



## Vehicle Probe Project Committee Monthly Status Webcast September 25, 2013 Minutes

Participants – see attached

### Agenda

Topic		Speaker
1	Coalition Activity Update	George Schoener, I-95 Corridor Coalition
2	Funding & Contract Issues	Kathy Frankle, University of Maryland
3	INRIX Update	Rick Schuman, INRIX
4	Data Validation/Projects Update	Stan Young, University of Maryland
5	VPP Suite Tools and Enhancements	Michael Pack, University of Maryland
6	VPP Suite User Group	Michael Pack, University of Maryland
7	Enhanced Performance Measures – State/MPO Outreach	Michael Pack, I-95 Corridor Coalition
8	Partners Using Archived Operations Data Group • Shared Measures Brochure	Zoe Neaderland, DVRPC
9	Agency Updates on VPP and VPP Suite	All
10	Communication Update	All

### **1. Introductions and Welcome**

Karen Jehanian opened the webcast at 10:30 a.m. by welcoming the participants, noting the call courtesies, and reviewing the agenda for the webcast. George thanked all of the agencies for their continued support of the Coalition and reminded the group that the Vehicle Probe Project is the flagship project for the Coalition noting that it is being used for applications in both operations and planning by many member agencies.

The following is a summary of the discussion. These meeting minutes, the webcast presentations and all Vehicle Probe Project (VPP) information are available at: [I95 CC Vehicle Probe Project Documents](#).



## 2. **Coalition Activity Update**

George informed the participants that the Coalition received funding from the Multistate Corridor Operations and Management Program 2 (MCOMP2), sponsored by FHWA/USDOT for multiple projects including VPP. He noted that the funding extends until June 30, 2014. George also noted that the Coalition's work plan for 2013-2014 has been approved by the board.

George then talked about the NPMRDS (National Performance Management Research Data Sets) provided by FHWA. A contract was awarded to HERE (formerly NAVTEQ and Nokia) to provide archived data in support of MAP 21 requirements, for the national highway system. Rich Taylor (FHWA) noted that the archived data sets were acquired for the Urban Congestion Report (UCR) and Freight Performance Measures (FPM) programs. FHWA decided to make this archived data available to states and MPOs for their use in performance management activities. The data set will be available in September 2013. Information can be found at:

[http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/perf\\_measurement/index.htm](http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/perf_measurement/index.htm)

To sign up for access, please e-mail [heretraffic.nhsdata@here.com](mailto:heretraffic.nhsdata@here.com). George noted that the Coalition will prepare a document comparing VPP archived data to the NPMRDS.

## 3. **Contract/Funding Issues**

Kathy Frankle stated that the Vehicle Probe Project data is now funded to June 30, 2014. She noted that all state contracts have been updated to reflect the new funding. A complete list of executed Data Use Agreements (DUAs) has been posted on the Vehicle Probe Project Page of the Coalition website in the "Contract Documents" tab. Kathy noted that if a participating agency would like to have a consultant use the VPP data for a state project, a specific DUA must be completed indicating the project, start date and end date

Finally, Kathy noted that as the re-compete effort is underway for VPP data. The Coalition, with the help of the Evaluation Team, is in the process of issuing an RFP for data. The Coalition plans to have the selection made and contract in place by July 1, 2014.

## 4. **INRIX Update**

Rick Schuman presented the project statistics. The availability of data for August 2013 was 99.93% and the availability for the year to date is 99.86%) and the project to date is 99.89%. Rick noted that as of September 11, 2013, 781 individuals have access to the monitoring site and the number of data feeds remained 46. Rick noted the website address for the monitoring site: <http://i95.inrix.com/>.

Rick noted that New Jersey has expanded to "all-in" by adding 5,000 miles of arterials as of July 1, 2013. The data is available in the data feed and the VPP Suite. New Jersey joins South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., and Rhode Island as "all-in" states.

Rick reminded the participants about VPP support contacts for help with various aspects of the VPP.



- For the Monitoring Site contact [Support@inrix.com](mailto:Support@inrix.com).
- For data feeds/integration contact [I95support@intix.com](mailto:I95support@intix.com).
- For the VPP Suite contact [vpp-support@ritis.org](mailto:vpp-support@ritis.org).

Rick noted that a map update will take place in late 2013 or early 2014 and the initial preparations are already underway. INRIX is looking to simplify the TMC sets. Along with the map update, INRIX is hoping to understand the breadth of API (Application Program Interface) uses. Rick noted that interesting uses of API will be reported to the VPP Project Team.

## 5. Data Validation Effort

Stan Young reviewed the validation schedule. Stan noted that from June through October 2013, the validation effort has focused on arterials case studies in Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

Stan reviewed the data collected in Georgia during May 2013 on I-20 east of Atlanta. He stated that approximately 31 miles were covered with 9.2 hours of congestion captured in the approximately 2,250 total hours of data collected. The data collected in this validation effort were within specification for both the AASE and SEB for all speed bins except 30-45 MPH bin. The AASE for the 30-45 MPH data was 10.1 MPH (10 MPH spec). Stan noted that more congestion data is preferred, but the INRIX data close tracked the ground truth data. He provided several slides highlighting the data collected.

Stan noted that UMD is currently focusing on arterial validation work. He noted participating states interested in arterial validation should contact him ([seyoung@umd.edu](mailto:seyoung@umd.edu)).

Stan indicated that based upon the timing of the RFP for the VPP data Re-compete and the results of the feasibility study (*Real-Time Volume and Origin-Destination Data for Operations: Concepts, Definitions and Use Case Scenarios*), it was decided that the request for real-time volume and origin/destination data will be folded into the VPP data re-compete RFP.

Stan concluded by indicating that there will be an update to the TMC Codes used for the VPP data. Stan noted that the TMC framework will remain, however, flexibility will be added as part of the re-compete specification.

## 6. VPP Suite Tools and Enhancements

Michael Pack reviewed the VPP Suite usage statistics noting that as of September 1, 2013, 1,422 users have access to the VPP Suite and 61.4 billion records have been downloaded from the massive data downloader (doubled since May 2013).

Michael stated that the User Cost Delay Analysis is a new feature added to the VPP Suite. The Real-time and Historic Weather Radar is a new layer available on the dashboard. Updates have also been added to the Congestion Scan and the Road Search (Mileage) Interface. He provided an overview of each new updates. The new **User Delay Cost** function can be used to estimate the delay experienced by drivers as a result of congestion. The tool combines probe speed data will volume data provided by TTI. Michael noted that if agencies have other volume data they would like to use within the Suite to contact UMD. The new **Real-Time and Historic Weather Radar** layer can be overlaid on real-time and



archived data. The layer is refreshed every three minutes and is available for the time period March 2013 onward (data from December 2012 to February 2013 is also available but gaps may exist for this period). The **Congestion Scan** now includes a button that will generate a 'deep link' - a URL that will recall the Congestion Scan you were looking at, including any zoom or time range filters you've applied. The **Road Search (Mileage) Interface** now includes the length of the selected road. As the TMC codes are adjusted the length will update accordingly. In addition, data exports no longer include "-1" as an indicator of issues within a certain field. The "-1" marker has been replaced with "NULL."

Michael noted that the next deployment for the VPP Suite will be in late October or early November 2013. The deployment will include:

- Speed improvements
- Easier access to visualizations
- TMC selection uniformity
- Multiple ranked bottlenecks on a single map
- Trend map movie exports (animated .gifs)
- Multiple queues in data downloader (short vs. long duration queues)
- Speed threshold alerts

Additional information can be found as follows:

- Documentation on UDC Calculations: [http://vpp.ritis.org/static/delay\\_analysis/docs/DelayCalculations.pdf](http://vpp.ritis.org/static/delay_analysis/docs/DelayCalculations.pdf)
- Want to improve the UDC report for your area? [http://vpp.ritis.org/static/delay\\_analysis/docs/PreferredVolumeFormat.pdf](http://vpp.ritis.org/static/delay_analysis/docs/PreferredVolumeFormat.pdf)
- General VPP Suite Update Information: <http://vpp.ritis.org/suite/updates/>

## 7. **VPP Suite User Group**

Michael Pack noted that a VPP Suite User Group meeting will be held via webcast on October 15, 2013 at 10:30am. Topics will include the new VPP Suite tools, a discussion on the "Top Enhancements" as decided by the VPP Suite User Group, and spotlight presentations from members on Suite-generated products.

