

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING # 1

Date: June 6th, 2013  
Time: 10:00 AM to 11:35 AM  
Location: ADOT HRDC  
Grand Canyon Room 1  
1130 North 22nd Ave  
Phoenix

## Meeting Summary

### Introductions

The meeting was opened by Matt Carpenter, ADOT Project Manager. Scott Omer, Director of ADOT Multimodal Planning Division, gave welcome remarks.

### Project Overview and Purpose

Matt Carpenter presented the project background and study purpose. The original study was conducted in 1998 and was updated in 2003 with extensive District Engineer involvement. Several projects included in the previous study have been constructed. The outcome of this study will be an updated evaluation methodology and a revised list of prioritized passing and climbing lane projects on the state highway system. Map-21 requires performance measurements such as safety, congestion relief, system reliability, freight movement, and economic vitality which fit the objectives of this study perfectly.

### Work Plan Summary

Rick Powers presented the project work plan summary. He began with success stories from the previous effort. Rick noted that during his term at ADOT as a District Engineer, the public really appreciated passing and climbing lane projects as they greatly improved safety and mobility. This study will review previous studies and documents, research current best practices and review other States procedures for passing and climbing lane projects. There will be significant coordination with ADOT staff from several departments and each Engineering District throughout the study. We will also obtain feedback from rural COGs and MPO's at two stakeholder meetings. Data collection is currently underway. We will develop a defensible methodology for evaluating the effectiveness of each proposed passing and climbing lane project. The TAC will have involvement on the selection and weighting of each evaluation criteria. Once the methodology has been established and agreed to by the TAC, we will identify candidate passing and climbing lane locations and conduct an objective evaluation of each candidate project. There will be two prioritization lists, one for passing lanes and another for climbing lanes. A combined list could be generated if requested by the TAC. The final work plan element is the completion of the final reports. The study area includes all rural roadways (i.e. those outside the urban area boundaries).

### Schedule

Rick Powers presented the project schedule (see PowerPoint handout). Anticipated completion will be April 2014. We will conduct interviews/work sessions with the District Engineers by phone or in person. We will also schedule stakeholder meetings to get

feedback from the rural COGs and MPOs. There will be three more TAC meetings during the course of the study.

### Climbing and Passing Lanes Methodology

Vamshi gave an overview of the previous methodology. For this study, Jacobs will develop/refine the methodology that could include the following steps:

- Identification of preliminary candidate passing/climbing lane locations using available ADOT data
- Establishment of the evaluation criteria and weighting
- Evaluation for viability and constructability
- Ranking of candidate locations based on evaluation criteria
- Final recommendations will be prioritized into three tiers - Tier 1: High priority; Tier 2: Medium Priority; Tier 3: Low Priority
- For Tier 1 recommendations, we will refine the passing/climbing lane start and end limits by reviewing as-built drawings and other pertinent data. We will also develop Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) documentation for each Tier 1 project.
- Input for the TAC and District Engineers will be obtained throughout the study process

### ADOT Partnering Process

Mike Carter from ADOT Partnering Group conducted a brief partnering workshop. After the presentation, Mike opened the floor for discussion and helped develop a project Mission Statement, project Goals and Objectives. Mike will provide a summary of the Partnering Session to the TAC for review and approval. The Partnering Evaluation Program (PEP) forms will be developed, distributed, and collected by Matt and Rick at each future TAC meeting.

### Questions

**1) Will the projects be re-evaluated on an annual basis?**

Yes, once the methodology is determined the rating factors could be adjusted and the projects can be re-prioritized.

**2) Will there be an effort to determine the success of the previous Passing and Climbing Lane improvements?**

Jacobs will perform a brief analysis by reviewing the crash data and roadway performance data before and after the project was implemented provided the information is readily available.

**3) How will the methodology relate to the Highway Safety Manual?**

We will review the State HSM methodology to evaluate how safety conditions will improve for candidate locations identified in this study.

**4) Can the evaluation criteria weight parameters be changed a few years down the road?**

Yes, evaluation criteria weight ranges can be updated by ADOT in the future.

**5) Will projects in the previous plan be eligible?**

Projects in the previous plan will be re-evaluated. Passing/climbing lane projects currently funded will not be included unless they are dropped from the program.

**6) What about projects included in corridor studies and DCRs?**

Those projects will be included unless they are currently funded by the 5-year construction program. Each district will send Jacobs a list of at least five potential passing/climbing lane locations to be evaluated that could include ones from the corridor and DCR studies.

**7) Should the proposed passing/climbing lanes meet current ADOT design standards?**

Every attempt will be made to meet current design standards. There may be special circumstances where full compliance may not be possible, and these locations may not be eliminated if they make sense. These will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

**8) How will information be shared with the TAC?**

The study team will set up a project website where all the meeting summaries, project information and documents will be available for review by the TAC.

## APPENDIX A: SIGN-IN SHEET

## APPENDIX B: MEETING AGENDA

## APPENDIX C: MEETING PRESENTATION