

TRIENNIAL STRATEGIC PLAN (TSP)

Period: 2017-2020

PART 1: Committee Name and Scope

Committee Code *	AP085
Committee Name *	Ferry Transportation
- Date(s) reviewed	1/31/2017
- Change, if proposed***	
- No. of official members approving change/total number of members **	
Committee Scope *	The purpose of the committee is to foster and distribute useful research concerning ferry systems to users, operators, suppliers, manufacturers, and regulators. The scope of the research activities concerns ferry requirements, operations, planning, management, design, construction, maintenance, and utilization. Ferries that operate in ocean, coastal, inland, and river environments are included. Ferries are defined as vessels that carry passengers and vehicles with drivers.
- Date(s) reviewed	1/31/2017
- Change, if proposed ***	
- No. of official members approving change/total number of members **	

* Show current, as it currently appears in the [TRB Online Directory](#)

** Includes Chair, Standing Committee Members, Emeritus Members, and Young Members

*** Show proposed, or Not Applicable

PART 2: Committee History

2.1

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017
Number of Members in Attendance at Annual Meeting				
Number of Visitors in Attendance at Annual Meeting				
Number of Papers Reviewed		7	4	6
Total Number in Attendance at Mid-Year Meeting				

2.2

Sessions and workshops sponsored/cosponsored at the Mid-Year meeting, including name of co-sponsoring committee(s) if applicable (by year):

Annual Meeting Activities	
<u>2017</u>	
Session Number & Name	Number of Podium Sessions: 2 Number of Poster Sessions: 1 Workshops: 0
Session 544 (Lectern)	Research in Ferry Operations
Session 597 (Lectern)	Ferries: The First and Future Transit Mode
Session 257 (Poster)	Research in Ferry Transportation
<u>2016</u>	
Session Number & Name	Number of Podium Sessions: 2 Number of Poster Sessions: 0 Workshops: 0
Session 511 (Lectern)	Case Studies for Improving Passenger Ferry Service
Session 574 (Lectern)	Natural Gas Fuels and Safe Ferries
<u>2015</u>	
Session Number & Name	Number of Podium Sessions: 2 Number of Poster Sessions: 1 Workshops: 0
Session 577 (Lectern)	Marine Highways: Developing a Solid Alternative for the Future of Domestic Shipping
Session 780 (Lectern)	Urban Ferry Systems: Emergency Planning Efforts
Session 245 (Poster)	Current Issues in Ferry Transportation
<u>2014</u>	
Session Number & Name	Number of Podium Sessions: 2 Number of Poster Sessions: 0 Workshops: 0
Session 228 (Lectern)	Cutting-Edge Ferry Issues
Session 351 (Lectern)	Marine Highway Corridors

2.3

Provide title(s) and presenter(s) for informal presentations made at Annual Meeting and Mid-Year Committee meetings:

2017 Mid-Year Meeting

1. Safety Culture
 - a. Kevin McSweeney, Shared Technology - ABS Corporate Technology
 - b. Brian Craig, Lamar University
 - c. Martha Grabowski, LeMoyne University/Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 - d. Todd Ripley, Maritime Administration
2. Relational Databases for Safety Analysis – Siyu Xu (Cathy), Shanghai Jiao Tong University

2017 Annual Meeting

1. Alternative Finance for Inland Waterways: What Are the Revenue Sources? (workshop),
2. Research in Ferry Transportation (poster session)
3. Research in Ferry Operations
4. Ferries: The First and Future Transit Mode

2016 Mid-Year Meeting

1. Perspectives from IMO and Interferry – Johan Roos, Director of Regulatory Affairs, Interferry
2. Linkages between domestic and international – Bekir Sitki Ustaoglu, Head of the Asia and Pacific Section, IMO Technical Cooperation Division

2016 Annual Meeting

1. Session 551: Case Studies for Improving Passenger Ferry Service
2. Session 574: Natural Gas Fuels and Safe Ferries
3. Ferry Transportation Committee Meeting
4. Marine and Intermodal Caucus
5. Session 776: Current Research on the Marine Environment: Liquefied Natural Gas as Marine Fuel
6. Session 831: Breaking Down Barriers: Funding and Finance Issues and Innovations in Public Transportation Modes

2015 Mid-Year Meeting

1. Kevin Kohlmann, Office of Security, Maritime Administration
2. Interferry/SNAME - Abigail Golden, Worldwide Ferry Safety Association
3. NYEDC East River, PANYNJ NJ-Manhattan & TransHudson Private Ferry Services - Lessons Learned - BillyBey/NY Waterways

2.4

Provide titles of new research need statements (RNS) posted in TRB's RNS database (by year):

None.

2.5

Provide title(s) of RNS submitted for funding consideration:

NOTE: If funded, include research project title/number and name of funding organization(s).

None.

2.6

Provide titles of synthesis topics submitted (by year):

NOTE: **List** any synthesis topic(s) funded in a research program.

Guide for planning urban transit ferry systems (submitted as a Problem Statement in 2017)

2.7

Membership Make-up

As of January 2017, AP085 consisted of 29 members.

