

Michigan
State Transportation Innovation Council
Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2018, 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Attendance:

In Person: Carol Aldrich (MDOT), Lisa Branch (MDOT), Ron Brenke (ACEC), Ted Burch (FHWA), Denise Donohue (CRA of Michigan), Russell Jorgenson (FHWA), Laura Mester (MDOT), Andy Pickard (FHWA), Mark Van Port Fleet (MDOT), Brad Wieferich (MDOT)

Via Conference Call: Kim Avery (MDOT), Ryan Buck (WATS), Glenn Bukoski (MITA), Tim Colling (MTU-LTAP), Wayne Harrall (CRA), Tony Kratofil (MDOT), Bob Lindbeck (Alger County), Steve Puuri (CRA)

- 1) Welcome – Russ Jorgenson and Mark Van Port Fleet
 - a) Russ and Mark opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions were made by all attendees, both in person and via conference call.
- 2) Discussion on the Every Day Counts-5 (EDC) Summit and MI State Caucus – Carol Aldrich
 - a) Russ mentioned the need to continue the momentum with EDC in Michigan and drive that same momentum to a local level.
 - b) Russ noted that, if done correctly, branding is also important.
 - c) Carol discussed the top four EDC topics Michigan chose to adopt:
 - i) Advanced Geotechnical Exploration Methods (A-GaME) – Matt Chynoweth and Adnan Iftikhar will be the champions.
 - ii) Collaborative Hydraulics: Advancing to the Next Generation of Engineering (CHANGE) – Hal Zweng and Ralph Pauly will be the champions.
 - iii) Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) – Steve Cook, Mark Lewis, Wayne Harrall and Jason Nault will be the champions.
 - (1) A peer exchange with the locals was suggested.
 - (2) Ask the question “Where is the value?”
 - (3) Consider camera placement, construction and infrastructure inspections and traffic monitoring along with other uses.
 - iv) Virtual Public Involvement (VPI) - Kim Zimmer, Nick Hutchinson, and Ruth Hepfer will be the champions.
 - (1) Use a template to format a work plan (FHWA will report on all 10 EDCs for two years).
 - (2) Meet with the champions on the four chosen EDCs for direction on moving forward.
 - (3) Every six months conduct a progress review.

➤ **Action Item: Ted to draft email and send to Tony Kratofil to discuss.**

➤ **Action Item: Carol to send correspondence to all at MDOT on 4four EDC topics and highlight past successes.**

- 3) Innovation: Where have we been and where are we going? – Mark Van Port Fleet
 - a) Mark reminded everyone that innovation should remain our focus, and that both large and small innovations are important. He stressed the importance of choosing innovations that are good for Michigan.

- b) EDC started out rather big. This led to the need to look at things differently. Michigan needs to be selective as to the type of risks to take on. Mark noted that former Director Kirk Steudle had set a goal to be innovative with a “license to innovate.”
- 4) Original Charter Review and Possible Updates – Ted Burch
 - a) The original STIC Charter was signed in 2012. The FHWA revised the template approximately one year ago. The question is should the template be updated to meet current needs and what would be the timeline for those updates? Tony suggested the committee work on it over the next year and that it should include strategic goals. As a group, what can be accomplished? He suggested identifying commonalities that would help drive support. Laura Mester feels the charter is static and should be kept separate from any template changes, with an annual review/update of the service agreement (MOU). Can an annual accomplishment document be created and distributed? Mark suggested a review every two years instead of annually with a narrower focus in order to accomplish more.
- 5) Possible STIC Incentive Proposals - All
 - a) No formal proposals have been submitted this year. \$100,000 STIC funding is still available.
 - b) Focus on external outreach efforts. Ideas may be submitted for partial or full funding.
 - c) Suggestions for reaching a broader audience include:
 - i) Hosting an Innovation Workshop and Innovation Days for external to MDOT showcase.
 - ii) Setting up booths at a Trade Fair type setting. Brad Wieferich has found them to be very successful and interactive.
 - iii) Reaching out to the legislature to get our message across. Possible day at the Capital including various MDOT informational booths.
 - iv) Possible one-page news flier to distribute to those who are not part of the program.
 - v) Think outside the box – spreading the word to the public about innovation could include a mapping application similar to Pokemon Go.
 - vi) Possible YouTube videos.
 - vii) Suggested LTAP and locals help spread the word showing case studies, MTPA presentation, document new technologies, similar STIC at a local level, include new innovations in the BRIDGE publication.
 - d) Per Tim Colling, the local pavement warranty training program is just getting started with current work focused on contracting. The first of the coordinating meetings will occur the first part of 2019.
 - e) Bridge bundling template - There are at least 1,000 structurally critical bridges in Michigan. Having a champion for each bridge region would be a good idea. Need to look at bridge replacement versus bridge rehabilitation. Tony is planning for MDOT to work on this separate from STIC funds.
 - f) Innovation on Cone Penetrometer equipment purchase being investigated.
 - g) Please send any STIC funding ideas to Ted and/or Carol to vet.

➤ **Action Item: Ted will explore the possibility of an Innovation Day and an innovation application and will report back to the committee.**
- 6) Next Steps/Meeting - All
 - a) Hold the Date announcements for future STIC meetings will be sent out for all of 2019 by Lisa Branch, looking at end of March, June, and November/December as possible dates. Meetings should be one hour in length. 2019 meetings will be scheduled out for the full year.

- b) This is Mark's last meeting before he retires. The meeting closed with committee members congratulating Mark for his efforts and contributions to STIC.
- ***Action Item: Lisa to search Outlook for possible 2019 meeting dates and send "Hold the Date" notices to the committee members.***