

**NCUTCD**  
**Railroad & Light Rail Transit Highway Grade Crossings Technical Committee**  
**Minutes of January 7-8, 2004 Meeting in Arlington, Virginia**

**Wednesday January 7, 2004**

Chairman Richard Bowden called the afternoon meeting to order. Introductions were made and the sheets passed around for members and guests to sign in and check recorded addresses/phone numbers/emails.

Richard gave a brief summary of the Technical Chair Meeting, FHWA issues that had been brought to his attention, and presented the agenda for the Railroad/Light Rail Transit Technical Committee (RR/LRT) Meeting.

The June 11-12, 2003 RR/LRT Meeting minutes were moved for acceptance, seconded, and approved as distributed.

Dee Chappell of the FHWA gave a brief presentation of the changes made to the 2003 MUTCD and highlighted parts 8 and 10 of the 2003 MUTCD. Discussion followed and there was mention of a new interim approval process.

A task force was formed to address the National Transportation Safety Board's recommendations concerning the all-red phasing of highway traffic signals during preemption when highway traffic signals are interconnected with highway/rail active warning devices. Those agreeing to serve on this task force were:

- ✓ Rick Campbell, Chairman
- ✓ Tom Lancaster
- ✓ Joe McGinley
- ✓ Stan Milewski
- ✓ Rick Berry
- ✓ Phil Allen
- ✓ John Mitchell
- ✓ John Sharkey
- ✓ Bernie Morris
- ✓ Jim Murphy
- ✓ Paul Schneider

Fred Ronch of the FHWA stepped in to discuss the guidance given in the 2003 MUTCD relative to the Emergency Notification Sign (ENS). There was a concern among many of the RR/LRT members that the 2003 MCUTD guidance was detracting from the original ENS intent. There was discussion to suggest an asterisk with clarification to FHWA.

The other standing task force committees for the RR/LRT were brought up as follows:

- ✓ A; Light Rail Transit – Tom Lancaster, Chairman  
Looking at items recently brought up by an APTA Light Rail Technical Forum.
- ✓ C; Preemption – Bernie Morris, Chairman  
No new items addressed, all flash-red handled separately.

- ✓ D; Stop/Yield Signs – Bill Shrewsberry, Chairman  
Extensive discussion on the Crossbuck/Stop-Yield.
- ✓ SP; Stand By Power for Preempted Traffic Signals – Tom Lancaster, Chairman  
Checking status of proposed part change.

Committees A, C, and SP were asked to reactivate or reevaluate their mission for further discussion at our June meeting and committee D discussion was deferred until our following meeting.

Dick Mather reported that there will be a Trespasser Seminar to be held in Sheffield, United Kingdom.

The Committee thanked Bob McKnight for his continued support of the NCUTCD and for distributing *IEEE Standard for the Interface Between the Rail Subsystem and the Highway Subsystem at a Highway Rail Intersection*.

In discussing FHWA's 6/27/2003 response on wayside horns and the *Use of Locomotive Horns at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings; Interim Final Rule*, RR/LRT created a new task force. The task force is to investigate if there were any items in that need to be addressed in the MUTCD from that rule (concerning both wayside horns and quiet zones). Those agreeing to serve on this Wayside Horn/Quiet Zone task force were:

- ✓ Susan Kirkland, Chairman
- ✓ William Browder
- ✓ John Blair
- ✓ David Peterson
- ✓ Frank Hensley
- ✓ Brian Gilleran
- ✓ Paul Worley
- ✓ Kevin Woodard
- ✓ John Sharkey
- ✓ Bill Shrewsberry
- ✓ Andy Davis
- ✓ Dee Chappell (ex-office)
- ✓ Phil Olekszyk
- ✓ Rick Campbell (non-voting)

Discussion of a proposal to use yield line instead of stop lines at highway/rail grade crossing was held and RR/LRT supported the FHWA's 9/16/2003 response stating that stop lines were the appropriate pavement marking.

A more detailed discussion of some of the changes included in the 2003 MUTCD to Parts 8 and 10 followed.

RR/LRT was adjourned until the next day. The new all-red task force committee and committee D were both to meet before the next day's RR/LRT meeting.

## Thursday January 8, 2004

Chairman Richard Bowden called the afternoon meeting to order. Sheets were again passed around for members and guests to sign in and check recorded addresses/phone numbers/emails.

Richard announced that Harold Hammond and Daren Kosmack were formally accepted as new RR/LRT members by the National Committee.

Brief discussions followed on the FHWA Older Driver Handbook, Peer to Peer group, and the proposed pavement markings to block off an intersection and how they might effect highway/rail crossings.

The next NCUTCD meetings are to be set June 23-25, 2004, Juneau, Alaska; January 5-7, 2005, Arlington, Virginia; and June 2005 Buffalo, New York.

RR/LRT was reminded that Bob McKnight is our representative on the NCUTCD Edit Committee.

Rick Campbell presented the previous day's work by the task force on the all-red phasing of highway traffic signals during railroad preemption to the RR/LRT. The RR/LRT voted to accept the language toward crossing during preemption, after this the proposal failed as "guidance" but passed as "standard." Rick Campbell and Tom Lancaster were than asked to present this RR/LRT proposal to the Technical Committee on Traffic Signals.

