

**AASHTO Standing Committee on Public Transportation
Multi-State Technical Assistance Program (MTAP)
Fall-Winter Meeting
November 28-30, 2007
Austin, Texas**

Draft Agenda

Tuesday, November 27th

Hotel check-in: 3:00 p.m.
Evening on your own.

Wednesday, November 28th

8:00-9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Standing Committee on Public Transportation Welcome
SCOPT Chair, Bernard Cohen, Secretary, Massachusetts Executive Office
of Transportation (invited)
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority staff? (to be invited)
Texas Department of Transportation Officials (to be invited)

Overview:

Chairperson Cohen will outline the key public transportation issues facing
Massachusetts and discuss his thoughts and goals for the Standing
Committee. Texas DOT staff will provide an overview of state of transit in
Texas and current initiatives.

**9:30-9:45 a.m. Multi-State Technical Assistance Program Welcome and Attendee
Introductions**
Jan Simpson, MTAP Chair, New York State Department of Transportation

9:45 – 10:15 a.m. Federal Transit Administration Update
FTA Headquarters (to be invited)
FTA Region VI (to be invited)

Overview:

FTA will report on the current status of SAFETEA-LU implementation
(final rules, circulars and proposed rules of interest to state grantees) and
the latest news regarding FTA administration. Time is provided for
questions and discussion.

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. Morning Break (coffee/tea)

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Federal Transit Administration Program Management Roundtable
FTA Office of Program Management staff (to be invited)

Overview:

Discussion of State responsibilities pertaining to program management for Non-Urban, Elderly and Disabled, Job Access and Reverse Commute, New Freedom, new Title VI requirements. Time is provided for program-specific questions and discussion.

11:30 a.m. – Noon Flex time for agenda time adjustments or brief session

Noon – 1:15 p.m. Buffet Luncheon

1:15 – 1:30 p.m. Break

1:30 – 5:00 p.m. Standing Committee on Public Transportation Business Meeting
(separate business agenda will be provided)

SCOPT Chair, Bernard Cohen, Secretary, Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation
SCOPT Vice-Chair, Ron Epstein, New York State Department of Transportation

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Afternoon Break (drinks, snack)

5:00 p.m. SCOPT Business Meeting adjournment

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Welcome Reception

Dinner and evening on your own.

Thursday, November 29th

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Texas Host State Session
Medical Transportation Program: “The Texas Story”
An Update on the Medical Transportation Program in Texas, its successes and the future.
Speaker: Texas DOT staff TBA

9:30 a.m. **SCOPT Subcommittee and Taskforce Updates**
Moderator: Ron Epstein, New York State Department of Transportation

9:30 – 10:00 a.m. **Legislative and Policy Issues**
Chair: Ron Epstein, New York State Department of Transportation

Overview:

This session will include discussion of the upcoming AASHTO reauthorization process, transit team involvement in the legislative process, and comments on the funding needs for transit (Bottom Line Report).

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. **State Program Management and Administration**
Chair: Janet Weaver, Idaho Transportation Department

Overview:

This session will focus on SCOPT follow-up and response to FTA initiatives or administrative changes, identify areas for AASHTO to partner with FTA, and identify program management concerns to address through SCOPT.

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. **Morning Break (coffee/tea)**

10:45 – 11:15 a.m. **Research and Training**
Chair: John Dockendorf, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Overview:

An update on SCOPT's involvement in the National Cooperative Highway Research Program and the Transit Cooperative Research Program. This session will include an update on the NCHRP 20-65 program.

11:15 – 11:45 a.m. **Transit Systems Operations/Safety and Security**
Co-Chairs: Mike Johnson, Florida Department of Transportation
Janet Weaver, Idaho Transportation Department
Susan Hausmann, Texas Department of Transportation (to be invited)

Overview:

This session will provide an update on state DOT involvement in the FTA Bus Safety and Security Working Group as well as an update on rail state safety oversight, and will highlight new state safety and security initiatives. A detailed session on one of the state initiatives will be featured in the MTAP technical sessions.

11:45 – 12 noon

Multi-State Technical Assistance Program

Chair: Jan Simpson, New York State Department of Transportation

Overview:

An introduction to the afternoon MTAP technical sessions and presentation of the MTAP Outstanding Service Award.

12 noon – 1:15 p.m.

Buffet Luncheon

1:15 -1:30 p.m.

Break

1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Association Partners Report

National RTAP, CTAA, and APTA are invited to present updates. (to be invited)

2:15 - 2:45 p.m.

Transit Funding – The New Pennsylvania Funding Structure

Speaker: John Dockendorf, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Overview:

Pennsylvania's General Assembly enacted a new one billion dollar transportation funding initiative. Special features include a new public transportation trust fund, use of turnpike bonding and tolls for transit, and a linkage between minimum performance standards and future public transportation funding.

2:45 – 3:15 p.m.

Rural Transit Needs Analysis

Speaker: Matt Carpenter, Arizona Department of Transportation

Overview:

The Arizona DOT conducted a year long study that focused on identifying statewide rural transit needs, service gaps, and quantifying costs of providing a more comprehensive rural transit network. The presentation will focus on study process, methodology, key findings, transit needs and gaps, strategy to meet need, roles and responsibilities, as well as next steps in addressing rural transit needs for Arizona for the next ten years.

3:15 – 3:30 p.m.

Afternoon Break (drinks, snack)

3:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Toolbox for Transit Incident Investigation

Speaker: Mike Johnson, Florida Department of Transportation

Overview:

This training resource provides bus transit systems with procedures, best practices and guidelines for conducting and recording bus incident investigations. It will also assist states in establishing minimum criteria for transit agency incident investigations.

4:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Transit Rider Education

Speaker: Eric Taylor, Alaska Department of Transportation

Overview:

Alaska has produced a pair of transit bus safety videos for use in elementary and middle schools. Developed in partnership with the Safe Routes to School Coordinator and Americorps, the project looks beyond the “senior surge” to help today’s kids become more familiar with public transportation so that they are more comfortable with transit as they grow into adulthood.

4:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Rural Transit Marketing

Speaker: Steve Billings, Missouri Department of Transportation

Overview:

Missouri DOT, in conjunction with a consultant, will be rolling out Missouri’s second rural transit marketing campaign. The campaign includes advertising tools for rural providers.

Dinner and Evening on your own.

Friday, November 30th

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Hot Breakfast Buffet

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

MTAP Project Steering Group Meeting

Safe Travels and Happy Holidays!

Hotel check-out: 12 noon