

CUTR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
April 30, 2008



MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 pm by Board Chair Kimberlee DeBosier. Self-introductions of participants were made, as follows:

Advisory Board Members

Kimberlee DeBosier

Marcos Marchena

FDOT (Marion Hart, phone)

Norman Mansour

John Forney (phone)

FDCA (Walker Banning, phone)

Michael Blaylock

Bill Sheppard

CUTR

Ed Mierzejewski

Pei-Sung Lin

Phil Winters

Huaguo Zhou

Patricia Ball

Steve Reich

Ed Bart

Rob Gregg

Lisa Staes

Bill Morris

Dennis Hinebaugh

Joel Volinski

Karen Seggerman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the January 2008 meeting were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Dr. Mierzejewski presented a brief report on CUTR's activities since the last meeting:

- Although USF continues to wrestle with budget issues, there is continued optimism that there will be a relatively minor effect on CUTR. Many thanks to those board members who took the time to send letters and emails of support to President Genshaft and Provost Wilcox.
- USF's Department of Civil Engineering is currently recruiting two additional academic faculty members, a very positive sign that transportation is seen as a priority area for USF.
- Over the last six months, formal training programs for CUTR staff have been initiated, recently including "Different Styles in the Workplace" and "Effective Team Building." A future session on effective presentation methods is planned.
- Dr. Mierzejewski was invited by Representative Rich Glorioso to brief the Florida House Infrastructure Committee on national research related to the use of cell phones while driving and to share some reflections on the evolution of transportation concurrency in Florida.
- Several opportunities to be featured by the local media recently were presented, including appearances on the "FOX 13 Kathy Fountain Show" by Steve Reich discussing motor fuel issues and Dr. Mierzejewski discussing red light running photo enforcement.
- Steve Reich participated in an FDOT-organized field visit of Oregon's VMT-based transportation fee system. CUTR is optimistic that it will have an opportunity to explore creative financing mechanisms for Florida.

- The College of Engineering's Development Director recently left USF, so engaging the Board in development efforts on behalf of CUTR are on hold until the College fills the position.
- CUTR met with USF's new VP for Research, Dr. Karen Holbrook, who expressed great support.
- CUTR met with the new Executive Director of PSTA and looks forward to future opportunities in Pinellas County.
- CUTR was well represented at the ITE mid-year meeting in Miami, with several of our researchers on the program.
- CUTR researcher Diana Byrnes was named as a USDOT Transportation Safety Institute Associate Staff member, a recognition that reflects on the tremendous contributions she has made.
- CUTR researcher Huaguo Zhou and FDOT's Peter Hsu shared a 2008 Prudential – Davis Productivity Award for their Mobile Lighting Measurement System project.
- The updated strategic plan for CUTR's federal transportation center designation, which was required to be submitted to USDOT, got high marks. An excerpt from their comments: "I loved this plan. This is without question one of the best plans of the 58 I have seen to date. It is superb. To have so much detail included in just 32 pages and have the plan read so beautifully is exceptional. You should be very proud of this accomplishment!" Congratulations to Joel Volinski, who was assisted by Dennis Hinebaugh, Phil Winters, and Steve Polzin.
- Kristine Williams was awarded a grant through the Fulbright Scholars Program to spend two weeks at the Asian Institute of Technology in Pathumthani, Thailand.
- CUTR's *Transportation Concurrency: Best Practices Guide* was selected by the ITE Transportation Planning Council for this year's Best Project Award. Congratulations to Karen Seggerman, who directed the project, along with Kristine Williams, Pei-Sung Lin, and Wendy Teague, who also contributed.
- CUTR's long-time Director of Administrative Services, Patricia Ball, is retiring at the end of May. She will continue to do editing and consulting for CUTR on an as-needed basis. An "official" retirement recognition will be held at CUTR the morning of May 29, and Dr. and Mrs. Mierzejewski will be holding an "unofficial" retirement reception at their home after work on May 30. Members of the Board are welcome to participate in either.

USF/CUTR BUDGET STATUS: CUTR has developed an excellent relationship with the new Dean of the USF College of Engineering, Dr. John Wiencek, and remains optimistic about future funding. Currently, the Dean is conducting a functional reorganization of the College, condensing staff, and combining functions, but has stated his intention to leave CUTR unchanged since, as he stated, "CUTR is very business-like, and I hope to get the rest of the College to operate like CUTR." A budget cut of \$20,000 - \$30,000 (about 4-5%) is anticipated for CUTR for FY 2008-09, but the exact amount will not be known until the legislative session ends and USF makes final decisions.

2007 CUTR AWARD TRANSPORTATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: The Award Selection Committee met via teleconference in April and unanimously recommended that the 2008 award be given to Bob Burlison, long-time Executive Director of the Florida Transportation Builders'

Association. The Board unanimously approved the selection. Ms. DeBosier will contact Mr. Burleson to advise him of the selection. Because it is CUTR's 20-year anniversary this year, others instrumental in the establishment of CUTR will be recognized at the dinner, including Malcolm Beard, Florida Senate President; Glen Burdick, former USF College of Engineering Dean; former Florida Representatives Mary Figg and Vernon Peoples; former Florida Senators James Hargrett and Tom Lee; former FTC Chair David Kerr; and former CUTR Advisory Board Chair Jack Wilson.

The Award dinner will be held sometime in October in concert with the Fall meeting of the Advisory Board, and it is hoped that the October meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission can again be held at CUTR on the day of the dinner. Coordination of schedules will begin once Mr. Burleson is notified of the award. Patricia Ball reported that renovations to the USF Marshall Center are expected to be completed in July 2008 and that the new center will include a space large enough to accommodate up to 600 seated guests, so that venue is being explored for the 2008 dinner.

PROJECT PRESENTATIONS: Five project presentations were made by CUTR faculty:

- "Transit Extraboard Management" (Bill Morris)
- "Technical Training: Knowledge Learned is Credit Earned" (Ed Bart)
- "Mobile Lighting Measurement System" (Huaguo Zhou)
- "Transportation Concurrency Evolution" (Ed Mierzejewski)
- "Current Efforts on Transportation & Growth Management" (Karen Seggerman)

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.

2008 MEETING SCHEDULE:

- Wednesday, July 30, 2008, 1:30-2:30 pm, teleconference
- Wednesday, October 29, 2008, 2:30-4:30 pm, at CUTR (pending CUTR dinner arrangements)