ITE GRADE CROSSING STANDING COMMITTEE 102-02
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2016

2016 TRB Annual Meeting (Washington Convention Center – Washington, DC)

I. WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 3:20 PM EST by Committee Chair Brent Ogden.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was held at the 2016 TRB Annual Meeting at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC. There were eleven members and guests present at the meeting and four joined by conference call:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting at ITE Conference</th>
<th>Conference Call</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brent Ogden</td>
<td>Steve Venglar</td>
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<td>Tom Lancaster</td>
<td>Steve Laffey</td>
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<td>Doug Noble</td>
<td>Bob Seyfried</td>
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<td>Gene Russell</td>
<td>Casey Murdie</td>
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<td>Brian Gilleran</td>
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<td>Dee Chapell</td>
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<td>John Davis</td>
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<td>Jeff Warner</td>
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<td>JoNette Khunau</td>
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<td>Dan Soler</td>
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<td>Pam Fischhaber</td>
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III. ITE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Doug Noble (ITE staff) provided the ITE report (synopsis pending).

IV. ITE COMMITTEE ITEMS

1. Prior Action Items Review

- Brent will contact Doug Bowron to check his progress on comparing the ITE Informational Report on Sight Triangle and Corner Clearance Policies at Intersections and Driveways to the new Canadian guidance for calculating sight distance at railroad crossings.

- Brent will check to see if links from the ITE Grade Crossing Web Page to the two documents above have been added.

- Doug Noble will confirm whether the ITE Survey of Guidelines Used to Select Sidewalk Locations provides any content applicable to grade crossings.
Brent will verify that material from the Grade Crossing Committee panel discussion from the August 2015 ITE meeting in Hollywood, FL, has been posted within the ITE Community Forum. He will also see if notice of LADOT’s revised preemption signal timing spreadsheet can be posted on the Forum.

2. ITE Grade Crossing Web Page

There was a discussion about taking steps to promote the web page. A suggestion was made to promote interest by developing postings to the ITE Community on-line forum. It was suggested that Joaquin Siques, who is he committee webmaster” can follow up.

3. MUTCD Items

JoNette Khunau reported that the MUTCD RR/LRT Technical Subcommittee had two items approved by the National Committee for proposed inclusion in the next edition of the MUCTD. The first item involves a requirement that edge lines be extended through railroad crossings, and permits the edge line to be supplemented by raised pavement markers or tubular markers. The second involves the placement of Stop Lines at railroad crossings.

In the RR/LRT Subcommittee there was a discussion of possible reformatting of the FRA Railroad/Highway Grade Crossing Handbook, and the addition or deletion of some subject matter.

There was a discussion in the Subcommittee on the use of DO NOT BLOCK THE BOX pavement markings at grade crossings to discourage drivers from stopping on the tracks. No action was taken on this item.

Gene Russell reported that action may be taken soon on ADA guidelines for pedestrian crossings at two-lane roundabouts.

Brent will arrange for posting information regarding the two proposed additions to the MUTCD and the possible reformatting of the Grade Crossing Handbook on theITE Grade Crossing web page.

4. Update of Recommended Practice for the Preemption of Traffic Signals Near Grade Crossings

Tom Lancaster reported that work is well underway on the RP update. A draft was circulated to the RP Committee in October, and the results of that review will be incorporated in a new draft that will be circulated later this month (January 2016). After any necessary revisions, the new draft will then be ready for peer review.

5. Second/Another Train Coming Task Force
Brent is leading an MUTCD task force on this topic. He reported that there appears to be a consensus at this point that passive signs are largely ineffective. An FHWA-sanctioned experiment in Riverside, CA, found little or no benefit from passive signs at that location. The task force will focus on the use of active signing. One possibility is of an active sign (with an audible message) that warns of a second train, and a second possibility is an active sign providing specific information regarding the location and direction of the second train. To facilitate experimentation, the task force might work initially with signs at LRT crossings. Brent asked that anyone with additional information regarding Second Train Coming signs or with an interest in joining the task force to please send an email to Brent.

6. Conference Sessions Update

Proposed session title for the ITE meeting in Anaheim in August 2016: State-of-the-art and High-Technology Applications to Grade Crossing Safety. The proposed presentations and the tentative authors are:

- Updated Electronic Grade Crossing Database and Reporting Requirements (Brian Gilleran, FRA)
- Status Report on Volpe Test of a ROW Trespass/Intrusion Detection and Warning System (Marco DaSilva, FRA)
- Use of Quiet Zone Calculator and Formulation of Quiet Zones (Juan Diaz, JMD Consulting)
- State-of-the-Art Queue Management Applications (Karen Hankinson, Railpros); potentially with associated field trip to view pre-signals and queue cutters in Orange County
- Current and Potential Future Applications of Serial Data Interface (John Sharkey or Rick Campbell, CTC)

7. Texas Transportation Institute review of Texas Preemption Policies

Steve Venglar reported that there has not been much progress yet on this review, but the work is underway. Steve will report on this activity again in August 2016.


Brent suggested that when our Recommended Practice is finalized, we should bring the document to the attention of the Project leaders.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was brought before the committee.
VI. SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

- Brent Ogden will email Doug Bowron regarding the ITE sight distance report.
- Tom Lancaster continue work on the Preemption RP and report back in August 2016.
- Doug Noble will review ITE sidewalk survey.
- Brent Ogden and Karen Hankinson will finalize the August 2016 conference session and field trip.
- Brent Ogden will obtain information on the CA PUC crossing inventory update and send it to Brian Gilleran.

VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ITE 2016 Annual Meeting and Exhibit
  Sunday, August 14 – Wednesday, August 17, 2016, Anaheim Marriott, Anaheim, CA
- Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, Washington DC
  Sunday, January 8 – Thursday, January 12, 2017 (at Washington Convention Center)
- ITE 2017 Annual Meeting and Exhibit
  Sunday, July 30 – Wednesday, August 2, 2017, Sheraton Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, Washington DC
  Sunday, January 7 – Thursday, January 11, 2018

VIII. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 PM.