## 8. **Enhanced Performance Measures – State/MPO Outreach**

Michael Pack noted that he and George Schoener have traveled to several states including Connecticut and Rhode Island to get feedback on VPP data, promote the VPP Suite, and answer any questions. Michael noted that visits are scheduled for South Carolina and Massachusetts in October and November 2013, respectively. If any states are interested please contact Michael Pack, George Schoener or Karen Jehanian.

## 9. **Partners Using Archived Operations Data Group**

Zoe Neaderland provided an update on the Shared Measures Brochure developed by the Partners Using Archived Operations Data Group. Zoe noted the brochure has been developed and a template is available for agencies to edit. The measures that have been agreed on to be incorporated on a voluntary basis include:

- Cost of delay (hours and monetary)
- Travel Time
- Duration of congestions (recurring)
- Reliability Index or Planning Time Index (non-recurring)



Zoe noted that the brochure is also available at:

[http://www.dvrpc.org/asp/pubs/publicationabstract.asp?pub\\_id=NL13011](http://www.dvrpc.org/asp/pubs/publicationabstract.asp?pub_id=NL13011)

Templates are available by contacting [zneideralnd@dvrpc.org](mailto:zneideralnd@dvrpc.org). Zoe indicated that they are looking for organizations to utilize the template. NJTPA indicated that they will be developing a similar flyer for northern New Jersey.

Zoe concluded by reviewing the next steps for the “shared measures” effort, which include use of the Shared Measures Brochure by interested agencies and providing comments to FHWA so MAP-21 performance measures incorporate as much real-world experience as possible.

### 10. **Communications Update**

Karen Jehanian presented an update on the project correspondence sent to VPP Team members and posted on the Coalition website. She reviewed the schedule for upcoming meetings.

October 15, 2013	10:00-11:30 am	VPP Suite User Group Webcast
November 14, 2013	TBD	TISPTC Meeting/Webcast – in Boston, MA (Closing the Information Gaps across jurisdictions workshop will be held after the meeting)
December 5, 2013	10:30-11:30 am	VPP Team Webcast

Participants with questions regarding any of the upcoming meetings/webcasts or VPP documents should contact Joanna Reagle at 610-228-0760 or [jreagle@kmjinc.com](mailto:jreagle@kmjinc.com).

### 11. **Thank You and Wrap Up**

**The date for the next meeting is December 5, 2013.** The webcast registration and information will be sent to the VPP Team via email.

Any questions in the meantime should be directed to:

- George Schoener at 703-389-9281 or [geschoener@comcast.net](mailto:geschoener@comcast.net)
- Karen Jehanian at 610-228-0211 or [kjehanian@kmjinc.com](mailto:kjehanian@kmjinc.com)
- Contract expansion/funding issues should be directed to Kathy Frankle at 410-414-2925 or [kfrankle@umd.edu](mailto:kfrankle@umd.edu)

The webcast adjourned at noon.



**Minutes  
Vehicle Probe Project Committee  
Webcast/Conference Call  
September 25, 2013**

**PARTICIPANTS**

<b>I-95 Corridor Coalition:</b>
George Schoener Marygrace Parker

<b>Vehicle Probe Project Webcast Attendees:</b>	
Michael Connors	Connecticut DOT
Gene Glotzbach	Florida DOT
Hugh Colton	Georgia DOT
Glenn McLaughlin	Maryland SHA
Peter Sutton	Massachusetts DOT
Kelly McVeigh, Gail Yazersky	New Jersey DOT
Jennifer Portanova	North Carolina DOT
Dan Farley	Pennsylvania DOT
Deanna Peabody	Rhode Island DOT
Dipak Patel	South Carolina DOT
Scott Cowherd, Rose Lawhorne, Mena Lockwood	Virginia DOT
Ed Stylc, Victor Henry, Brian Ryder	Baltimore Metropolitan Council
Zoe Neaderland	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Andrew Meese	Metropolitan Washington Council Of Governments
Branislav Dimitrijevic	New Jersey Institute of Technology
Tiffany Dubinsky	Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
David Heller	South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization
Rich Taylor, Stephanie Hickman	FHWA
Rick Schuman, Pete Costello	INRIX
Stan Young, Kathleen Frankle, Michael Pack	University of Maryland

<b>Consultant Support Staff:</b>
Karen Jehanian, Bridget Bitto KMJ Consulting, Inc.