



Vehicle Probe Project Committee Monthly Status Webcast September 30, 2009 Minutes

Participants – see attached

Agenda

| Topic | | Speaker |
|-------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Introductions and Welcome | Bill Stoeckert |
| 2 | INRIX Update | Rick Schuman |
| 3 | Validation Effort Update | Stan Young |
| 4 | Confidence Value Update | Phil Tarnoff |
| 5 | Agency Questions and Updates | All |
| 6 | Contract Update | Kathy Frankle |
| 7 | Year 18 Vehicle Probe Project and Funding | Karen Jehanian/ Bill Stoeckert |
| 8 | Communications Update | Karen Jehanian/ Bill Stoeckert |
| 9 | Review of Action Items from this call | Karen Jehanian |
| 10 | Selection of Date for Next Webcast | All |

1. Welcome and Introductions

Bill Stoeckert opened the webcast at 10:30 a.m. by welcoming everyone and thanking those participating. The following is a summary of the discussion. These meeting minutes and all Vehicle Probe Project (VPP) information is available at: <http://www.i95coalition.net/i95/Projects/ProjectDatabase/tabid/120/agentType/View/PropertyID/107/Default.aspx> (Most documents may be found on the 'Highlights' page).

2. INRIX Update

Rick Schuman covered the following topics: Project Statistics, Ongoing Activities, and the "Ramps" Research Status. He presented the basic statistics about the service availability, individual account/users, and the archive requests. He noted that the service availability continues to be above acceptable limits however there was a service disruption on September 10th and 11th related to the data center. This will be reflected in the service availability for September. Rick noted that the number of account/users and archive requests continue to increase. He also reviewed some of INRIX's ongoing activities including monitoring site improvements and planned updates to the connected services (version 3).

Rick discussed the status of the ramp research. He provided some background explaining that the current TMC version is 3.4 which includes the "Highway to Highway Ramps" in the top 10 Markets (and should include NYC, Philadelphia and DC areas). He noted that the next map update is planned for early Spring 2010 (should be version 3.6) and include "Highway to Highway Ramps" in the top 50



Markets. INRIX has just received Map/TMC data and they are currently confirming coverage. Rick also noted that they are determining the exact ramps available today. He presented several slides depicting the 21 TMCs within the I-95/I-287 interchange. He noted that INRIX's near term goal is to share information with Coalition regarding what is and will be available for possible inclusion to the project and to collaborate with the Coalition to determine the next steps/plan.

3. Validation Effort Update

Stan Young reviewed the Data Validation effort to date for the Vehicle Probe project. He discussed the table entitled "Data Validation Status" noting that the validation effort is on schedule. He also noted that they are currently revisiting arterials and INRIX is upgrading their arterial algorithm. Stan stated that they are looking at grouping TMCs as many agencies would group travel time data from several TMCs to provide this information on variable message signs.

Stan reviewed the validation results for Delaware (data collected from August 11, 2009 through August 24, 2009). He noted that a significant number of congestion events were observed during this time which totaled more than 100 hours of data less than 45 MPH. Stan stated that the data provided a good quality data set with a good sampling of different types of congestion. Stan noted that both the absolute average speed error and the speed error bias as measured against the SEM band are within the acceptable limits of the contract specifications. He also reviewed the payment calculation for the month of September and noted that the aggregate data quality fell within contract specifications. Finally, Stan presented a table providing a summary of all of the data validation efforts to date. He noted that to date nearly 11,000 hours of data has been validated.

Stan stated that validation is planned for Virginia in November. Scott Cowherd stated that he would get back to him with the locations VDOT would like studied.

