 1.2: Facilitate the exchange of information regarding trusted-trader and trusted traveller program policy changes being evaluated under the Beyond the Border (BTB) Action Plan

Status: Conversations related to Beyond the Border are ongoing, and TBWG will continue to provide feedback and input as to the direction of these policies.

C&A: None; item in progress

Action 1.3: Facilitate coordination between U.S. and Canadian governments on the topic of freight transportation

Status: Several activities related to border freight transportation are underway: Border Wait Time Technology Deployment initiative and applications; Border Master Plan Peer Exchange in Bellingham, Washington, on June 8-9, 2016; Border Wait Time Peer Exchange planned by US-Mexico JWC group.

C&A: Ongoing activities; status updates at TBWG biannual meetings; item in progress.

Action 2.1: Solicit and consolidate TBWG participant feedback for next versions of the binational Border Infrastructure Investment Plan

Status: The binational Border Infrastructure Investment Plan (BIIP 3.0) is being finalized. It is currently going through clearance within Transport Canada, USDOT, CBP, and CBSA.

C&A: Finalize BIIP 3.0 and circulate for internal TC/USDOT clearance; post document on TBWG website.

Action 2.2: Facilitate the exchange of information on border infrastructure projects

Status: Ongoing participation in new GSA-US infrastructure project calls being led by GSA; email/information circulation on projects in Pembina, ND; Baudette, MN; East Richford, VT.

C&A: None; item in progress

Action 2.3: Post existing border master planning and transportation studies to the TBWG Website

Status: FHWA working with Transport Canada to get finished Border Master Plans posted on TBWG website.

C&A:

- 1) Continue investigating how best to post or link to BMPs/other plans and studies on the TBWG website.
- 2) Add blurbs on the three regional border organizations to the website.

Action 2.4: Facilitate a Regional Master Planning Peer Exchange

Status: There will be a Border Master Plan peer exchange in Bellingham, WA on June 8-9, 2016 to facilitate knowledge transfer, best practices, opportunities, and challenges related to the border master planning process.

C&A: Delivery of the Peer Exchange in June 2016.

Action 2.5: Disseminate information on potential funding sources currently available to support border projects and research needs

Status: Announcements for TIGER, SHRPII (Strategic Highway Research Program – Part II), and FASTLane Freight funding opportunities were sent to TBWG, along with an announcement for the USDOT Every Day Design Challenge (technical assistance requests). Most of these grant opportunities are geared towards more traditional planning efforts, but there may be opportunities to take advantage of cross pollination efforts for border planning.

C&A: Item in progress; continue to disseminate information related to funding sources.

Action 2.6: Solicit and provide TBWG participant feedback on the FHWA-Ontario Ministry of Transportation Passenger and Commercial Vehicle Survey Data Collection Efforts & Accompanying Workshops

Status: Two workshops were held for the MTO Passenger and Commercial Vehicle Survey Data research project in Detroit, MI (Sept 2015) and Buffalo/Niagara Falls, NY (April 2016). MTO and FHWA are planning for a training session/webinar for Summer 2016 to further disseminate the knowledge and practices associated with this project.

C&A: MTO/FHWA to host a webinar in Summer 2016 on the Transportation Passenger and Commercial Vehicle Survey Data.

Action 2.7: Solicit and provide TBWG participant feedback on the USDOT-FHWA Scenario Planning of Future Freight and Passenger Traffic Flows Across the U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada Borders research project

Status: The traffic data projections from the study will be presented at upcoming workshops in early June in Ottawa; Washington, DC; and Mexico City. The workshops will include a webinar component for those unable to attend in person.

C&A: FHWA to host upcoming workshops/webinars in early June to present the traffic data projections.

Action 2.8: Add/create relevant cross-border freight and passenger data for TBWG and post it to the TBWG website

Status: The posting/linking of cross border freight and passenger data to the TBWG website is ongoing.

C&A: Steve Beningo will continue to investigate posting/linking data.

