Investing in Our Transportation Future

Bold Ideas to Meet Big Challenges

The challenges faced by transportation researchers, practitioners, and administrators—transportation’s role in the economy, zero-fatality goals for highways, targets for climate change reduction efforts, preservation of infrastructure, and more—and the bold ideas to meet these challenges were highlighted at the Transportation Research Board’s 89th Annual Meeting, January 10–14, 2010, in Washington, D.C. More than 10,000 transportation professionals from 65 countries came together for approximately 3,000 presentations at more than 600 workshops and sessions, plus 350 committee meetings, special events, awards presentations, and more. Approximately 65 sessions and workshops addressed the meeting’s theme, “Bold Ideas to Meet Big Challenges.”

The meeting presented an opportunity for transportation professionals from across the globe to exchange ideas and share research across all modes and disciplines. At a Welcome Session for Annual Meeting newcomers, committee chairs made informal presentations on their areas. After the session, approximately 370 people expressed an interest in becoming involved in the committee process.

Visual aids and recordings of video and audio from 45 sessions were posted online as e-sessions at www.TRB.org, and 1,900 papers were included in the 2010 Annual Meeting Compendium of Papers DVD.

The 2010 Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture was delivered by Martin Wachs of the RAND Corporation. U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood was the featured speaker at the Chairman’s Luncheon, which included major award presentations.

Details and highlights appear on the following pages.
INTERSECTIONS

1. New attendees hear a briefing by committee leaders in the Social, Economic, and Cultural Issues Section at the Welcome Session, which introduces newcomers to TRB’s many committees, activities, and networking opportunities.

2. Between sessions, Jalil Kianfar, University of Missouri (left), consults the Annual Meeting interactive program with Omidreza Shoghi and Mohammad-said Dehghanianj (right) of Virginia Tech.

3. The TRB Technical Activities Council met to review the current status of initiatives and to plan for the coming year and the 2011 meeting—TRB’s 90th.

4. At a session that showcased the SHRP 2 Collaborative Decision-Making Framework web tool, Matt Day, ICF International (left); Craig Cooper, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments; and Margie Sheriff, Federal Highway Administration (right) experiment with the program on the computers provided.

5. At poster sessions, attendees reviewed research displays and directly interacted with authors of papers.

6. Tanju Sofu, Argonne Transportation Research and Analysis Computing Center, explains his organization’s work to Scott Ornitz, Florida Department of Transportation (DOT), in the exhibit hall.

7. At an informal meeting of international leaders, Magda Kopczynska of the European Commission discusses collaboration in transportation research between Europe and the United States.
SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

1. Members of the new U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) leadership team communicated visions, plans, and priorities for federal transportation programs and policies at a special Annual Meeting session.

2. FRA Administrator Joseph Szabo outlined key goals for rail programs at the Meet the U.S. DOT Leadership session.

3. David Strickland, newly sworn-in as head of NHTSA, briefed the audience on the future of highway safety.

4. Rodolfo Sabonge of the Panama Canal Authority presents information on expansion of the Panama Canal and its potential impact on U.S. ports.


6. Rakesh Shalia, FedEx, presents the integrated carrier perspective at one of four sessions on What Lessons Has the Freight Transportation Sector Learned from the Global Economic Crisis?

7. Rongfang (Rachel) Liu, New Jersey Institute of Technology, speaks at Bold Ideas and Big Challenges: Transportation Infrastructure in China.

8. Lee Schipper, University of California, Berkeley, moderates How to Achieve a Global Low-Carbon Transport System by 2050.

9. Catherine Ross, Georgia Institute of Technology (far right), discusses megaregions with panelists (left to right) Mark Pisano, University of Southern California; Jos Arts, Rijkswaterstaat; and William Lyons, Volpe Center.
SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS

1. Larry Sutherland, Parsons Brinckerhoff, examines crash modification factors at the Highway Safety Manual Introductory Training session, one of the Human Factors Workshops held Saturday, January 9.


4. Rebecca Sanders, University of California, Berkeley, guides a workshop on Improving University Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Education.

5. Kristine Williams (standing), University of South Florida, and Jimmy Isonhood, Mississippi DOT, explore Legal Considerations in Corridor Projects and Access Control.

6. Thomas Hicks, Maryland DOT, addresses Human Factors Road Design Guidelines: Use by Highway Designers and Traffic Engineers.

7. Ed Moreland, American Motorcyclist Association, speaks at the second part of the Motorcycle and Roadway-Roadside Panel.


9. Communicating with John and Jane Public competition finalists and presenters (left to right): Public Involvement in Transportation committee members Jennifer L. Weeks, PB, and Judy Meyer, Public Information Associates; Carol Doering, Sound Transit, winner; Lisa Horanyi, RideShare/Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission; Brandi Steffen, CH2M Hill; Tony Mendoza, Metro Portland; Michael Culp, FHWA; and Planning and Environment Group Chair Katherine F. Turnbull, Texas Transportation Institute.
SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS (continued)

1. Speakers at Performance Specifications for Geosynthetics in Highway Projects (left to right): Barry Christopher, Christopher Consultants; Mark Morvant, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development; Daniel Enrique Alzamora, FHWA; Silas Nichols, FHWA; and Khalid A. Farrag, Gas Technology Institute.