4. Confidence Value Update

Phil Tarnoff reviewed the purpose of the Confidence Value update. He noted that the validation effort has demonstrated that the vehicle probe data satisfies contractual requirements and is adequate to support TMC and archive applications. The project management team also wants to ensure that the data for real-time traveler information is of high quality. He noted that there are two complementary approaches that could be used separately or together to address this issue – filtering and the use of a Confidence Value (developed by INRIX). Phil explained that filtering is used to smooth abrupt changes in travel time values. They tested several scenarios and determined the most successful technique which is readily implemented as a single simple equation. He also discussed the Confidence Value which is a new output parameter – from 0 to 100 – the higher the better. Implementation of the Confidence Value will allow users to set thresholds to, e.g.: flag data as suspicious and/or stop automated processing. Phil reviewed the locations studied in Delaware, New Jersey, and North Carolina and the results. He noted that the impact was most significant in Delaware and also a positive impact was seen in New Jersey. In North Carolina, the filtering made the data worse because there was not as much variability. UMD is still reviewing this information. Phil wrapped up by interpreting the results and by providing recommendations. Bill Stoeckert noted that the Vehicle Probe Project management team would follow up with agencies that have not had access to the filtering formula.



Bob Pento asked which states are providing travel times with Vehicle Probe data. Rick noted that Alabama and South Carolina is using this information. Phil said he would send information on the filtering process for agencies to use.

5. Agency Questions and Updates

Karen Jehanian noted that the management team values the time and dedication of each project team member. She stated that a change is being made to the format of the webcast. Each member is being asked to share new information regarding their agency's use or planned use of the VPP data. All members are also encouraged to ask questions or discuss issues regarding the use of the VPP data. She noted that as more agencies integrate the VPP data into their systems, the management team believes sharing and discussing this information will be beneficial to the all.

Jo Ann Oerter submitted a question in advance of the webcast on how extensions of current time of contract should be handled. Bill stated that for additional roadways the agency would need to go through the same process. Bill noted that regarding the extension of contracts for roadways already covered, Year 18 is the 3rd (final) year of the Coalition's commitment. After Year 18, the Coalition's funding level is not certain. Year 18 funds would take the project into Spring 2011. Bill also noted given that reauthorization has not passed through Congress and, that while the Coalition expects its funding to continue, there is no guarantee that the Coalition will be funded. If Year 18 funds are not available, data acquisition would end earlier. Bill advised the members to contact their leadership to support the Vehicle Probe Project to continue through the optional years. Jo Ann asked that the Coalition provide advance notice of their funding plans so that the agencies may prepare accordingly. Regarding the contracting mechanism for the acquisition of the Vehicle Probe data, Stan and Kathy said that they believe the contract through UMD will remain open and agencies could continue to put in funding through this contract for their data acquisition services from INRIX. Kathy Frankle will look into this issue and provide an update at the next webcast.

Jo Ann Oerter noted that currently they are manually adding data to DMS and they are working the virtual DMS. She noted that the automation of travel times on signs has been underway in their IT department for two years and that they are manually adding the information so that they can make use of the VP data that they receive. Bob Pento and Jim Hadden expressed interest in North Carolina's manual process as an interim step. Jo Ann Oerter explained that in the three NC metropolitan areas, they look at the segments that are black/brown, contact their local law enforcement for verification, sum travel time on the segments, and add a factor of 10%. They provide users with a range and update the information every 10 minutes. Bob asked for a written process. Karen explained that KMJ is in the process of documenting this type of information and will provide it to the project team. It was noted that CHART has put together a Design Document regarding travel times on DMS.

Jo Ann Oerter noted that NCDOT may need data in a different format for use in calculating performance measures. She asked if they could pay for it through the same contract. Kathy Frankle stated that it would be acceptable.

Nathan Erlbaum asked about the proportion of trucks in the probe data. Rick stated that at this point they are not able to differentiate between classes of vehicles (such as trucks).

A conversation regarding performance measures occurred. Phil noted that the INRIX data is valuable, has limitations, but provides more information that we have had previously.



6. Contract Update

Kathy Frankle gave an update on the contract noting that no changes have occurred since the VP project team webcast on August 25, 2009. She did note that they are working with DDOT and the PANYNJ to get Data Use Agreements executed.