Action 2.9: Share reports and information on the North American Transportation Statistics Interchange (NATS) with TBWG participants

Status: The NATS meeting will take place in Ottawa on June 7-9, 2016.

C&A: Steve Beningo will provide an update at the Fall 2016 biannual TBWG meeting regarding the NATS group.

Action 3.1: Binational Automated Border Wait Time (BWT) Measurement Initiative

Status: Tiffany Julien and Julie Irvine presented an update on the BWT initiative at the Spring 2016 biannual TBWG meeting. Applications have been received and are being reviewed.

C&A: Announcements for the BWT awards will be made in late May/early June.

Action 3.2: Integration of Technology and Operations Considerations into the Planning Process

Status: Ongoing action item regarding technology and raising ITS awareness; incorporated into every TBWG biannual meeting.

C&A: None; item in progress; ongoing

Action 3.3: Evaluate opportunities to increase the use of radio frequency identification (RFID) among cross-border travelers.

Status: Ongoing action item regarding RFID and use of NEXUS; incorporated into TBWG biannual meetings as needed.

C&A: Presentation on RFID from the technology co-leads at Fall 2016 biannual TBWG meeting.

Action 4.1: Cross-Border Rail Discussion Group that focuses on both passenger and freight rail topics

Status: Ongoing action item regarding passenger/freight rail; incorporated into TBWG biannual meetings as needed.

C&A: None; item in progress; updates as needed at TBWG biannual meetings

Action 5.1: Planning of Upcoming Plenary Meetings

Status: FHWA created a conference planning document, laying out all the upcoming northern and southern border meetings for 2016. This has been a worthwhile document based on feedback from the TBWG; there may also be potential to expand it to a five-year conference planning document. It was also suggested that an ad hoc committee be created to discuss the benefits of where to host meetings and that an online calendar be created to better inform participants about TBWG events. There may also be potential to mirror the US-Mexico JWC meeting format – 1.5 or 2.5 days to allow for tours/travel home on the afternoon of the last day. Transport Canada also presented several options for the Fall 2016 meeting in Ottawa:

- Oct. 18-19
- Oct. 19-20
- Oct. 25-26
- Oct. 26-27

- Nov.2-3

C&A:

- 1) Create an online calendar for TBWG events and add to TBWG website
- 2) NEW action item (Action 5.4) - Create a new ad-hoc subcommittee regarding TBWG structure. David Lettner and David Franklin will be the co-leads.
- 3) FHWA to continue updating conference planning document and share with TBWG.
- 4) FHWA to check schedules regarding Fall 2016 dates and report back to TC.

Action 5.2: TBWG Website Updates

Status: Website updates are an ongoing action item.

C&A:

- 1) TC will continue to update the TBWG website with relevant border master plans/studies; online calendar; data sources/links
- 2) FHWA/TC to continue discussions on the responsibility for hosting and maintaining the TBWG website to see if information can be archived to create cost savings.

Action 5.3: Documentation of TBWG Plenary Meetings

Status: Volpe staff will continue to prepare Summary Reports of the US-hosted TBWG biannual meeting. The format will continue to be a 5-10 page document. Starting with this meeting, a Commitments and Agreements document, similar to what is done for the US-Mexico JWC document, will be created and distributed so everyone is aware of action items. The C&A document will further demonstrate progress and show the broad value and nature of collaboration between and with TC, FHWA, and TBWG.

C&A:

- 1) Volpe staff will prepare a 5-10 page meeting summary report.
- 2) FHWA will prepare a Commitments and Agreements document (C&A).
- 3) Copies of the presentations from the meeting will be posted on the TBWG website.

Action 5.4: TBWG Structure - NEW

Status: This is new action item resulting from discussions at the Spring 2016 meeting regarding the structure and format of the biannual TBWG meetings.

C&A:

- 1) A sub-committee will be formed and will be led by David Lettner and David Franklin.
- 2) The sub-committee will develop more specific language to add into the 2016-2018 Action Plan.