I. WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 AM by ITE Committee Chair Brent Ogden. The meeting minutes from the last meeting at TRB were approved.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

There were 19 participants present (see attached sign-in sheet).

III. ITE ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no ITE announcements provided at this meeting.

IV. ITE COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. ITE Grade Crossing Web Page / US DOT Grade Crossing Handbook Update

A draft of a website for grade crossing information has been developed by Joaquin Siques of the City of Pasadena. The temporary location of the site is www.wix.com/jsiques44/ITE-RXR-Handbook. Photos of some of the pages at the site were distributed. The site includes a link to the Grade Crossing Handbook. It is hoped that the site can be transferred to a site hosted by ITE.

There was an extensive discussion of the relationship between the website and ITE and FHWA and FRA, particularly with regard to updates of FHWA’s Grade Crossing handbook. The Committee reached a consensus that the preferred site location would be with ITE, partly because information could be posted on the site without the potential for extensive delays due to a formal review process.

All information submitted to the site will first be reviewed by a subgroup of this Committee to assure that the information is useful and appropriate. Submissions should be directed to Brent Ogden (Brent.Ogden@aecom.com) or Joaquin Siques (JSiques@CityofPasadena.net).

FHWA has made two minor changes to the on-line (PDF) version of the Grade Crossing Handbook, and FRA will probably propose additional changes. The Committee’s web site will not attempt to document completed or proposed changes to the Handbook; only supplemental information that is related to the Handbook and might be of interest to practicing engineers will be posted. The information would be similar to an ITE Informational Report rather than a Recommended Practice, and as such, a review by ITE prior to posting will not be necessary. It is hoped that this supplemental information will be of use to FHWA when the Handbook is next updated.
updated, which might be as soon as 2012. Also, if FRA wishes to have its proposed changes to the Handbook reviewed by this Committee, the Committee will do so.

A proposal was made to include a page within the website for discussion topics. This would allow for users to post questions or comments that could be discussed by other users. The Committee believes that this could be a useful function.

A proposal to include a “wiki” page within the website was also discussed. An example of such a page is www.ite.org/pbwiki. The proposal was disapproved because it would permit the posting of material that would not have been reviewed by the Subcommittee review panel.

b. Maintenance of ITE Publication Recommended Practice for the Preemption of Traffic Signals near Railroad Crossings

The Committee believes that the information in this Recommended Practice is not wrong or out of date, so there is not a strong need at this point to update the document. However, new information related to traffic signal preemption does need to be distributed to practitioners. The Committee’s website is a good mechanism for doing this.

Brent distributed a list of “Seven Things Every Traffic Engineer Should Know About Rail Preemption Installations” for discussion. The intent of the list is to serve as a reminder to persons who design and operate preemption systems that it is a complicated task, and should be undertaken and reviewed only by knowledgeable and experienced people. The list, written by Brent, is a candidate for posting on the Committee’s website. The list will be e-mailed to all Committee members. Brent requested that the list be reviewed by Committee members and comments be submitted by the end of January. Rock Miller said that he would work with Lisa Tierney to investigate the possibility of publishing the list in the ITE Journal.

Ray Lewis suggested that the list include references to the need for closed circuits, and also that if a grade crossing is being designed and there is the potential for the installation of a nearby traffic signal at some time in the future, the track circuitry should be designed to accommodate the future installation of train detection.

John Sharkey said that AREMA might as the Committee for suggestions for testing procedures when preemption timing changes are made at grade crossings.

c. Conference Sessions Update

A panel to discuss grade crossings has been proposed for the Vancouver, BC, ITE meeting in August. Letters of invitation are expected to be sent by ITE on January 31.

d. Webinars

Due to the effort in preparing the Committee’s website, little attention has been given to developing and webinars, but suggestions for webinar topics are welcome. Also, it is sometimes difficult to find a person who is willing to develop and present a webinar.
V. OTHER BUSINESS

No other new business was brought before the committee.

VI. NEXT MEETING

There will probably not be a committee meeting at the ITE Technical Conference in Savannah in March 2010 due to travel restrictions that apply to many of the Committee members. The next Committee meeting is expected to be in Vancouver, BC, from August 8 to 11 in conjunction with the ITE International Meeting.

A suggestion was made that a conference call be initiated at Committee meetings for the benefit of members who could not attend. Lisa stated that hotels typically charge a very large fee ($500 to $1000) for setting up the equipment for a conference call, making it infeasible. Conference calls are possible, however, at ITE’s headquarters office.

VII. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.
Institute of Transportation Engineers

Joint Rail Grade Crossing Committee Attendance Listing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Meeting Location:</th>
<th>Time:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 12, 2010</td>
<td>Taft</td>
<td>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</td>
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</table>

I acknowledge having read the Institute’s conflict of interest and antitrust policy that is printed on the backside of this form and agree to abide by these policies during my participation in this meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Print Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Title/Employer</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
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Institute of Transportation Engineers

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<tbody>
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Who We Are

The purpose of this website is to provide a location where members of the Institute of Transportation Engineers can access the Highway Rail Grade Crossing Handbook and provide input for proposed changes, research results and updates on treatments implemented at highway rail grade crossings, thus creating a living document where moderated updates and other technical resources can be provided.

Read more

News

12.29.2008
The January meeting of the ITE Grade Crossing Committee (TENC 102-02) will be held on Tuesday, January 12 in the Taft Room at the Marriott Hotel from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

12.28.2008
This website was created.

06.10.2009
Meeting Minutes for the January 13, 2009 ITE Grade Crossing Committee Meeting in Washington DC have been posted and are available through the following link.

06.31.2007
After 20-years, the Railroad Highway Grade Crossing Handbook, Second Edition has been revised.
Your Input is Important

The purpose of this site is to provide a location where ITE members can access the Railroad Highway Grade Crossing Handbook and provide input for proposed changes, research results and updates on treatments implemented at highway rail grade crossings, thus creating a live document. Your input is critical to updating the Railroad Highway Grade Crossing Handbook and keeping other current on progress in the safety of highway rail grade crossings.

You can provide comments below, or upload material to the web-site moderator who will post the material on the site. To upload material, please contact Joaquin Siques at jsiques@cityofpasadena.net.

Provide Comments

1. joaquin
test
does this comment field work

19 days ago
1. Traffic Signal Preemption Spreadsheets
   A brief description of the traffic signal preemption spreadsheets and a link to the spreadsheets can be included here....

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2. Hazard Index Calculations
   A brief description of Hazard Index Calculations and links to worksheets can be included here....

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3. Sample Diagnostic Team Evaluation Reports
   A brief description of Diagnostic Team evaluation reports and links to sample reports can be included here....


Links

- Railroad Highway Grade Crossing Handbook
- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
- ITE International
- FHWA Safety Program
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Program
- Operation Lifesaver
Contact Us

Thank you for your interest in the Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing Handbook. For additional information, please contact Brent Ogden at (xxx) xxx-xxxx or via email at brent.ogden@aecom.com.

If you would like to upload documents to the site or provide news or information to be posted on the site, please contact Joaquin Siques at jsiques@cityofpasadena.net.

brent.ogden@aecom.com

jsiques@cityofpasadena.net

Contact Form:

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- **Message:**

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