Coordination with Other Projects

Bill Stoeckert briefly reviewed the coordination of the Vehicle Probe Project with several of the other I-95 Corridor Coalition projects including Performance Measures Project and the SafeTrip-21 Project. He noted that the Performance Measures project is focused on how the Coalition can assist the member agencies with their efforts relating to performance measures. He also noted that \$100,000 of the SafeTrip-21 funds were not used from the original scope and that the Coalition and INRIX have just received approval to provide additional coverage in MD, VA and other states in the Coalition who do not have coverage (including ME, NH, MA, CT, RI, NY, PA, GA, FL). The coverage is anticipated to be available from November 1, 2009 through the end of February 2010. Upon execution of a data use agreement, member agencies in these states will have access to the monitoring site but not the data feed or archive.

7. Year 18 Vehicle Probe Project and Funding

The Year 18 Vehicle Probe Project funding was discussed during the Agency Questions and Updates section as noted above.

8. Communications Update

Karen Jehanian reviewed the website postings and the correspondence sent to the project team since the last webcast. She presented slides illustrating where the Vehicle Probe documents may be found on the Coalition website.

Karen also reviewed the schedule of the system integration meetings being held with agencies participating in the Vehicle Probe project. She noted that a meeting was held on September 29, 2009 with Glenn McLaughlin and other staff members from MdSHA/CHART. A meeting is currently scheduled with Gene Donaldson and Don Hass from DelDOT on November 9, 2009 and a meeting is currently being scheduled with South Carolina. Bill Stoeckert noted that the management team would like to follow up with PennDOT regarding data validation.



9. Review of Actions Items

| # | Responsible Party | Action Items | Date Due | Completed |
|---|-------------------|--|----------|-----------|
| 1 | Mgmt Team | Schedule Meetings with core states' system integrators re VP data integration <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NJ – held on May 11th• DE – scheduled for November 9th• MD – held on September 29th• VA – under consideration• NC – held on July 2nd | On-going | |
| | Phil Tarnoff | Provide confidence value information to Project Team members (through KMJ) | 11/10/09 | |
| 2 | Kathy Frankle | Follow up on contract questions from NCDOT | 11/10/09 | |
| 3 | KMJ | Post revised slide presentation and meeting minutes for September 30 th webcast to the I-95 Corridor Coalition website | 10/7/09 | |

10. Date for Next Meeting

A date for the next meeting was proposed and reviewed by the participants. All agreed that **Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 10:30 a.m.** was acceptable.

Any questions in the meantime should be directed to:

- Bill Stoeckert at 774.207.0367 or wstoeckert@yahoo.com
- Stan Young at 301.403.4593 or seyoung@umd.edu
- Rick Schuman at 407.298.4346 or rick@inrix.com
- Jeff Summerson at i95Support@inrix.com for questions or comments regarding the monitoring site
- Contract issues should be directed to Kathy Frankle at kfrankle@umd.edu

Mr. Stoeckert thanked the Committee members for their time and valuable input.

The conference call was adjourned after 12 Noon.



**Minutes
Vehicle Probe Project Committee
Webcast/Conference Call
September 30, 2009**

PARTICIPANTS

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| I-95 Corridor Coalition: |
| Bill Stoeckert |

| Vehicle Probe Committee Webcast Attendees: | |
|--|------------------------|
| Glenn McLaughlin | Maryland SHA - CHART |
| Jim Hadden | New Jersey DOT |
| Nathan Erlbaum | New York State DOT |
| Jo Ann Oerter | North Carolina DOT |
| Bob Pento | Pennsylvania DOT |
| Scott Cowherd | Virginia DOT |
| Phil Tarnoff, Kathy Frankle, Stan Young | University of Maryland |
| Rick Schuman, Jeff Summerson | INRIX |
| Ben Morgan | PBS&J |
| Vehicle Probe Committee Members – Not in Attendance | |
| Delaware DOT | |

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| Consultant Support Staff: |
| Karen Jehanian/Joanna Reagle, KMJ Consulting, Inc. |