

TRAFFIC SIGNAL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

DATE 04-02-03

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

ATTENDEES

Wayne Sandberg	Washington County
Paul Zager	Parsons
Marc Culver	City of Maple Grove
John Maczko	City of St. Paul
Roger Plum	SEH
Jerry Smerka	Hennepin County
Steve Misgen	MN/DOT – Metro District
George Stuempfig	SRF
Jerry Kotzenmacher	MN/DOT – OTSO
Vernon Swing	RLK
Bryant Ficek	Bonestroo
Ray Starr	MN/DOT – OTSO
Ben Osemenam	MN/DOT – OTSO
John Gray	SEH
Brian Sorenson	Scott County
Mike Hayes	Dakota County
Todd Foster	Traffic Technologies

LOCATION

MN/DOT
Golden Valley Office

MEETING MINUTE CORRECTIONS

None

HANDOUTS

None

WEB LINKS

Gopher State One-Call Contacts:

<http://www.gopherstateonecall.org/contactus.html>

MN/DOT - Office of Traffic, Safety and Operations (OTSO) Web Site

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficeng/>

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ROUND ROBIN

Jerry K - The Office of Traffic, Security and Operations has just gone live with our new web site.

Go to: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficeng/>

The web site is intended to be a "one-stop-shop" for traffic signal engineering design tools and links. Go into "Design Tools" and then "Traffic Signals" for signal related information and links. Site work, along with revisions to plan examples, documents, specs and details will be ongoing. Some details and forms may not open due to work that has not been completed. Any feedback on the contents of the "traffic signals" portion of the site can be addressed to Jerry Kotzenmacher 651-284-3438 or jerry.kotzenmacher@dot.state.mn.us

The Metro District Traffic web site will be removing any **signal** related plans, details, documents.... so if you have been using their web site as a source for signal info, it will now link to OTSO traffic signal web site.

Comments on the overall OTSO web site can be directed to Marv Sohlo 651-284-3460 or

marv.sohlo@dot.state.mn.us

Comments on the contents of other OTSO units can be directed to their units.

The OTSO Roadway Lighting Course will be April 29 and 30. There are still openings for the class, so if you or someone you know wants to attend go to:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficeng/education/roadwaylighting2003.pdf>

Disregard the registration deadline date of April 4th. We will accept registration forms until the class is full.

Jerry S – Pedestrian signs in MMUTCD page 2B-26; dimensions shown as 9” x 12”. Jerry had examples of R10-3B and R10-3C stickers. The committee was unanimous in the decision that the dimensions were too large. A 5” x 8” sign is more appropriate. Ray Starr will convey this concern to Mike Weiss (MN/DOT Signing).

John M. – Due to budget restraints, the City of St. Paul will not replace malfunctioning loops. Signals will be put on recall.

Marc C. – Maple Grove has a Henn. County style (cantilever monotube) 55’ pole at I-94 and Hemlock Lane that bounces up and down in high winds. The signs on the pole have now been modified to reflect the airflow to stabilize the mast arm. Mn/DOT has been working with Millerbernd Manufacturing on a 60’ and 65’ mast arm. Millerbernd says it can make a mast arm this long but would need to be in two pieces and only meets the old AASHTO requirement for durability. MN/DOT has not approved the mast arms due to the new AASHTO 2001 requirement, which calls for a more heavy-duty pole and mast. There has been debate on if the new AASHTO requirement is extreme.

Dual right turns – No reason has been found to restrict right turn on red at this type of approach. Others state that it is used at a few intersections within the metro area.

Brian S – Scott County has hired a Signal Technician for their 36 signals. Committee members of government agencies expressed willingness to help train and give tours of their signal shops if requested.

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Ray S – Chapter 9 of the MN/DOT Traffic Engineering Manual (TEM) has been sent in for printing. Changes include removing signal design and operations information. This information will now be in MN/DOTs “Traffic Signal Design Manual” and “Traffic Signal Timing and Coordination Manual”.

MN/DOT Traffic Engineering reorganization – The former Office of Traffic Engineering and Intelligent Transportation Systems (OTE/ITS) is now called The Office of Traffic, Security and Operations (OTSO). The Traffic Management Center (TMC) is now part of OTSO. Also, the Electronic Technicians from the former Electrical Services Section (ESS) are now part of OTSO.

Question: What is the difference between MN/DOT Metro District and MN/DOT OTSO?

