

Advancing Practice in State DOTs from Good to Great

Building on the success of forums in 2000 and 2003, NCHRP Project Panel 20-24 is funding a third forum that will give state DOT CEOs (department of transportation chief executive officers) and their top staff the opportunity to share experiences with their peers. Current practices in three issue areas in selected state DOTs will be synthesized in white papers in advance, discussed at the forum, and then finalized as resources. Participants will also recommend needed research, training, and information activities.

A Discussion of Issues and Practices

Discussion at the forum will be centered on the following three themes:

- Evolving roles and partnerships in program delivery and system operations
- Building credibility with customers and stakeholders
- Next steps in finance and funding

The forum will begin Sunday afternoon and evening with presentations on the three themes and with social time.

Participants will address the following questions during interactive dialogue on Monday:

- **Challenges:** What are your leadership and political challenges in dealing with these themes?
- **Strategies:** What strategies and tools have you and your organization used that have helped you succeed in these areas?
- **Actions:** What research, training, and information are needed to strengthen your and your organization's capabilities in these areas?

On Tuesday, other state DOT staff and attendees will develop recommendations for refining good practice for each theme and identify needed actions and research based on the Monday discussions.

Who Should Attend

Each state DOT CEO will receive an invitation to attend the forum and to bring an additional representative from his or her organization. Invitations and registration forms from AASHTO President Harold Linnenkohl will be sent to each CEO.

The presence of the CEOs will be critical for the discussions on Sunday and Monday. While the sponsors welcome their participation throughout the entire forum, schedules may require CEOs to leave Monday night. It is important that the second representative from each state be able to attend Tuesday's working sessions, which will identify and prioritize the action items that come out of the discussions.

Preliminary Agenda

Sunday, September 24: Setting the Stage

- 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. Registration
- 3:00 p.m. Welcome and Forum Charge
- 3:20 p.m. Speaker Presentations:
 Roles and Partnerships
Steve Lockwood, Principal Consultant, PB Consult
- Customers and Stakeholders
Marcy Schwartz, Senior Vice President, Director of Transportation Technology, CH2M Hill
- Finance and Funding
Lance Grenzeback, Senior Vice President, Cambridge Systematics
- 5:00 p.m. Reception
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner and Speaker Presentation
Bill Sammon, Washington Correspondent for the *Washington Times*

Monday, September 25: Sharing Good Practices

- 7:30 – 10:00 a.m. Registration
- 7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. Overview of the Day
- 8:15 a.m. CEO Session 1: Roles and Partnerships
- 10:00 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. CEO Session 2: Customers and Stakeholders
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. CEO Session 3: Finance and Funding
- 3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:45 p.m. Summary Discussion
- 4:30 p.m. Reception

Tuesday, September 26: Advancing from Good to Great

- 7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. Forum Progress
- 9:00 a.m. Break
- 9:20 a.m. Work Groups Action Planning
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch and Work Groups Report
- 1:30 p.m. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Activities Since 2003 CEO Leadership Forum

Many NCHRP, FHWA, and state pooled-fund projects resulted from the last forum. Examples are given below.

Strategic Leadership

- NCHRP Project 20-24(38): CEO Engagement Options for Discussing Strategic Issues and Sharing Best Practices. Project is complete and report is posted on the NCHRP Web site.
- NCHRP Project 20-24(37): Measuring Performance Among State DOTs. Project is complete and report is in final review.
- NCHRP Project 20-24(36): Updating AASHTO's Strategic Plan. Work contributed to the development of the Strategic Plan, now on the AASHTO Web site.

Program Delivery

- NCHRP Project 20-24(39): Alternative Organizational Designs for State Transportation Departments. Project will address organizational designs to improve strategy, delivery, and operations; expected completion in December 2006.
- NCHRP Project 20-24(43): Innovative Contracting for Major Transportation Projects. Selected state DOT executives shared experiences at a workshop held in conjunction with the 2005 AASHTO annual meeting. The summary report has been provided to AASHTO.
- NCHRP Project 20-68: U.S. Domestic Scan Program. One of two initial pilot scans will look at accelerating project delivery, focusing on ROW and utility activities.

System Operations

- NCHRP Project 20-24(35): Communicating Urban Congestion Information. This active project is improving the methods and utility of the congestion ratings/indexes used by the Texas Transportation Institute.
- NCHRP Project 20-7 Task 203: Update of AASHTO Maintenance Manual to Include Systems Operations and Management. Study will develop a new chapter for AASHTO's Maintenance Manual.
- NCHRP Project 20-7 Task 188: Mainstreaming Operations in State DOTs. Organized in cooperation with FHWA, a June 2005 workshop developed a business plan for advancing the implementation of operations activities and programs within state DOTs through peer-to-peer exchange activities.

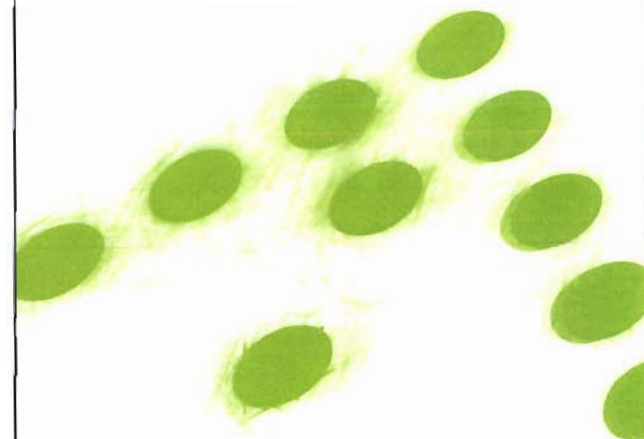
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2006 CEO Leadership Forum

Advancing Practice in State DOTs from Good to Great

September 24-26, 2006

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University of Minnesota Campus
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Sponsored By:

American Association of State Highway and
Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

National Cooperative Highway Research Program
(NCHRP), Transportation Research Board (TRB)

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