

## Meeting Notes:

MTF Rail and Transit Committee Teleconference

Meeting notes by César Segovia, URS

### Action items in bold

Attendees:

Scott Seeburger, FDOT District 4 -- Chair

Diana Fields, FDOT CO

Gabrielle Matthews, FDOT CO PTO

Min-Tang Li, FDOT District 4

Michael Escalante, NCFRPC

David Schmitt, AECOM

Bob Crawley

Larry Foutz

Jerry Graham, Traf-O-Data

Hoyt Davis, Gannett Fleming

Ken Kaltenbach, Corradino

Jeanette Berk, HNTB

Thomas Rossi, CS

Ashutosh Kumar, AECOM

Dan Macmurphy, Traf-O-Data

Chunyu Lu, RS&H

Kacia Monts

César Segovia, URS

Scott Seeburger began the meeting.

### Item 1: STOPS –

There was interest at the Model Task Force meeting to investigate the application of STOPS in Florida. What role should the Committee play in this?

Larry Foutz suggested that MPOAC should be made aware of STOPS and to have it included in future MPO's scopes of work

Jeannette Berk suggested that it would be better to just make everybody aware of what inputs are needed to run it. If there is no transit project there is no need to implement it. Michael Escalante (?) added that only those Agencies pursuing NewStarts projects would be interested.

Gabrielle Matthews mentioned that there is no information on which agencies have GTFS. Maybe training on it would be appropriate. Jeanette mentioned the creation of a GTFS data repository in FDOT CO.

Larry made a comment about the benefit of having alternative runs in about 3 hours which could be viewed as an incentive to use STOPS.

Jerry Graham and Dan MacMurphy commented that STOPS produced good/reasonable results in Sarasota (District 1) compared to T-Best, both current ridership assignment and future years.

David Schmitt cautioned that STOPS is still under development by FTA, still evolving. Min-Tang Li mentioned some issues related to GTFS that should be adjusted to match base year routes.

Scott S. suggested that some guidelines should be created for STOPS users, some sort of template on what it is, general usage tips, what's helpful and what not, lessons learned (David S.). Requested volunteers to develop an outline of this STOPS guidance document.

**Action Item: Larry Foutz, Jeanette Berk, David Schmitt/Ashutosh Kumar and Scott will develop:**

- 1. An outline of this guidance on STOPS**
- 2. Outline should include how to make users aware of it**

**Scott Seeburger will organize a teleconference by mid-July to discuss the outline. Document expected to be finished in 2-4 weeks.**

## **Item 2: Model Update Deployment**

At the model task force, deployment of the Model Update improvements to FSUTMS modeling was deferred for further consideration by Central Office. Is there anything more that the Committee should pursue on this issue.

Scott mentioned that Thomas Hill wants to hold on the model enhancements for now.

Larry F. mentioned that in the MTF meeting there was too much emphasis on standardization.

Jeanette B. opinion was the Thomas H. did not want to commit to new transit standards since it might be seen as an opener to funding requests. The new transit updates are there, the Committee did its job already and now it is up to individual Agencies to use it or not. Nothing else should be expected.

Thomas Rossi mentioned that maybe the CO role could be that part of the model updates could be implemented or encouraged more than others.

Scott S. offered to talk to Thomas H. about CO objectives/priorities. It's obvious to Scott that gravity model has issues in D4 models, so destination choice was a welcomed opportunity to improve.

Ken Kaltenbach said that destination choice takes forever to run and maybe, in addition to its inherent qualities, those practical issues as running times should be considered. It's also true that standards are more difficult to implement these days as opposed to the UTPS age when CO did establish standards and provided tools that everybody follows.

Jeanette B. mentioned that CO is not running models anymore, they are rather pursuing statewide models, freight issues which are CO priorities right now. So it would be good if Scott S. actually has that conversation with Thomas about CO goals and priorities.

**Action Item: Scott S. will talk to Thomas H. about CO objectives/priorities.**

### Item 3. Open discussion/future Committee activities

Future Committee activities: Not discussed

Objectives: Not discussed

Information dissemination / Presentations: Not discussed

**Next Teleconference for the whole Transit & Rail Committee: Mid-September**

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm