

TRB Managed Lanes Joint Subcommittee

Scope and focus: To bring together a diverse representation of TRB committees to address cross-cutting issues associated with managed lanes. The joint subcommittee will serve as a forum for professionals involved in and interested in managed lanes to share information, track managed lane projects in operation and under development, and support standing committees in identifying and championing research and outreach efforts related to managed lanes.

Sponsoring Committee: HOV Systems

Supporting Committees: Road Pricing, Bus Transit Systems, Freeway Operations

Background:

- There is a growing interest in managed lanes across the country. A handful of successful projects are in operation, and an increasing number of projects are being proposed. Several states are developing statewide managed lane plans and pursuing individual managed lane projects.
- FHWA is formulating a managed lanes program plan and research initiative. Recognizing the need to address gaps in the knowledge base for managed lane projects, FHWA held a managed and priced lanes workshop in November 2003, during which approximately 30 research project ideas were developed.
- The HOV Systems Committee has developed a Managed Lanes White Paper, which introduces the concept of managed lanes and describes managed lane strategies that are primarily related to HOV. An inventory of managed lane projects was also developed in conjunction with the Managed Lanes White Paper. The White Paper identifies research needs related to the role of HOV systems with managed lanes.
- At the TRB Annual Meeting in January 2004, the Pricing Subcommittee unanimously endorsed pursuing a managed lanes subcommittee and supporting the 2005 HOV Systems/Pricing/Managed Lanes Conference in Houston. Recognizing that the HOV committee already had an active managed lanes subcommittee, they proposed building upon existing efforts. The issue will be discussed further at the mid-year meeting in July 2004.
- There are a number of different TRB committees with interest in managed lanes, which increases the importance of coordination. There is much opportunity for duplication (activities, data, presentations, etc.) and for “reinventing the wheel”; a joint subcommittee could serve to minimize replication.
- At their May 4, 2004 mid-year meeting, the HOV Systems Committee voted to sponsor a joint subcommittee on managed lanes, building off of their current managed lanes subcommittee.

- The Freeway Operations Committee expressed support for the joint subcommittee idea at the 2004 Annual Meeting and offered to assist with the 2005 HOV Systems/Pricing/Managed Lanes Conference in Houston.
- The Bus Transit Systems Committee has been approached and has expressed support for the managed lanes joint subcommittee because of the cross-cutting issues related to transit service.
- Other TRB committees may be interested in participating, including the following:
 - Transportation Demand Management Committee
 - Access Management Committee
 - Transportation Planning Committee
 - Public Transportation Planning and Development Committee
 - Geometric Design Committee
 - User Information Committee

POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES OF JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE

Joint Activities with Other Committees

- Identify other committees to participate and contact persons
- Support development of joint sessions on managed lanes for the 2005 TRB Annual Meeting
- Meet as a formal subcommittee at Annual Meeting 2005
- Spring 2005 Conference in Houston – support planning and outreach

Research Activities

- Develop and maintain an inventory of managed lane projects
- Identify priorities for research related to managed lanes and use committee contacts to advance priority projects
- Develop network to share research results

Outreach Activities

- Develop email list for subcommittee
- Develop website/webpage with links to managed lane projects, initiatives, research and TRB committee activities related to managed lanes
- Identify groups to target for outreach