



I-95 Corridor Coalition Traveler Information Services Program Track Committee (TISPTC) Newsletter Volume 1 : Issue 1 (Winter 2016)

Program Coordinator: Marygrace Parker's Message

I am so excited to introduce this inaugural issue of the Travel Information Services Program Track Committee (TISPTC) Newsletter! This new format provides easy access to timely information. We plan to send newsletters out to our members quarterly.

This issue features...

- "Project Spotlight:" US DOT Multi-Modal Research Program Regional Workshop: Best Practices in Bus Rapid Transit Within an Integrated Context
- "What's New in Traveler Information:" FHWA Issues Next Gen Traveler Info Report

This program track has been meeting continuously for more than 10 years. The vision, established by the members in 2004, still stands true today.

TISPTC VISION

"Transportation users have ready access to accurate and timely Corridor-wide multi-modal travel information to assist them in making trip decisions."

TISPTC GOALS

1. Advance the concept of inter- and multi-modal ATIS throughout the Corridor
2. Seamlessly integrate 511 Corridor-wide
3. Ensure consistent data quality Corridor-wide

Many Aspects of the TISPTC

Below are the TISPTC Members at the November 18, 2015 Meeting at DVRPC in Philadelphia.



Recent and On-going projects undertaken by this group include...

- ATMS/ATIS Best Practices-Winter Travel Conditions for Mid-Atlantic/ Southern Region (April 2015)
- Vehicle Probe Project (VPP)
- VPP Suite User Group



- Standardized Lexicon to Facilitate Consistent Performance Measures for Safety and Mobility
-Member Agency Champion: Denise Markow, NHDOT
- Leveraging Agency Transit Data- General Transit Feed Specifications (GTFS) Workflows- to Third Party Information Providers
-Member Agency Champion: Solomon Caviness, NJTPA

TISPTC Has New Leadership!

The TISPTC has always benefited from strong capable agency leadership. In the last year, two of our three co-chairs stepped down to take on other responsibilities. We thank Kelly Wells and Todd Westhuis for their leadership, hard work and dedication to the TISPTC and the Coalition overall.



Mary Ameen, Deputy Executive Director at NJTPA, will continue to skillfully guide this group and provide continuity as our new co-chair gets up to speed. Mary has been involved with the Coalition since its inception, in a variety of leadership roles. She has been a TISPTC co-chair for the past five years. She previously served

as Steering Committee co-chair, and has participated on numerous work groups and task forces related to Performance Measures, Policy and Strategic Planning, and Special Events Coordination, among others. She has also served as a mentor for several Freight Academy classes.



We are pleased to welcome **Mark Kopko** as the newest TISPTC Co-Chair. Mark is the Manager for Traveler Information & Advanced Vehicle Technology at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation in the Bureau of Maintenance and Operations (BOMO). After graduating from Ohio State, Mark began working for PennDOT in

their District 8 and then moved on to BOMO (in PennDOT's Central Office) where he took over for Bob Pento. Mark is currently in charge of all day-to-day activities related to connected and automated vehicles, including being PennDOT's representative to numerous groups and committees.

The blend of knowledge and experience from these two co-chairs will be a great asset to the TISPTC.

Upcoming Meetings:

- VPP Agency Project Team Webcast- March 8, 2016 (10:30am-noon)
- VPP Suite User Group Webcast- April 21, 2016 (10:30am-noon)
- **TISPTC Meeting/Webcast- April 26, 2016**
- Connected and Automated Vehicles Conference: What States Need to Know- June 21 & 22, 2016 Maryland Maritime Institute, Linthicum MD.

Recent Meeting Info:

TISPTC Meeting/Webcast at DVRPC in Philadelphia, PA - November 18, 2015

- Meeting Presentation
- South Carolina Flood Presentation
- Agency updates

VPP Agency Project Team Webcast- December 17, 2015

- Presentation
- Meeting Notes

Questions or Comments:

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Co-Chair: Mark Kopko at markopko@pa.gov

Program Technical Coordinator and Logistics:

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Project Spotlight: USDOT Multi-Modal Research Program Regional Workshop: Best Practices in Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Within an Integrated Context



On October 21 and 22, 2015, the USDOT/JPO and the NYSDOT held a workshop on integrating Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) with Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) and Regional Multi-Modal Travel. The I-95 Corridor sponsored part of this event held over 1 ½ days. This workshop focused on a multimodal approach with emphasis on needs, the traveler and balance of mobility for all modes.

The workshop began with a BRT “primer” during which differences between BRT and BRT “lite” were discussed, infrastructure and vehicle requirements explored, lessons learned from Connecticut and Los Angeles were highlighted, and implications for New York were discussed.

BRT Operations within a Connected Vehicle (CV) Environment was the focus of another session during which updates were provided on connected vehicle (CV) transit applications and ITS-JPO’s ICM research. In addition, how the CV transit research affects BRT deployment was discussed.

BRT Operations within an Integrated Corridor Management Environment was highlighted. Participants discussed how best to integrate BRT operations within an ICM environment and explored the value proposition for both the transit and traffic management sides.

[TISPTC members should look for more information on this topic during the spring TISPTC meeting.]

What’s New in Traveler Information: [FHWA Issues Next Gen Traveler Info Report](#)

We are at a transformative time in the transportation industry including the field of Traveler Information. Many state transportation agencies are reassessing their role in traveler information based upon the offerings from the private sector. The Federal Highway Administration published a report (FHWA-HOP-15-029) in this area titled **Next Generation Traveler Information System: A Five Year Outlook** Final Report (dated August 2015). This report summarizes trends including the proliferation of big data in traveler information and it provides recommendations for public sector agencies based on these trends including:

1. **Assess your agency’s role in providing traveler information** – now and on a regular basis as changes are occurring in the industry.
2. **Link together business and technology processes** to ensure that your agency can quickly adapt to changes in the private sector and with the needs of your customers/traveling public.
3. **Assess your agency’s goals as a Transportation Network Management provider.** Make sure they are still on point and that your efforts are focused on meeting your agency’s goals and objectives.
4. **Build a roadmap to achieve your agency’s traveler information goals and monitor the progress.** Look at the tasks undertaken within your agency and those that may be done by a consultant. Continue to review the services/tools you provide to confirm that you are meeting your goals.
5. **Standardize!** (enough said)
6. **Measure** – determine the costs of providing data and services to your customers/travelers and determine if and how the data is being used. This step is imperative in making data driven decisions.

Next Generation Traveler Information System: [A Five Year Outlook Final Report \(FHWA-HOP-15-029\)](#)

About The I-95 Corridor Coalition-

The I-95 Corridor Coalition is a partnership of transportation agencies, toll authorities, public safety, and related organizations, from the State of Maine to the State of Florida, with affiliate members in Canada. The Coalition provides a forum for key decision makers to address transportation management and operations issues of common interest. This volunteer, consensus-driven organization enables its myriad state, local and regional member agencies to work together to improve transportation system performance far more than they could working individually. The Coalition has successfully served as a model for multi-state/jurisdictional interagency cooperation and coordination for over two decades. To learn more about the coalition please follow <http://i95coalition.org>.