After a break Richard gave us greetings and well wishes from former chairman Jerry Fowler.

Discussion then turned to the previous day's findings of Committee D, Stop/Yield Signs. The sections were discussed and motioned were made to accept with changes where noted in blue on Attachment S/Y-D.

Rick Campbell and Tom Lancaster returned from their presentation of the RR/LRT proposal on all red traffic signal phasing during preemption to the Technical Committee on Traffic Signals. The Traffic Signal Committee had some concerns and wanted to take it under advisement. The Traffic Signal TC will be drafting a letter concerning the all red traffic signal phasing.

Dee Chappell of the FHWA gave a brief summary of the new MUTCD html website and asked for feedback from RR/LRT members.

Guan Xu discussed the Peer-to-Peer program, which had 67 requests answered last year. The RR&LRT TC has several members supporting this program.

This meeting was then adjourned.

<b>Member Attendance</b>		
<b>Railroad &amp; Light Rail Transit Highway Grade Crossing Technical Committee</b>		
NOTE:		
Assoc is alternate voting member of NCUTCD sponsor		
Gov is government		
Mbr is voting member of NCUTCD sponsor		
Tech is a technical member		
<b>Members</b>	<b>Januray 2004 Attendees are shown with "x".</b>	
Phillip Allen	State Gov, GA DOT, Tech	x
Thomas Beeman	State Gov, Tx DOT, Tech	
Rick Berry	Local Government, Mesquite, TX, Assoc ITE	x
John Blair	State Gov, IL Commerce Commission, Tech	x
Richard Bowden	Non-Gov, BNSF, Mbr AREMA	x
Bill Browder	Non-Gov, AAR, Tech	x
Richard Brown	Non-Gov, Transpo Industries, Tech	x
Rick Campbell	Non-Gov, Railroad Controls, Tech	x
Debra Chappell	Federal Gov, FHWA-Safety, Non-Voting	x
Andrew Davis	Non-Gov, Quixote Transportation, Tech	x
Kathy Dennis	Local Gov, Charlotte, NC DOT, Tech	x
Charles Fox Jr.	Non-Gov SYSTRA Consulting, Tech	x
Brian Gilleran	Federal Gov, FRA, Tech	x
Harold Hammond	Non-Gov, AAMVA, Tech	
Frank Heasley	Non-Gov, Supplier Representative, Tech	x
Hugh Henry	Federal Government, FRA, Tech	x
Mark Jones	Federal Gov, FRA, Non-voting	x
Susan Kirkland	State Gov, Ohio Rail Development Tech	x
Hans Korve	Non-Gov, Korve Engineering, Tech	
Joe Kyle	State Gov, OK DOT, Tech	
Darin Kosmak	State Gov, Tx DOT, Tech	x
Tom Lancaster	Non-Gov, Lancaster Engineering, Tech	x
Neil Lerner	Non-Gov, Westat, Assoc HFR	x
Jacques Mabry	Former State Gov, OK DOT, Tech	x
Daniel MacDonald	State Gov, OR Dot, Tech	
Dick Mather	Former State Gov, OR DOT, Tech	x
Bill Matthews	Non-Gov, Former Supplier, GRS, Tech	
Joe McGinley	Non-Gov, Balfour Beath, Tech	x
Bob McKnight	Non-Gov, Former Railroad, AAR, Tech	x
Mel McNichols	Non-Gov, CSXT, Assoc AAR	x
Stan Milewski	State Gov, IL Commerce Commission, Tech	
John Mitchell	Federal Government, Amtrak, Tech	x
Bernie Morris	Former State Gov IL CC, Tech	x
Jim Murphy	Non-Gov, Union Pacific, Tech	x
Paul O'Brien	Local Gov, Utah Transit Authority, Tech	x

Phil Olekszyk	Former Federal Gov, World Wide Rail, Tech	x
David Peterson	Non_Gov, Union Pacific, Tech	x
Tom Rose	Non-Gov, CN-IC, Tech	x
Paul Schneider	State Gov, NJ DOT, Tech	x
John Sharkey	Non-Gov, Safetran System, Assoc AREMA	x
Bill Shrewsberry	State Gov. LA DOT, Tech	x
Greg Smith	State Gov, Bi-State Development, Tech	
Alan Sovey	State Gov, OR DOT, Tech	
Jack Webb	Non-Gov Carter-Burgess, Tech	x
Kevin Woodard	Local Gov , Ames, IA, Mbr ITE	x
Paul Worley	State Gov, NC DOT, Tech	x
Guan Xu	Federal Gov, FHWA, Non-Voting	x
Tom Zeinz	Non-Gov, CN-IC, Mbr AAR	x
<b>Guests</b>		
Rod Dillenburg	Union Pacific Railway	x
Douglas Bernard	Quisote Transportaion Safety	x
Tod Darfus	Ohio Rail Development Commission	x
Danny Gilbert	Rail Safety Consultant	x
Ralph Lundregan	Quick-Kurb Inc.	x
Lurae Stuart	APTA	x