

Southeastern Corridor Council – Zoom Webinar Notes

14th webinar – 5/21/20



Notes taken by Rose and Overly. Call started at 2pm ET.

Attendees (21):

AL = Mark Bentley, Phillip Wiedmeyer

AR = Patti Springs

FL = Wanda Forrest, Alex Kalpakov, Doug Kettles

GA = Jennifer Fundora

KY = Emily Carpenter, Jahan Khan (KYDOT)

NC = Chris Dobbins, Bill Eaker, Caitlin Rose, Carina Soriano

SC = Ben Kessler, *Landon Masters (auditor!)*

TN = Shauna Basques, **Jonathan Overly**

VA = Alleyn Harned, Matt Wade

DOE Clean Cities = Trev Hall

DOT = Mike Scarpino

(Bold = co-chairs)

1. Overly recorded attendees on the webinar.

AGENDA TODAY, and PLANS MOVING FORWARD:

- A) Focus on *identification* signage first, then directional signage later after we have completed all that we need to do on identification signage
- B) Each coalition or group of coalitions begin or continue *direct dialogue with your state DOT lead*
- C) Make your own list of locations for *identification* signage – review Tennessee example
- D) Look at each *approved* interstate that crosses a border and discuss *continuation versus ending places*
- E) Consider making some mock-ups of signs
- F) We need to consider i) build out and ii) long-term maintenance of *identification* signage

NOTES

- Overview of 4/16 call with state DOT reps, these calls to repeat quarterly (although DOT reps can join more often than that if they'd like)
- Coordinators will meet monthly to prepare for next DOT call and coordinate efforts
- Next planned DOT call 3rd Thursday of August

Agenda today:

- Focus on ID signage (cheaper and relatively easy to do); directional signage can come later
- Each coalition continue dialogue with state reps
 - State official rep contacts moved to separate page in the google doc
 - Need to make sure each state has a lead contact listed
 - TN: Alex and Shauna have taken the lead, Joseph Sweat is lead DOT contact. Noted that after April call, coalition will reach back out to DOT (end of May)
 - VA: Marc Lipschultz key contact for electric, had issues with Zoom but could call in. → VA is focused on electric first, Allen noted that they would continue to work with existing sign vendors with other things that get approved.
 - SC: Nick is main contact
 - LA: (No one on the call)
 - FL: Ed Hutchinson is lead contact
 - AR: Virginia Porta is lead contact
 - AL: Don Arkle

- NC: Heather Hildebrandt is lead, but NC DOT is shutting down at in June
- 3 calls until we next meet with state DOT reps; make sure these conversations with DOTs are happening in the intervening months; directional signage implementation plans. Next would be MUTCD discussions related to directional signage.
- Identification signage location suggestions:
 - TN: list of corridors (40, 24, 75, 65) with proposed signage locations roughly every 50 miles - would be 10 signs along 40 if this were the case
 - In urban areas there is less room for specific service signage (look outside cities for signage)
 - If TDOT is more comfortable with every 100 miles, this should be okay for I-40 but may pose issues with vertical highways
 - Jonathan offered to share this spreadsheet with others on the call so they could conduct similar exercise
 - AL: Mark suggested adding the status of the respective corridors in adjoining states, and highlighted the need for dialogue between adjoining states/agreement on what and where the signage should be (especially for beginning and ending corridor signage)
 - Some delays with Round 4 corridor designations (probably into June)
 - Need to look at corridors that cross state borders and decide what type of signage to put if fuel corridors continue into the next state (END signage is a good idea if the next state doesn't have one of the fuels)
 - Add info to spreadsheet about the next sign over the border
 - Suggestion: sometime between now and June call, have dialogue with adjoining state coalitions to come up with info for continuous corridors
 - Federal definition of one sign (even if multiple signs are co located in one spot does that count as one sign or multiple?) - in SC, 20 locations and 70 signs (MUTCD doesn't have much guidance here)
- Next call: look at corridors in individual states and see where corridors end/continue across state lines
 - Next call on June 18 2:30-3:30 ET, 1:30-2:30 CT
 - Shauna: of opinion that begin and end signage shouldn't be the focus now since there could be a lot of stations coming online that could change the start/end locations; only present identification signage along signage ready corridors to TDOT, so as not to confuse interstate travelers with begin/end language
 - Not just individual states doing this anymore
 - Signage would be identification of the corridor with specific signs for type of fuel to start (don't want to put up signs that we then have to take down)
 - Mike: FHWA didn't have any guidance with beginning and ending signage (not required by FHWA)

- **HOMEWORK: Come to next Zoom with simplified list of what corridors in your state end or continue across state lines on major interstates.**

PLANNED FUTURE CALLS FOR REST OF 2020 (all start at 2pm ET):

- ✓ June 18 (this call will start at 2:30 ET instead of 2pm!)
- ✓ July 16
- ✓ August 20 – state DOT reps will join us
- ✓ Sept. 17
- ✓ Oct. 15
- ✓ November 19 – state DOT reps will join us
- ✓ Dec. 17