MEMBERSHIP TYPES	
Regular Member	22
State Department of Transportation Member	2
International Member	3
Young Member	2
GENDER	
Male	18
Female	10
DIVERSITY	
White	15
Black	0
Hispanic	4
Asian or Pacific Islander	1
American Indian	0
Two or More Races	1
Unknown	7
MEMBER AFFILIATION	
Public-Sector	7
Private-Sector	10
Academia	4
Nonprofit/Other	7

TRB's committee rules allow for a total of 25 regular members, 2 state department of transportation members, 5 international members, and 4 young members (younger than 35 years old) for a total committee membership of 36 persons.

As of January 2017, AP085 could add 3 Regular Members, 2 international Members, 0 state department of transportation Members, and 2 Young Members. The committee membership's next rotation will occur in April 2017.

2.8

Provide any of the following:

- Any special publications, such as TR circular, and conference proceedings
- Sponsored or co-sponsored specialty conferences, symposia, workshops, webinars or other joint efforts with other TRB committees, other TRB entities, or other organizations (i.e. AASHTO, FHWA, State DOTs, ASTM, ASCE, and/or other modes of transportation)

In 2015, 2016, and 2017, the Ferry Transportation committee held its mid-year meeting during the Ferry Safety and Technology Conference. The committee meeting was held as a joint meeting with the TRB Maritime Safety Committee.

PART 3: Committee Future Outlook Statement and Committee Three-Year Plan (Limit 1,500 words total)

Committee Future Outlook Statement

The committee future outlook statement should include a discussion of the primary factors and influences that will shape the transportation community and topic(s) within the committee's scope over the short- (one to three years) and long-term (four to seven years). This statement should include:

- *identification of emerging, critical, and cross-cutting issues **within the committee scope** (these issues could have been identified by the committee, Section, Group, Technical Activities Council, TRB Executive Committee, or other transportation committees and organizations);*
- *identification of emerging, critical, and cross-cutting issues **outside the committee scope** that provide opportunities for liaison and collaborative efforts (these issues could also come from a wide range of sources).*

Factors currently influencing and increasing pedestrian and bicycle transportation over vehicular include the cost of personal vehicle operations and maintenance and the preference of the millennial generation to ride-share; also note that the United States Department of Transportation is also focusing its efforts on ridesharing. Additionally, historic and continuing foci on transit services, including bus, rail, and ferry, that affect land use patterns or notably transit (ferry) oriented development.

Ferry services will continue to be supported throughout the United States by public and private entities. This has been seen in the last few years at Hingham Shipyard for the ferry commuter service supported by MBTA. And it will be seen at the Sagamore Development supported by Under Armor in the Baltimore Area and the expansion of the New York City-wide ferry service.

Based on these factors, the committee believes the following emerging issues could be explored within the next year:

- Comparison of fares between ferry, bus, and rail or the combination of any of them.
- The promoted incorporation of ferry services into new developments, where navigable water is available. This includes an emphasis to research and consider ridership demand as well as operational parameters.
- Development of Public-Private Partnerships (P3s) that could also involve:
 - o Ferry transit network development (for a new privately operated service)
 - o Electronic ticketing
 - o Terminal design and development
- Connectivity to urban and rural transit services including bus and rail
- Internal rate of return analyses for potentially new ferry services

The committee believes exploring these topics further through collaborative research efforts with domestic and international researchers would advance the use of ferry services in key markets in the United States.

Committee Three-Year Plan

*The committee plan is a short, focused statement of where the committee wants to go and how to get there. The committee plan may include, but is not limited to: **projects, activities and products** that the committee will undertake during the next three years to address the emerging, critical, and cross-cutting issues identified above;*

- *How the current or proposed changed membership composition will respond to issues identified above;*
- *strategies to encourage significant involvement by the committee's Young Members, state DOT members, and other key constituents, both during committee meetings and at other times;*
- *committee's communication activities, and efforts to provide assistance and technology transfer to the transportation community;*
- *research – for the TRB committees, “research” is a very broad concept that can begin with providing the user perspective on research needs, writing research needs statements, tracking research, understanding the funding available for research in their topic area, developing case studies, lessons learned, disseminating research, technology transfer, and other activities that will advance the state of the practice. Potential research activities are:*
 - *research directions, results, and needs or gaps;*
 - *plan for maintaining and augmenting the Research Need Statements (RNS) database;*
 - *efforts to address research implementation and user needs, and ways to identify research use and implementation.*

The issues highlighted above will continue beyond the first year, consistent with current foci in transportation. These include:

- Ferries and the environment (climate change impacts) including how to reduce water and shoreline impacts.
- Comparison of infrastructure development and operational/maintenance costs to ferry development and operational/maintenance costs, given various requirements from passenger to vehicular to truck/freight. This would entail a greater business case for ferry services due to increase labor and material costs.

The current membership composition is expected to slowly move toward having more international research resources. This might include through consultancy, notably internationally, yet the experience brought to the committee will prove to be beneficial.

Consistent with more international input and the millennial generation's focus, it is hoped that the Ferry Committee can attract more Young Members. This can only be facilitated by increasing its communications efforts including through updating and maintaining the TRB and Google sites as well as joint efforts with other TRB committees. The committee may also develop or connect to new content-based sites such as LinkedIn. In attracting eager, young minds, the committee believes in supporting more research efforts such as synthesis topics, working with other organizations like the American Planning Association's Transportation Planning Division.