2. Daniel McGehee, University of Iowa, presides over discussion at Analysis Planning for SHRP 2 Naturalistic Driving Study.

3. Maria Vegega, NHTSA, guides a session on International Perspectives on Impaired Driving.


7. Stephanie Binder, NHTSA, responds to audience questions at the Distracted Driving session.

8. Jennifer Hopp, University of Maryland, participates in a question-and-answer session at Medicine Versus Public Health: Divergent Approaches to the Regulation of Driver Competency.

9. Margarida C. Coelho, University of Aveiro, Portugal, discusses a poster on vehicle energy use and safety systems with Gopal Duleep, ICF Consulting.

10. Guntur Sugiyarto, Asian Development Bank (right), listens as Orlando Strambi, University of São Paulo, describes his findings on the effects of a bus rapid transit system on emissions.
SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS (continued)


2. Richard Christenson, University of Connecticut, explains his project on smart damping technologies, developed under the NCHRP Innovations Deserving Exploratory Analysis program.

3. Hamid Ghasemi, FHWA, presents information on the Status of FHWA’s Long-Term Bridge Performance Program.

4. Cindy Menches, University of Texas at Austin, addresses contracting strategies at Management of Maintenance Contracts, Quality Assurance, and ITS Devices.

5. Xiaodun Sun, University of Louisiana, presides over Traffic Safety and Traffic Management in Developing Countries.


7. Aviation Risk and Recovery Assessments examined topics such as airport disaster preparedness and airport rescue and fire fighting regulations.


9. Gordon Mott, Association of American Railroads, speaks about positive train control safety and economics at Positive Train Control: Meeting the Mandate.

10. Sybil Derrible and Sheyda Saneinejad (right), University of Toronto, discuss their paper on a macroscopic greenhouse gas emissions model at a poster session on Current Issues in Transportation and the Environment.
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. Janette Sadik-Khan, New York City DOT, chairs a meeting of the Transportation Issues in Major U.S. Cities Committee.


3. Properties of Concrete Committee chair Tara Cavalline, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, reviews agenda items.

4. Asha Weinstein Agrawal, San Jose State University, participates in a discussion with the Transportation Education and Training Committee.

5. Consultant James E. Bryden conducts the inaugural meeting of the Positive Protection in Work Zones Joint Subcommittee.


7. Data and Information Systems Section Chair Johanna P. Zmud, NuStats, LLC (left), receives a poster of appreciation from Reginald R. Souleyrette, Iowa State University.


10. Soil Mechanics Section Chair Njoroge W. Wainaina, North Carolina DOT (right), and Foundation of Bridges and Other Structures Committee Chair Mark Morvant (left) present Brent Robinson with the section’s best paper award.
EXHIBITS

1. The well-trafficked Exhibit Hall featured displays from more than 150 organizations and businesses.

2. Exhibits allowed attendees to discuss transportation-related products and services with vendors.

OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARDS

3. The Pyke Johnson Award recognizes outstanding papers in the field of transportation systems planning and administration.

4. D. Grant Mickle Award winners for best paper on operation and maintenance of transportation facilities were Richard W. Jenney, Jr., Iteris, Inc. (left); Eddie Curtis, FHWA; and Larry Head, University of Arizona.

5. Ida van Schalkwyk (left), Karen Dixon, and Bob Layton of Oregon State University won the K. B. Woods Award for their paper, “Balancing Urban Driveway Design Demands Based on Stopping Sight Distance.”

6. The authors of the Patricia F. Waller Award-winning paper, “Safety Effectiveness of HAWK Pedestrian Treatment,” are Kay Fitzpatrick (left) and Eun Sug Park, Texas Transportation Institute.

7. Adam Millard-Ball, Stanford University, received the Fred Burggraf Award, which honors papers by young researchers, for “Cap-and-Trade: Five Implications for Transportation Planners.”

8. Terry McNinch (left) and Timothy Colling, Michigan Technological University, received the Charley V. Wootan Award for an outstanding paper in policy and organization.
Committees Salute Long-Term Leaders

TRB awarded emeritus membership to 3 individuals at the 2010 Annual Meeting, honoring significant, long-term contributions and outstanding service on technical activities committees. The honorees and their committees are:

- **John M. Burns, Jr.** (deceased November 2009)  
  *Committee on Maintenance Equipment*

- **Nathan A. Gartner**  
  *Committee on Traffic Flow Theory and Characteristics*

- **Barbara A. Petrarca**  
  *Committee on Landscape and Environmental Design*

![Committees Salute Long-Term Leaders]
Executive Committee Gains New Leaders

Michael R. Morris, Director of Transportation, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), is the 2010 Chair of the TRB Executive Committee. He succeeds Adib Kanafani, Cahill Professor of Civil Engineering, University of California, Berkeley. Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator, Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), is the 2010 Vice Chair.

