CUTR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
May 10, 2006

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm by Board Chair John Beck. Self-introductions of participants were made, as follows:

Advisory Board Members
John Beck        Bill McDaniel        Kimberlee DeBosier
James Holton     Norman Mansour      Chris Stahl (for FDEP)
Bill Sheppard    Marion Hart (for FDOT, via phone)

CUTR
Ed Mierzejewski  Patricia Ball       Steve Polzin
Steve Reich      Joel Volinski        Kristine Williams

Guests
Aaron Barman, RBC Capital Markets
Ken Hartmann, HDR Engineering
Preston Cox

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the July 2005, October 2005, and February 2006 meetings were approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: It was moved and unanimously approved to continue the appointments of John Beck as Chair and Bill McDaniel as Vice Chair of the Board.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Dr. Mierzejewski presented a brief report on CUTR and related activities since the last meeting in February:

- Staff changes at CUTR include the hiring of Mr. Georges Darido, formerly of Booz Allen, as a Senior Research Associate for the National BRT Institute and the departure of ITS Program Director Larry Hagen.

- USF is still working with Florida DOT on the details of a contract for a $700,000 project included in SAFETEA-LU to evaluate and test a special vehicle-mounted video system.

- CUTR is moving forward with a contractual agreement with Veolia Transportation regarding a package of activities that will include management training for Veolia transportation managers, technical support activities, and sponsorship of students at USF.

- FDOT Secretary Stutler arranged a meeting of CUTR researchers with representatives of FDOT and the Agency for People with Disabilities and has committed FDOT funding to help
in the development of cell phone applications for people with cognitive disabilities. The USF Division of Patents & Licensing has submitted an application to the U.S. Patent Office for the final stage of the patent process on GPS-enabled cell phone technologies. Three other patents are pending.

- CUTR continues to have a significant role in Florida’s new growth management law. Recently completed was a challenging assignment with Florida DOT on developing a model proportionate fair-share ordinance; CUTR continues to work with the Florida Transportation Commission to examine the impact of the growth management funding provisions and other aspects of the legislation; and CUTR is assisting the Florida Department of Community Affairs to assist in the creation of model transportation concurrency management systems, also an outgrowth of the new growth management legislation. CUTR Research Associate Karen Seggerman will be speaking at the 2006 Growth Management Summit sponsored by the Florida DCA on the provisions of the new Growth Management Statutes.

- CUTR Planning and Corridor Management Program Director Kristine Williams has been nominated to chair the TRB Access Management Committee.

- CUTR Research Associate Sara Hendricks was the only invited U.S. participant (among 40 attendees from across Europe) to participate in a meeting in Brussels on ways to improve transportation demand management actions. The meeting was supported by the European Commission’s Directorate General for Research.

- CUTR research faculty met with representatives of the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners and the City of Tampa Mayor’s office regarding transportation alternatives.

- Several CUTR research faculty met with U.S. Congressmen Putnam and Mica and staff of Congressman Davis and Senators Martinez and Nelson in response to their requests that CUTR keep them informed on CUTR’s federal programs. Meetings also were held with senior staff of the Federal Transit Administration.

- The USF student chapter of ITE was selected as the Student Chapter of the Year by ITE-District 10, which includes Florida and Puerto Rico, and now will compete for ITE International 2006 Student Chapter Award.

- CUTR recently participated in the Florida Safety Summit, sponsored by FDOT.

- CUTR representatives recently met with USDOT to address the UTC program. The UTC competition will be this summer, in which CUTR/NCTR will compete against as many as several dozen universities, to continue the National Center for Transit Research. About two years ago, CUTR successfully competed in a field of 17 to be one of the 10 continuing centers. CUTR/NCTR staff will work hard to make sure that NCTR, which is highly respected in the industry, is again successful.

- The December special session of the Florida Legislature rescinded the provision that contracts between state agencies and state universities be limited to 5%. Negotiations between the State University System (SUS) and the Florida Department of Financial Services (DFS) are ongoing to reach agreement on a new indirect rate, which could be as high as 26%. While this will increase funding for USF’s sponsored research administration, it will reduce by 21% the funds available to fund research. CUTR senior staff will work to make up the 21%
by increasing the total volume of contracts. In addition, CUTR is trying to obtain information regarding the components of the indirect rate so that we can evaluate arguments for USF to cover more of our administrative costs.

- DFS has issued a number of memoranda that have caused considerable disruption to CUTR's contracting with FDOT. Initially, DFS directed that all non-competitive contract awards be on a cost-reimbursable basis, which consumes considerably more administrative resources on the part of both the recipient and the State agency. They had also directed that, on fixed price contracts, any funds remaining at the completion of the project would be returned to the State. The legislature clarified this section to indicate that projects funded by State sources can be on a fixed price basis, but DFS continues to hold that projects using federal funds need to be on a cost-reimbursable basis. The SUS strongly disagrees with this interpretation and has indicated their intention to challenge it as far as necessary. FDOT and the SUS are working hard to clarify these directives and, for the time being, FDOT has held off on implementing the DFS directives.

PRESENTATIONS: Presentations were made by Sally Patrenos, Executive Director of the Florida Transportation Commission, on "Future Transportation Corridors" (see attached for highlights) and by CUTR's Steve Reich on "Florida Toll Agency Performance Measures" (also attached).

CUTR 2006 TRANSPORTATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Mr. Mansour reported that the Award Committee unanimously recommended this year's award go to Mr. Earl Durden, current member and former chair of the Florida Transportation Commission. The Board unanimously approved the recommendation. Mr. Beck will contact Mr. Durden, and a follow-up letter will be sent. Pending the availability of Mr. Durden, the 2006 Award Dinner will be held in Tampa on the evening of Tuesday, October 24, coinciding with the FTC meeting in Tampa that afternoon; the CUTR Board meeting will be held on the morning of Wednesday, October 25.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Mansour asked the Board to consider additional recognitions at future dinners, specifically individuals or agencies involved with transportation implementation. The chair asked Mr. Mansour and Dr. Mierzejewski to meet and discuss this possibility.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the CUTR Advisory Board is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26, 2006, via teleconference.