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## UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

### ANF10 – Committee on Pedestrians 8:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m., January 23, 2006 Marriott Wardman Park Hotel (Balcony D), Washington, DC

**1. Attendance** – The meeting was lead by Committee Chair Ron Van Houten. There were approximately 75 to 100 persons in attendance at various times during the committee meeting. Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

#### **2. General Items for the Record**

*2005 Annual Meeting Minutes* – A motion to approve the 2005 Committee meeting minutes passed unanimously.

*Friends List* – The committee members and friends sign-in sheet was distributed to all attendees.

*Paper Reviewers* – Mike Cynecki solicited volunteers to review papers submitted for presentation and publication at the Annual Meetings. A sign-up was passed around the room.

*2007 Urban Street Symposium* – Kay Fitzpatrick announced the 3<sup>rd</sup> Urban Street Symposium to be held in Seattle in Summer 2007 and provided handouts. Kay indicated that they are looking for TRB committees to sponsor and participate in the meetings.

*Emeritus Members* – Rick Pain of TRB recognized the two newly designated Emeritus Members of the Pedestrian Committee: Richard Blomberg and Richard Knoblauch.

Richard Blomberg (left) is presented  
Emeritus membership by TRB Committee  
Liaison Rick Pain (center)



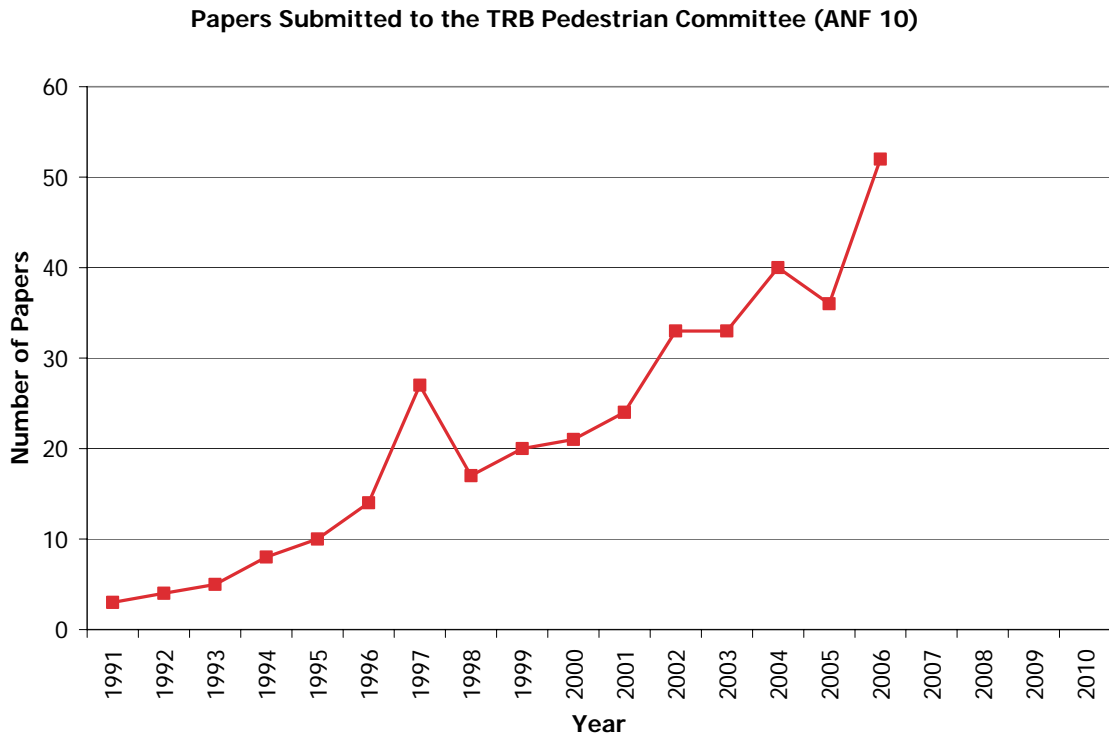
Richard Knoblauch (left) is presented  
Emeritus membership by Committee Chair  
Ron Van Houten (right)



