

TRAFFIC SIGNAL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2003

This document is available online at <http://www.nc-ite.org/trafficsignal.htm>

ATTENDEES

Wayne Sandberg – Committee Chair
Jerry Smrcka – Hennepin County
George Steumpfig – SRF Consulting
Roger Plum – SEH Inc.
Ray Starr – Mn/DOT
Linda Taylor – Mn/DOT

LOCATION

Mn/DOT Golden Valley

CORRECTIONS

No corrections to the November meeting minutes were made.

HANDOUTS

E-mail message concerning glare produced at night by green LED indications

WEB LINKS

Mn/DOT OTE Training Opportunities

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficing/education/index.html>

Center for Transportation Studies

<http://www.cts.umn.edu/>

ROUND ROBIN

George S. brought up the concern that at night, green LED indications are too bright. This causes many people to see a glare and hurts the eyes. This problem is especially apparent in areas with little or no ambient lighting. George brings up the point that there exists minimum levels of luminosity for these indications but does there exist a maximum level that is possibly being exceeded? Ray Starr mentions that CO and ESS are currently working on developing a new Approved Purchasing list for LED indications. This is something they can consider. They currently only test for minimum levels, not maximum. He states that manufacturers have to meet a minimum at the end of their 5-year warranty period. Therefore, they may be making the indications excessively bright to begin with, in the hopes that even if a few of the LED's fail, after 5 years the indication will still meet the minimums.

ACTION ITEM – Ray Starr will update the committee for the February Meeting on the status of the LED indication approved product list.

Roger P. states that there is an RFP out now to look at the potential impacts of providing traffic signal priority for fully loaded trucks. The idea is to provide priority to extend the green thus reducing the stopping and

NCITE Signal Committee Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2003

Page 2 of 5

starting of fully loaded trucks on Mn/DOT's IRC corridors. The committee mentioned a couple of concerns including:

- How do you stop a driver from abusing the system (i.e. when not loaded, still obtaining priority)?
- What if the max green is reached and the signal doesn't extend, but the driver assumes it will?
- Priority to police, fire, ambulance, trucks, busses, trains, funerals, etc. Where does it stop?

This concept is currently being targeted towards high-speed two-lane highways, where the frequent stopping and starting of fully loaded trucks can create long backups.

Linda T mentions that at Mn/DOT they are beginning to feel the impacts of the budget crisis in the form of:

- More outsourcing, which includes at least 50% of Signal Design, Lighting Design and Traffic Control.
- Possible layoffs

Mn/DOT is also considering possible bonding for projects to make up for projected funding shortfalls from the legislature.

Mn/DOT Traffic is assessing its needs for training in the coming year. Many areas are being considered including:

- Highway Capacity Manual Training
- Advanced Synchro Training
- Sign Design & Layout (Not SignCAD, but actual sign design)
- Advanced CORSIM
- Controller Training – traffic responsive programming, coordinated plans, etc.
- System & Service Interchange Class
- Intersection Design
- Crash Analysis
- Design & Operation of Work Zone Traffic Control
- MMUTCD Class in conjunction with CTS
- Highway Rail Grade Crossing requirements

Check the Mn/DOT Training Web Page <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficeng/education/index.html> for more information.

Jerry Smrcka mentions that Econolite is hosting two 2-day training sessions on the following dates:

April 28 - 29 & April 30 - May 1. Contact your econolite salesperson for more information at:

Traffic Control Corp.

3121 South St. Croix Trail, Suite 102

Afton, MN 55001

Phone (651) 998-0377, Fax (651) 998-0379

TEO UPDATE

The annual TEO meeting was held in December at which numerous topics were discussed.

ACTION ITEM – Ray Starr will update the committee for the February Meeting on the topics discussed at the annual TEO meeting in December.

SYNCHRO TRAINING UPDATE

The survey will be online. Perspective respondents will receive an e-mail with a link to the online survey. The results will be forwarded to Linda Taylor. The subcommittee will then assemble the results and report back to the committee as well as the NCITE Board.

