



**Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee (GCM) ITS Priority Corridor
Executive Committee Conference Call
Wednesday, December 19, 2001, 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.**

Meeting Minutes

Executive Committee

- Kirk Brown, IDOT
- Terry Mulcahy, WisDOT
- J. Bryan Nicol, INDOT
- John Baxter, FHWA

The Coordination Group:

- Dave Zattero, Chair, IDOT
- Mark Newland - INDOT
- Phil DeCabooter, WisDOT
- John Berg, FHWA
- Wendall Meyer, FHWA
- Dennis Lee, FHWA

Support:

- Chuck Sikaras, IDOT
 - Rob Newbold, IDOT
 - Mike Williamsen, IDOT
 - Linda Wheeler, IDOT
 - Jeff Benson, URS/BRW
 - Daryl Taavola, URS/BRW
 - Mark Nelson, URS/BRW
 - Matt Burt, URS/BRW
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The Executive Committee held a meeting on December 19, 2001. Terry Mulcahy, WisDOT, chaired the meeting. A list of attendees is included at the end of these minutes. Action items are listed in bold text.

A presentation outlining the meeting was distributed to the group.

1. Introductions

Introductions were made by the group. Terry Mulcahy stated that he had to leave by 10:30.

2. Corridor Program Activities

David Zattero, IDOT, discussed progress made in GCM Program Essential and Priority Projects. He stated that it is critical to the Corridor Program that progress is made on these projects. The RFP for Gateway 2 will be out in January, and will include broader capability. He discussed the critical issue of software use in Gateway System Hubs. Software is already developed and licensed by the three states for use in the hubs.

Zattero also discussed the 511 Program Application, which has been prepared for a grant possibly totaling \$375,000 (up to \$100,000 per state plus \$25,000 state match). The application was approved by the Coordination Work Group and the Deployment Committee and will be submitted soon. He expects a quick turn-around from FHWA.

John Baxter, FHWA, reported that FHWA strongly supports the grant and development of a 511 system, and that the system should be connected to a statewide system.

3. GCM Funding/TEA-21 Reauthorization

John Baxter, FHWA, reported that the Federal Transportation Bill was signed on December 18.

Zavattero discussed AASHTO's comments on TEA-21 reauthorization. He reported that there is a new federal emphasis on operations. The recent National Operations Summit detailed the new federal funding priorities:

- Focus will include safety and security
- Funding institutional infrastructure for regional collaboration
- Funding priority to those who have demonstrated effective coordination

Zavattero believes that the GCM Corridor can demonstrate to federal agencies that it meets these objectives.

4. GCM Corridor Role in Safety/Security

Handout *1) EC 2A-121901 – 511 Traveler Information Funding Application*
2) EC 2B-121901 – GCM Program Plan Update Supplement: Using Technology to Enhance Transportation Safety and Security

Jeff Benson of URS discussed how traffic management centers in New York and Washington played a role in incident management in the September 11 terrorist attacks. The Coordination Work Group felt the Program should take a closer look at these issues and the Corridor's capabilities to better identify threats and react to safety and security concerns.

Benson and Zavattero reviewed the Program Plan Update Supplement: Using Technology to Enhance Transportation Safety and Security. The supplement was designed to:

- initiate dialogue on the role of GCM in safety and security efforts,
- underscore the importance of several Immediate-Term GCM projects with safety and security concerns, and
- identify potential enhancements to the GCM program that would advance transportation safety and security.

The Supplement suggests implementing key immediate-term planned projects:

- Gateway Operations and Enhancement
- Communications Links at State Borders
- Integrated Corridor-Wide 511 Traveler information Hotline Strategy
- Multi-state Agreements for Coordinated VMS Message Posting
- Endorsement of Coordinated Incident Management Practices, Outreach, and Training
- Corridor Communications Infrastructure Plan
- Continued Program Management Support

The Supplement also recommends modifying or adding the following projects:

- Facilitate risk assessment and related security planning activities
- Adjust scope of work on planned GCM projects to consider safety and security issues
- Expand Immediate Term Gateway Operations and Enhancement Project
- Develop a security component to GCM Plan

- Add projects that deploy ITS infrastructure to ensure safety and security in regional coordination
- Add a project to support the coordination of security/emergency planning activities to Immediate Term Projects
- Reintroduce the HAZMAT Tracking System Project
- Add projects to address transit security issues

The Program is looking for approval of the Supplement from the Executive Committee.

Mulcahy noted that the proposals in the Supplement should be discussed and coordinated with Henry Hungerbeeler, Secretary of the Missouri Department of Transportation, to make sure they are consistent with good practices. Different groups should work together on issues like this.

Kirk Brown of IDOT reported that the suggestions are consistent with AASHTO. Rob Neubold of IDOT discussed that at a pre-conference meeting of IDOT officials. Brown cautioned that the Program should not advance too far, since it does not run any transit agencies.

Benson discussed how these issues relate to cross-state issues.

