

ITS Steering Committee Meeting

ATM-EOC
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Oct 20 2009, 10:00 AM

Summary

ITS Steering Committee Meeting (06/25/09) Recap (H. Dugas, CRPC)

- H. Dugas opened the meeting and called for introductions by those present.
- He then presented a summary of the previous ITS Steering Committee meeting that was held on June 25 2009.
- For the next two Summary items H. Dugas first called on S. Glascock to provide a presentation on ITS projects scheduled, followed by J. Baumann to report on the Ascension Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness.

DOTD ITS Projects Update (S. Glascock, PE, DOTD)

- S. Glascock provided an update of the various ITS projects that are either in construction or planned in the Baton Rouge MPO area.
- Ramp meters will be installed on 16 Ramps on I-0 and I-12 from the Split East Bound by the spring of next year.
- In reply to a question of the extent of “regionalism” in ITS deployment he replied that DOTD has some cameras mounted on I-10 in Ascension Parish, as well as West Baton Rouge and Livingston.
- Construction of the signal synchronization project referred to as Phase IV is complete. Phase VA will be let for construction this year (FY 10) and Phase VB will be let next year (FY 11). Phase VA contains signals on the Jefferson Hwy corridor.

Ascension EOP (J. Baumann, PE, Ascension DPW)

- J. Baumann spoke on the emergency operations center in Ascension Parish.
- Ascension Parish OEP is located in Gonzales on Irma Blvd and acts as the central dispatch center during emergencies. It is operated by the Office of Ascension Parish Sheriff. They also have a dispatch center across the Mississippi River in Donaldsonville which can communicate with the OEP in Gonzales. They do not operate traffic signals or traffic engineering activities in general. They also use an online work order system for efficiently tracking work orders.
- DOTD is laying fiber optic cable along the Airline Hwy corridor from Jefferson Hwy in EBR Parish to Sorrento in Ascension Parish. This project is being implemented by Diamond Electric. Once it is completed it will be extended and installed up to Laplace.

- J. Broemmelsiek (FHWA) mentioned that numerous integration opportunities exist to link WBR and ASC Parishes to the ATM-EOC in EBR Parish.
- J. Taylor (EBR Traffic Engineering) mentioned that Baton Rouge (ATM-EOC) is already planning ahead for the integration with other parishes and has started renumbering the signals in Baton Rouge Parish for that purpose.
- S. Glascock applauded J. Taylor for forward thinking and offered that the State DOTD will be ready to pay for any upgrades to the existing systems in order to facilitate integration.
- J. Taylor mentioned that meetings need to be held to discuss integration. He also mentioned that operational procedures would be developed to function in times of emergencies, and especially across different jurisdictional boundaries.
- A. Summers (WBR EOC) replied to a comment by H. Dugas, that WBR EOC is at present connected to EBR ATM-EOC through microwave communication for Homeland Security reasons, and is also interested in enhanced integration opportunities in the future.

ITS Regional Architecture Update Procedures

- H. Dugas presented the draft ITS Update Procedures and requested the Steering Committee to adopt the same.
- The ITS Update Procedures Document was **adopted by the committee with the following comment:**
 - The Committee requested inclusion of wording that the Update of the ITS Regional Architecture can also be triggered by the MPO when it determines the need, and not only through email or hard copy letter request from others.
- The Committee further requested that CRPC upload the meeting Agenda, Summary, Presentations etc. to CRPC's website.

ITS Regional Architecture Interagency Agreements

- H. Dugas presented the various existing agreements and also discussed possible new Interagency Agreements with respect to the Regional ITS Architecture, and opened the topic for discussion.
- J. Setze mentioned that just the mere change of Mayor's or other elected officials, or any other related organizational changes, does not necessitate the need to update the agreements. The agreements have to be periodically reviewed and updated if there are any significant functional changes within the existing agreements.
- B. Harmon (EBR DPW) mentioned that after a thorough review of all related material, it is his opinion that, the existing agreements remain valid.
- The committee agreed that a **subcommittee** be formed to include representation from DPW, DOTD, FHWA and CRPC for the purpose **to review the agreements** and come up with new agreements if needed. The proposed

members on the sub-committee will be I. Partenheimer, S. Glascock, J. Broemmelsiek and H. Dugas. It was requested that a representative from J. Moreau's (Emergency Preparedness) team be included also.

ITS Data Research

- H. Dugas made a recommendation that DOTD execute a research project with LSU/ LTRC for a detailed analysis of ITS data being collected by the ATM-EOC. The outcome of the research will be an inventory of the data that is being collected, the specific data that would be needed by various organizations, and the mode in which the data can be shared and used.
- A discussion was brought up regarding the Tulane University research project concerning the ATMS data conducted a couple of years ago. H. Dugas mentioned that the research dealt with abstract issues and did not address operational issues such as data inventory, sharing and user agencies. He said it appeared unclear if the research is incomplete or if LTRC has determined it is final.
- J. Broemmelsiek mentioned that the research should be driven through identifying the data needs. So he suggested that a **scope of needs be developed** and the same could be presented to the ITS Steering Committee and the TAC committee for review and approval.

Other

- LSU ITS Laboratory is still in its infancy and the scope remains broad.
- J. Setze asked if the data being used for designing the Ramp Meters can be identified.
- M. Bruce (ABMB) requested that the Regional ITS Architecture be updated. He mentioned that the changes to be made could be minor. He further reported that he would discuss this issue with Jonathan Fox. He expressed interest in preparing a **draft scope of effort and time** for updating the Architecture. The scope could be presented at the next ITS Steering Committee meeting.