



Canada-United States Transportation Border Working Group

Border Infrastructure Coordination Subcommittee (BICSC) Meeting
2007-05-16
3:30 – 5:00 pm
Room 2333 - Hilton Garden Inn
10 E. Grand Avenue - Chicago, Illinois

Participants:

Allan Wilson (TC) – Vice-Chair
Isabelle Trépanier (TC)
John Reed (NYSDoT)
Brian Kirch (NYSDoT)
Daniel Lagacé (CBSA)
Dave Henry (MDQ)
Ted Mackay (DFAIT - Wash, D.C)
Nicole Carvell (TC)

Alicia Nolan (FHWA) – Vice-Chair
Jill Hochman (FHWA)
Roger Petzold (FHWA)
Walter Steeves (EBTC)
Gordon Rogers (WCOG)
Tony Shallow (TC)
Maurice Rasheed (NYSDoT)

1. Welcome – Roundtable & Opening Remarks

- The BICSC co-chairs (A. Wilson & A. Nolan) welcomed members to the meeting and invited BICSC members to introduce themselves.
- The subcommittees' name change was noted – from the Border Infrastructure Compendium Subcommittee to the Border Infrastructure Coordination Subcommittee (BICSC). The change was meant to reflect the evolution of the subcommittee's activities (i.e., from the creation of the Online Border Infrastructure Compendium – OBIC to the maintenance and expansion of the OBIC and other activities).

2. Review of 2007-02-23 Teleconference Minutes

- BICSC members reviewed the 2007-02-23 teleconference minutes. No additional comments were noted. The BICSC Co-Chair noted that the approved minutes would be posted to the TBWG website (specifically the BICSC section).

3. Update on Regional Workshop(s):

a) New York State Event – NYSDoT- MDQ

- Brian Kirch presented an overview of the upcoming NYSDoT-MDQ Regional Workshop. He noted that the workshop is anticipated to encompass Quebec and New York State's smaller border crossings, be project/issue-focussed, and include a full range of stakeholders from both sides of the border (e.g., Canadian and U.S. border agencies, federal, state and provincial departments of transportation, TC, FHWA, etc.). The objectives for the workshop include:
 - strengthen lines of communication;
 - greater appreciation of roles/responsibilities;
 - understanding of processes;



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- border funding programs;
 - improved coordination of planned activities;
 - identification of needs (e.g., highway approaches, signage, etc.); and
 - an expanded asset inventory (e.g., video-log of crossings, material for Infrastructure compendium).
- The anticipated workshop date was mid-July. A confirmed date and agenda will be circulated at a later date.

b) Western Provinces / States Event

- It was noted that no formal plans regarding the planning of a western workshop had been finalized to date. Members noted that the planning and execution of the western workshop would benefit from a report on the NYSDoT-MDQ regional workshop (e.g., best practices, format, presentations, invitees, etc.). Members also noted that organizers should be aware of the dates for the fall 2007 TBWG Plenary when planning the western workshop.

4. Online Border Infrastructure Compendium (OBIC) – Call for Input

- The BICSC Co-Chairs noted that TC staff, in cooperation with and input from FHWA and other stakeholders, would begin the process of expanding the OBIC to include all Canada-U.S. land border crossings. It was envisioned that this would be a staged process:
 - Stage 1: collect, verify, and create new crossing entries
 - Stage 2: collect, verify, and enter basic crossing/trade/traffic data
 - Stage 3: collect, verify, and enter new/updated project information
- The BICSC Co-Chair (TC) noted that this activity would be pursued throughout summer 2007 and a status report would be provided to BICSC members later at their next meeting.
- The BICSC Co-Chair (FHWA) also noted that a possibility existed to access U.S. Northern Border Pool Funding with the objective of improving the existing TBWG OBIC (searchability, report generation, etc.). Additional details would be provided to BICSC members as this possibility developed.

5. BICSC Input to TBWG Action Plan

- BICSC members noted the two items for inclusion in the TBWG Action Plan update discussion: (1) to update the on-line border infrastructure compendium (OBIC) to include all land border crossings, and (2) to conduct regional border infrastructure coordination workshops. No additional comments on the existing TBWG Action Plan were noted.



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6. Date of Next Meeting

- The next meeting of the BICSC would be held via teleconference at a date to be determined (i.e., later in the summer – pre-fall 2007 TBWG Plenary).

7. Other Business (All)

- The BICSC Co-Chairs noted that a record of discussion would be distributed for information and comment prior to the next BICSC teleconference.
- There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:45 p.m.