Bryan Nicol of INDOT suggested that when projects are implemented, the lessons learned should be shared with Henry Hungerbeeler from AASHTO. AASHTO may be able to complement this effort and give valuable advice.

Benson reported that Jeff Paniati of FHWA advised being as specific as possible about security.

Zavattero discussed specific proposals and existing projects from the Supplement. Phil DeCabooter, WisDOT, stated that the key to a successful program was to coordinate efforts with AASHTO.

Zavattero asked if Project Management contract resources should be redirected to develop the suggested new projects.

Brown stated that a work outline should be sent to Henry Hungerbeeler.

The Executive Committee approved the supplement. The Executive Committee also approved the formation of a new work group to help coordinate safety and security issues. State safety agencies will be included in the work group.

5. GCM Coalition Understanding

- Handout:**
- 1) EC 5A-121901 - Agreement between IDOT, INDOT and WisDOT for On-Going Program Commitment and Consultant Program Management Support Services**
 - 2) EC 5B-121901 - State Borders Traffic Incident Management Memorandum of Understanding**

Matt Burt, URS, discussed the 3-State Agreement on On-going Program Commitment and Consultant Program Management Support Services. Consultant oversight is shifting from Wisconsin to Indiana. The program management should be determined by July 2002.

The Executive Committee approved the Agreement.

DeCaboater discussed the State Borders Traffic Incident Management Memorandum of Understanding, which allows planning for crossing borders for mutual aid. The plan provides mutual support at state borders within the Corridor.

Mulcahy voiced support for the plan, but expressed his concern regarding infringement upon existing emergency government policy. In Wisconsin, if an emergency is declared, the Emergency Government has authority for coordination efforts. He requested that the memorandum acknowledge the Emergency Management Protocol.

Zavattero stated that the memorandum is a statement in principal for cooperation during events less serious than declared emergencies. The Corridor would work with state Emergency Management Organizations in both situations.

Brown stated that the memorandum looked good, but he was not sure if it was necessary. In the past, Illinois has been able to work with other states. Mulcahy agreed that states will cooperate regardless of whether the memorandum is approved.

Mark Newland of INDOT stated that the memorandum puts into writing what exists in practice and reinforces the notion that the states are together on the issue of traffic incident management across state borders.

The Executive Committee approved the Memorandum of Understanding.

6. GCM Corridor Tour & Outreach

Benson discussed the proposed GCM Congressional Tour for 2002 designed to take advantage of the timing of TEA-21 reauthorization and the 2002 ITS World Congress. The Coordination Work Group is still aiming for a tour during the Congressional recess in August.

Mulcahy reported that Wisconsin agrees with that timing, and that the Corridor should have a role in the World Congress. He was unsure how much interest the tour would generate, but agreed that it is important to show what the corridor has achieved.

Zavattero noted that the Coordination Work Group needs to firm up tour dates, and will try to do so with three months notice.

Benson noted that the GCM Corridor's role in the ITS World Congress has not been discussed sufficiently. ITS Midwest will have a booth, and the GCM Corridor may want to co-locate there. Zavattero noted that the potential for a shared GCM/state exhibit has been discussed in Illinois.

Zavattero suggested that each state take part in the opening session, but Bryan Nicol noted that may conflict with an AASHTO Meeting in Alaska. **The Coordination Work Group will try to coordinate another way to fit the GCM Corridor it.**

7. GCM Executive Committee Membership

Handout: 1) *Invitation Letter to Christine Johnson of FHWA*

Zavattero suggested discussed inviting a FHWA ITS Joint Program Office member to sit in on future GCM Executive Committee meetings as an ex-officio member. They are involved in the I-95 Corridor in a similar manner. This could increase national awareness of the GCM Corridor.

The Executive Committee approved the idea. **Mulcahy said that will talk to Christine Johnson personally and extend the invitation on an upcoming trip to Washington, DC.**

8. Next Executive Committee Meeting & Other Business

Benson noted that the agenda for the next Executive Committee meeting will include:

- Program Project Update
- Congressional Tour
- Safety and Security Issues
- 511 Project Update

There will be a conference call in the spring, prior to the July Mississippi Valley meeting. **The date and time will be worked out by state the Coordination Work Group.**

Executive Committee December 19, 2001 Conference Call Attendees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Phone</u>
John Baxter	FHWA	(317) 226-7475
Kirk Brown	IDOT	(217) 782-5597
Dave Zavattero	IDOT	(847) 705-4800
Chuck Sikaras	IDOT	(847) 705-4800
Linda Wheeler	IDOT	(217) 782-6289
Mike Williamsen	IDOT	(217) 782-7868
Rob Newbold	IDOT	
Bryan Nicol	INDOT	(317) 232-5525
Mark Newland	INDOT	(317) 232-5523
Jim Poturalski	INDOT	(317) 234-0410
Terry Mulcahy	WisDOT	(608) 266-1114
Phil DeCabooter	WisDOT	(608) 267-0452
Jeff Benson	URS	(612) 373-6444
Daryl Taavola	URS	(612) 373-6529
Matt Burt	URS	(602) 648-2350