Transportation director since 1990 for the North Central Texas Council of Governments—the metropolitan planning organization for the Dallas–Fort Worth area—Morris has guided implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and air quality–related transportation control measures in the State Implementation Plan. Previously, he held responsibilities as transportation planner, senior transportation planner, and assistant director of transportation at NCTCOG.

In 1994, Morris received the Transportation Engineer of the Year Award from the Institute of Transportation Engineers; he was presented with the Texas Department of Transportation Road Hand Award in 1995. At TRB, he is a member of the Executive Committee’s Subcommittee on Planning and Policy Review. He earned a master’s degree in civil engineering from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1979 and is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas.

Before becoming Maryland SHA Administrator in 2003, Pedersen was Director of the Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering and Deputy Administrator and Chief Engineer for Planning and Engineering. Projects under his watch have included the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project in metropolitan Washington.

U.S. DOT LEADERSHIP PANEL

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, a panel of new U.S. DOT administrators gathered to brief TRB leaders on federal transportation policies and programs. Panelists included

1. John D. Porcari, Deputy Secretary of Transportation;
2. Roy W. Kienitz, Under Secretary of Transportation;
3. Polly Trottenberg, Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy;
4. Peter H. Appel, Administrator, Research and Innovative Technology Administration;
5. Peter M. Rogoff, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration;
6. Gregory G. Nadeau, Deputy Administrator, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA);
7. David Grizzle, Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration; and
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. 2009 Chair Adib Kanafani guides the Executive Committee through an ambitious agenda.

2. Michael Morris engages in a dialogue with the U.S. DOT panelists.

3. TRB Executive Director Bob Skinner presents a review of the past year and a preview of the next.

The Executive Committee gained several new members in 2010. These included

4. Beverly A. Scott, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority;

5. Douglas W. Stotlar, Con-Way, Inc.;

6. Daniel Sperling, University of California, Davis; and

7. David Seltzer, Mercator Advisors LLC.

8. Sandra Rosenbloom, University of Arizona, Tucson, is the Executive Committee's International Secretary.

9. Neil J. Pedersen, Maryland State Highway Administration, is the 2010 Executive Committee Vice Chair.

10. Past Chair Debra L. Miller, Kansas DOT, reports on the Subcommittee on Planning and Policy Review.

Also participating in Executive Committee meeting business were

11. Anne S. Ferro, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration;

12. Therese W. McMillan, Federal Transit Administration;

13. Randell H. Iwasaki, California Department of Transportation; and

14. Rear Admiral Kevin Cook, U.S. Coast Guard.
Susan Martinovich, Nevada DOT, offers insights at the Executive Committee meeting.

Michael Meyer, Georgia Institute of Technology, reports on an Executive Committee–sponsored study that examined directions for research on climate change and energy.

Edward (Ned) Helme, Center for Clean Air Policy, reports on the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference.

Joris Al, Rijkswaterstaat, briefs the Executive Committee on the progress of Kilometerprijs, a nationwide congestion pricing system in the Netherlands.


James Jensen, the National Academies' Director of Congressional and Government Affairs, updates the Executive Committee on science- and technology-related initiatives in Congress.

TRB Technical Activities Director Mark Norman presents statistics indicating another successful Annual Meeting.

Pedersen, who has a TRB service record of more than 30 years, chairs the Second Strategic Highway Research Program Technical Coordinating Committee for Capacity Research. He chaired the Technical Activities Council from 2005 to 2008 and has served on many TRB committees and panels. He is active in the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and chairs the Executive Board of the I-95 Corridor Coalition, a group of transportation agencies from 16 states, the District of Columbia, and two Canadian provinces. A Massachusetts native, Pedersen has two undergraduate degrees from Bucknell University and a master's degree in civil engineering from Northwestern University. He received the Thomas H. MacDonald Award from AASHTO in 2007 and the George S. Bartlett Award from TRB, AASHTO, and the American Road and Transportation Builders' Association in 2006.

Newly appointed to the Executive Committee are Beverly A. Scott, General Manager, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority; David Seltzer, Cofounder, Mercator Advisors; Daniel Sperling, Interim Director, Energy Efficiency Center, and Professor, University of California, Davis; and Douglas W. Stotlar, President and CEO, Con-way Inc. Reappointed members of the Executive Committee are J. Barry Barker, Executive Director, Transit Authority of River City; Tracy L. Rosser, Vice President, Corporate Traffic Department, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.; and C. Michael Walton, Ernest H. Cockrell Centennial Chair of Engineering, University of Texas at Austin.