The timeline for the survey will be to have the link e-mailed by mid January. A reminder e-mailed the following week. Results to be compiled by early February. Report to committee and board to follow.

COMMITTEE AGENDA AND HOUSEKEEPING

Wayne Sandberg assumes Chair responsibilities

Jerry Kotzenmacher assumes Co-Chair responsibilities

Committee will continue to meet the first Wednesday of each month; exceptions include holidays and the months of July and August. An updated schedule is attached to this document.

A list of candidate topics to discuss was identified. Wayne S. will develop a proposed schedule for the year to be reviewed during the February meeting.

OTHER ISSUES

- **Wayne S** is on a committee that is discussing when and what a Traffic Impact Study should be.
ACTION ITEM – Wayne will give a brief update on the TIS committee.
- **Jerry S** reminds consultants to NOT submit SJR's using the old Warrant numbers. These will be immediately rejected. You MUST use the new manual and it requirements.

NEXT MEETING

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be:

February 5, 2003

8:00 – 10:00 am

St. Paul Traffic Operations Building

899 N. Dale Street, St. Paul

Directions

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?country=US&address=899+north+dale+street&city=saint+paul&state=mn&zipcode=&homesubmit.x=19&homesubmit.y=14>

February 5, 2003 NCITE COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

Round Robin

Mn/DOT Meeting Highlights

- TEO UPDATE – Ray S

Main Topics

- Meeting Management – Wayne S
- Advanced Synchro Training Update – Marc C, Linda T & Wayne S
- Prot/Permissive Left Turn Indications – Kristi S.
- LED Indication Update – Ray S & Wayne S
- Video Detection Experience – Jerry S.
- Traffic Impact Studies – Wayne S (as time permits)

NCITE Traffic Signal Committee

Chair: Wayne Sandberg Co-Chair: Jerry Kotzenmacher
 Business Phone: (651) 430-4339 Business Phone: (651) 284-3438
Wayne.sandberg@co.washington.mn.us Jerry.Kotzenmacher@dot.state.mn.us

Meeting Schedule 2003

Note: Meetings will be held on first Wednesday of Month from 8:00 to 10:00 A.M.

Meeting Dates	Locations	Main Topics
January 8, 2003	Mn/DOT Golden Valley Office	Management Meeting
February 5, 2003	St. Paul Traffic Operations Bldg	Management / Detector Strategies
March 5, 2003	Mn/DOT Golden Valley Office	Advanced Synchro Training /Detector Strategies
April 2, 2003	St. Paul Traffic Operations Bldg	Detector Strategies
May 7, 2003	Mn/DOT Golden Valley Office	Controller Features
June 4, 2003	St. Paul Traffic Operations Bldg	Controller Features
July 2, 2003	No Meeting – 4 th of July Holiday	
August 6, 2003	No Meeting	
September 3, 2003	Mn/DOT Golden Valley Office	Right Turn on Red
October 1, 2003	St. Paul Traffic Operations Bldg	Right Turn on Red
November 5, 2003	Mn/DOT Golden Valley Office	
December 3, 2003	St. Paul Traffic Operations Bldg	

St. Paul Traffic Operations Building - 899 N Dale Street St. Paul
 Mn/DOT Golden Valley Office – 2055 N. Lilac Drive, Golden Valley MN

Meeting Format

Round Robin
 Main Topics
 Mn/DOT meeting highlights: TEO, TEO Signal Committee, ESS Quarterly Committee
 On-Going Issues / Action Items
 Next Meeting Agenda

Responsibilities:

Run meeting: chair
 Develop and distribute agenda and meeting notice: chair
 Meeting Logistics: chair
 Distribution list & meeting schedule: Marc Culver incorporate into NCITE web site
 Coordinate Mn/DOT information (TEO, ESS quarterly highlights): Ray Starr
 Chair will be a one-year term. The co-chair will than becomes the chair, and a new co-chair will be elected. The co-chair will be the backup in the event that the chair is unable to attend the meeting.