OTSO is located at the Transportation building (Central Office) in St. Paul. OTSO sets statewide policies, guidelines and provides technical support. The Metro District headquarters is located in Roseville and is largest (population) of the 8 MN/DOT districts.

Steve M. – Metro District has let a project to update AWFs within the district due to new requirements. They will also be eliminated several under the new requirements in this project. Contact John Bienieck 651-634-2152 with questions.

TEO UPDATE

There has been no MN/DOT TEO Signal Committee meeting since the last NCITE Signal Committee meeting. Next TEO Signal Committee meeting is set for April 8, 2003.

ADVANCED SYNCHRO TRAINING UPDATE

Albeck/Gerken have a Advanced SYNCHRO course they give. It was suggested that the course be on hold until Gerken is back from active duty in the Persian Gulf. Funds from MUTEK (Marc Culver) could be used for this course. A small fee was also suggested for class participants. Prerequisites would be a combination of experience and MN/DOT Signal Courses. Limit class size to 25.

DETECTION ISSUES

George S will compile any strategies and put in a memo. He is looking for sample plans that anyone may have. John Gray has example that he will forward to George. Steve M. states that Metro Districts has been installing more two-point detection on their high speed (60 and 65mph) approaches.

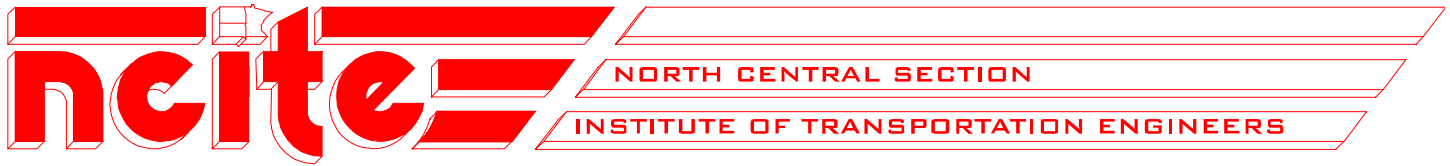
LED INDICATION UPDATE

MN/DOT and Washington County have a LED test setup of green tint and clear LED lenses on Westbound Valley Creek Road in Woodbury. MN/DOT has recruited color blind/ color deficient individuals and will test their perception of the different types of green L.E.D. lenses. Weather has not been good for the test. Plan B will have the study done in a parking lot.

Approved MN/DOT LED is on OTSO web site.

Wayne S – Dialite will replace left turn arrows.

LED EVP conformations lights are in use at TH 110 at TH 149/Dodd Rd. for test/observation. John M. has driven the system with EVP and states target value is low. No spec for LED EVP.



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NCITE WEB SITE – OTSO web site will link to NCITE meeting minutes. NCITE will link to OTSO web site.

Meeting minutes will continue to be in PDF format. Any comments on the NCITE web site should be addressed to Marc Culver. mculver@ci.maple-grove.mn.us

GOPHER STATE ONE CALL – Representatives from Gopher One Call were present to explain the new billing process. Tonya Bethke and John Eisele spoke about the planned changes to Gopher State One Call (GSOC) System. Those proposed changes are that the per ticket price will be lowered from \$1.55 to \$1.15. Also, GSOC will no longer be accepting NLR reports from Facility Owners & Operators.

The result of these changes is that each facility owner will be required to pay for every ticket they receive. Additionally, they will have to positively respond to each ticket. Sending NLR to GSOC will no longer be considered a positive response.

The concern is that this will result in a large increase in cost and time for facility owners.

GSOC states that improving the mapping a facility has on file will help reduce the number of tickets. Also, GSOC is developing an online ticket request software that will result in more accurate locate requests. Additionally, GSOC is developing an online database management software that facility owners will be able to use to keep their location database up to date on a regular basis. These software packages will not be fully available until sometime in mid 2004.

For more information, see the GSOC website at

<http://www.gopherstateonecall.org/contactus.html>

House Bill 995 at..... <http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/83/HF0995.html>

related to One Call has been passed. This bill is not GSOC initiated. John E. also talked on state statute 216.D, which requires all underground utilities within Minnesota to Gopher One members. GSOC board meetings are open to all. Next meeting is scheduled for Brainerd April 23. Meeting after that is in Mendota Heights in August.

OTHER ISSUES

None

NEXT MEETING

May 7th 2003

8:00 – 10:00 am

MN/DOT – Golden Valley Office

2055 North Lilac Dr./T.H.100

Golden Valley



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ATTACHMENTS

None