

TRAFFIC SIGNAL COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2005

ATTENDEES

Jerry Kotzenmacher	MnDOT	Roger Plum	S.E.H
Bryant Ficek	Bonestroo	Suzanne Danen	Dakota Co.
Ben Osemenam	MnDOT	Steve Misgen	Mn/DOT
Joe Gustafson	Scott Co.	Pete Sorenson	Bolton & Menk
George Stuempfig	SRF	Brian Vitek	St. Paul
Kristi Sebastian	Dakota Co.	Ted Schoenecker	Washington County
Sonja Piper	Bonestroo	Jon Krieg	SRF

LOCATION: Mn/DOT Water's Edge – Somewhere on the first floor

Topic I – ADA Issue in Signal Design Maintenance

LEDs -- The study conducted by Mn/DOT and Washington County last year resulted in Mn/DOT specing out tinted lenses.

Jon K. noted attended an ADA seminar recently; the speaker focused on various sign disabilities that include more than blindness and partially blind people. People with tunnel blindness or other visual imparities also have challenges negotiating crossing at signalized intersections.

Steve M. will be attending a seminar in North Carolina on how to make ADA compliant choices. The goal is to develop Mn/DOT standards for various devices. This is part of an NCHRP study.

Urban Guidelines for ADA issues Web resources include www.walkinginfo.org and <http://www.access-board.org/>

Topic II – Past Topic Follow-up

1. Mn/DOT signal related classes for 2006

Jerry K. detailed the course plan for 06. Tom Peters will be the contact for courses. The standard classes will be offered with specifics for other classes still being determined. Funding is available for classes. Group discussed need for street lighting classes at signals and corridors beyond the interchange lighting focus in the current class that has been offered. Committee also discussed need for a basic timing concept course for newer technicians/engineers to understand timing/operation methodology before developing expertise in the software aspects of synchro and other timing optimization tools.

2.

Railroad crossing issue between St. Paul and Burlington Northern update

The attorney general has made a final ruling on the issue of maintenance and operation responsibility of the loops between the tracks to operate the 4 quad gate system (see attached correspondence).

3. Meeting and Officer Coordination –

Ted Schoenecker will be the Co-Chair for 2006 and Kristi Sebastian will become the 2006 Chairperson for the signal committee.

Meetings will continue to be held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM from January – December excluding July and August

Every other month's meetings, starting in February, will be at Water's Edge

ROUND ROBIN

In what I believe is a first (at least for this year) -- We had no round robin items.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on January 7, 2006 at Bonestroo & Associates
2361 West Highway 36 St. Paul, MN 55113

Meeting Agenda – Topic Planning and Selection of Meeting Locations

If you have a topic you really want the group to discuss or wish to host a meeting, make sure to attend the January Meeting!!!

Additional Information provided after the meeting regarding the decision/resolution between BNSF and the City of St. Paul for the crossing system:

BNSF will be reimbursed by the city of St Paul for installation and maintenance costs for the presence detection system at the Como Ave crossing. Paul DeLaRosa from MN/DOT's Rail Office explained neither the city nor BNSF wanted responsibility for the installation and maintenance of the vehicle presence detection system. BNSF refused to proceed with the project without vehicle presence detection (Company Policy). BNSF did agree to assume responsibility for the installation and maintenance of the detection system if Mn/DOT would order them to do so and if St. Paul would agree to pay for the costs of the installation and maintenance. BNSF will likely contract out this work. Other railroads have not raised this issue, however, it is likely that any future BNSF 3 or 4 quadrant gate systems will require some type of order from Mn/DOT.