### 3. Subcommittee Updates

*Paper Review Subcommittee (Mike Cynecki)* – The Pedestrian Committee received 52 papers this year, up significantly from previous years (see Figure 1). There were many papers this year that continued themes from previous years, and interest in pedestrian-themed papers continues to grow. Outstanding paper awards were given to 2 papers: 1) “Motorist Yielding to Pedestrians at Unsignalized Intersection: Findings from National Study on Improving Pedestrian Safety” by Shawn Turner, Kay Fitzpatrick, Marcus Brewer, and Eun Sug Park; and 2) “Development of an Intersection Prioritization Tool for Accessible Pedestrian Signal Installation” by Daniel Carter, David Harkey, Janet Barlow, and Billie Louise Bentzen. Ron Van Houten also recognized the paper review coordinators: Mike Cynecki, Tarek Sayed, Bob Schneider, Shawn Turner, and Ron Van Houten.

Figure 1. Papers Submitted to TRB’s Pedestrian Committee in the Past 15 Years



Mike Cynecki (left) and Ron Van Houten (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) present Shawn Turner (right) and Kay Fitzpatrick (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) with an outstanding paper award



Mike Cynecki (left) and Ron Van Houten (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) present David Harkey (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Janet Barlow (right) with an outstanding paper award



*Human Factors Workshop (Gihon Jordan)* – Gihon briefly discussed the Human Factors Workshop and indicated that he is looking for ideas for next year’s workshop. Gihon mentioned aggressive driving as a possible topic. A suggestion was made to widen the scope to mitigation strategies, not just aggressive driving. Ron Van Houten suggested that we broaden the scope and look at inappropriate behaviors.

*Proposed New Subcommittee to Examine Research Opportunities to Increase the Walking Mode (Peggy Drake and Ron Van Houten)* – It was indicated that we should have a joint subcommittee with Bicycling Committee. There were questions about what the product of this group would be. Would it be a workshop, publication like a research circular, or something else? There was recognition that the Committee needs to impact the rest of TRB, not just within the committee. We should consider peer exchange with states other than the “usual suspects” (i.e., Oregon, Washington, Florida, etc.). Ruth Steiner asked what the goal of this subcommittee would be. Ron Van Houten indicated that the actual members will help to shape the focus and goals. The EPA was mentioned as a possible partner. David Levinger asked whether anyone is involved in the Traveler Behavior committee. Lois Thibault suggested that we find out why people aren’t walking more, and that we have a research focus for this subcommittee. It was suggested that we compile BTS data and other data to produce some type of report. Perhaps pick one or two research project statements and focus on these. Should we include marketing specialists? We should focus on exercise as routine physical activity – active living by design. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation already has an advisory board, and we do not want to duplicate efforts. The following persons volunteered for this subcommittee: Peggy Drake, Andy Hamilton, Cara Seiderman, Ruth Steiner, Tom Fugar, Levenson Boodlal, Ken Stewart, Jonathon Byrd.

*Research Problem Statements (Robert Schneider)* – Bob Schneider passed around copies of the newly published Research Problem Statements from the Pedestrian Committee – this was published as Transportation Research Circular E-C084 and is available online at <http://trb.org/publications/circulars/ec084.pdf>. Bob Schneider and

Ron Van Houten indicated that we need to start marketing these project statements. It was indicated that we need to have a state DOT sponsor to get projects funded by NCHRP/TCRP. Ray Derr suggested that we need to work with the AASHTO Committee on Non-Motorized Transportation in order to move projects forward into NCHRP. There was a question of why there could not be a Pedestrian Cooperative Research Program? Funding is an issue. Airport CRP is looking for problem statements, and Ruth Steiner says that ped safety is bad at airports. Folks also need to look at state DOT research programs and University Transportation Centers. It was indicated that only 25% of NCHRP project statements get funded. Someone asked whether pedestrian research is getting its fair share? It was agreed that pedestrian research statements are being funded more now than they have in the past. Bob Schneider sent around handouts and asked for volunteers to assist in championing the project statements.

*Committee Website (Ron Van Houten)* – Ron indicated that the Committee should develop more of a web presence than the current web board provided by TRB. The following could be posted on the committee website: presentations, annual meeting minutes and agendas, ongoing activities and needs for volunteers. We might consider Yahoo Groups or the FHWA Community of Practice. Shashi Nambisan and Kevin Chang will help to develop and maintain the committee website, and Shawn Turner will provide past content from the committee (such as meeting minutes and the like).

#### **4. Other Updates**

*FHWA Research (Ann Do, Sheryl Miller, and John Fegan)* – Ann Do provided a handout (see <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/pedbiketrb2006.htm>) that described FHWA activities. Ann, Sheryl, and John discussed several items that are listed on this handout. Ann provided a handout on research projects at the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center, which included Segway characteristics, in-roadway warning lights, and pedestrian exposure to risk. Ann provided a handout on the FHWA University Course on Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation, which should be available in the spring.

*Pedestrian Bicycle Information Center (PBIC) (Charlie Zegeer)* – Charlie Zegeer provided 3 handouts – PBIC 2005 Activities Summary, Safe Routes to School Projects and Key Achievements, and International Walk to School Update. Charlie discussed information in the handouts and indicated that more information on PBIC is available at <http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/>.

*NHTSA Research (Susan Kirinich and Marv Levy)* – Susan and Marv provided a handout on pedestrian safety initiatives at NHTSA and discussed several items from the handout. Interested persons should contact them for more information.

*FHWA Accessibility (Lisa McPhee)* – Lisa indicated that FHWA is developing guidance products on accessibility in public rights-of-way. Interested persons should contact her for more information.

*U.S. Access Board (Lois Thibault, Scott Windley, Dennis Cannon)* – Lois indicated that they have posted on their website the most recent draft of the Accessibility Guidelines for Public Rights-of-Way (see <http://www.access-board.gov/prowac/noa.htm>). The Access Board will next perform a cost-benefit analysis and then release a proposed rule. A workshop session on wayfinding was held on Sunday as part of the Human Factors Workshop. Lois indicated that all materials are on the Access Board website, <http://www.access-board.gov/index.htm>.

*FHWA Safe Routes to School Program (Tim Arnade)* – Tim indicated that a panel session on Safe Routes to School (SRTS) would be held Wednesday morning. The new legislative mandate for SRTS programs included a SRTS coordinator in every state. To date, thirty states have already appointed coordinators. A Safe Routes to School Clearinghouse will be developed, and they will establish a national task force and eventually submit a report to Congress. FHWA recently issued program guidance on SRTS on January 3rd.

*Massachusetts Design Guide (Ann Hershfang and David Loutzenheiser)* – Ann and David provided a handout and talked about a new highway design manual that was developed for the Massachusetts Highway Department. The new Project Development and Design Guidebook focuses on context-sensitive design and makes it easier to “do the right thing.” The Design Guidebook is available online at [http://www.vhb.com/mhdGuide/mhd\\_GuideBook.asp](http://www.vhb.com/mhdGuide/mhd_GuideBook.asp).

*Feet First Caucus (David Levinger)* – David indicated that the Feet First reception will be held Wednesday evening at the Hilton. David also provided a handout on the Physical Activity Policy Research Network, with more information available at <http://prc.slu.edu/paprn.htm>.

*America Walks (Andy Hamilton)* – Andy indicated that this organization was trying to take more active steps in pedestrian advocacy. Their main purpose is to train and encourage people to make changes at the local level. More information is available online at <http://www.americawalks.org/>.

*Ken Stewart* – Ken introduced himself as an expert in low vision populations and offered assistance in partial or low vision issues. He indicated that silent cars are an issue with hearing-impaired pedestrians. Electric-powered scooters may also be an issue on sidewalks. Ken also indicated a need to consider bike rack designs that don't impede vision-impaired pedestrians. His email is [ccldi@yahoo.com](mailto:ccldi@yahoo.com) and <http://www.cclvi.org> is their website.

*NCUTCD Task Force on Pedestrians (John LaPlante)* – The National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) met last week in Arlington. The NCUTCD is currently working on the 2008 edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD); however, funding was not provided for publication of the 2008 MUTCD so it may be delayed until 2009. John mentioned the following issues

that were discussed at last week's meeting: 1) detectable warnings at NO PED CROSSING signs; 2) pedestrian walking speeds for the pedestrian clearance interval are being lowered from 4.0 to 3.5 feet per second. The entire crossing time (WALK time plus clearance interval) is recommended at 3.0 feet per second, for a distance measured from the pedestrian push button (or six feet behind the curb where there is no push button) to the far curb. Both are should statements. 3) corrections to the YIELD TO PEDESTRIAN signs; 4) pedestrian signal warrant being revised; and 5) possible addition of pedestrian beacon modeled after the Tucson HAWK.

As a minor clarification, I understand the 3.5 ft per second walking speed was to calculate the pedestrian clearance interval, while the entire crossing time (WALK time plus clearance interval) is recommended to accommodate a pedestrian walking at 3.0 feet per second, for a distance measured from the pedestrian push button (or six feet behind the curb where there is no push button) to the far curb.

*APBP, Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (Michael King)* – Michael King introduced the APBP and discussed the organizations' main focus. He indicated that APBP holds a professional development seminar every 2 years, and they have also initiated an accessibility training course that is delivered by APBP members. More information on APBP is at <http://apbp.org>.

*FHWA Travel Surveys (Susan Liss)* – Susan provided four handouts on the National Personal Travel Survey (NPTS) and the National Household Travel Survey (NHTS), which is managed and administered by FHWA. She indicated that walking is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest mode after private automobile travel. There is a wealth of data in 2001 survey. The website for additional information is <http://nhts.ornl.gov>. The NHTS program needs support for getting funding reinstated for the 2008 NHTS/NPTS. Users should go to the FHWA Community of Practice website and register their support, and track ongoing status (<http://knowledge.fhwa.dot.gov/cops/hcx.nsf/home> and click on "Household Travel Data Program").

Following Susan's presentation, there was discussion about pedestrian data. Cara indicated that Cambridge is requiring developers to collect walking data -- any development large enough to trigger a transportation study has to collect bicycle and pedestrian data and do an analysis of impacts, including LOS for pedestrians at signals as part of the study. Cambridge also collects data for their own transportation projects. Someone asked why not create a central repository for pedestrian data from cities, and it was noted that the ITE Bicycle and Pedestrian Council is doing this. David Thom from Motorcycle and Moped Committee is also looking for data, and they want to join forces. HSRC is developing modeling techniques for estimating crossing pedestrians via adjacent land use. Ron Van Houten suggested a possible synthesis project – meet with FHWA, NHTSA, ITE, etc.. Bob Schneider mentioned the FHWA data collection report that he recently produced. Several persons volunteered to further investigate data issues: Bob Schneider, Richard Knoblauch, Shashi Nambisan, and Dwight Kingsbury.

*Midyear Pedestrian Committee Meeting (Ron Van Houten)* – The 2006 Midyear committee meeting was scheduled to coincide with the ProBike/ProWalk Conference in Madison, Wisconsin, September 5-8, 2006 (see <http://www.bikewalk.org/PWPB2006/proposal.html>).

#### **4. Other Reports and Presentations**

There were no formal presentations from meeting attendees.

**The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:05 p.m.**