SHRP2 Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies (R16)

Peer Exchange

Chicago, Illinois
October 3-4, 2017
Welcome to the SHRP2 Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies Peer Workshop.

- 14 states
- 5 rail roads

A few housekeeping details

- Restroom locations
- Lunch options
- Dinner reservation for 6:00 at Club Lago Italian Bar and Restaurant 331 W. Superior Ave. – how many will join us?
Day 1 Agenda Review

Day 1

• Roll Call and Overview of SHRP2 Product
• Executive Leadership Panel
• Railroad/DOT Breakout Exercise: Identifying the Intersections in our Processes
• Structuring Agreements to Meet State-Specific Requirements
Day 2 Agenda Review

Day 2

• Welcome and Recap of Day 1
• Section 130 Federal Perspectives
• Section 130 Agency Perspectives
• CREATE Panel
• Innovative Contracting Methods with Existing Agreements
• How the COI can Benefit You
• Wrap Up and Next Steps
• Adjourn
How SHRP2 and *Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies (R16)* Can Assist Your Agencies

- Jessica Rich, Safety Engineer, FHWA
- Kate Kurgan, SHRP2 Product Lead, AASHTO
Purpose of Today’s Presentation

Goals

• Update you on the SHRP2 program and Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies (R16)
• Discuss some of the successes of the program
What is SHRP 2?

• The Second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2): a large scale research program designed to make significant advances in some of the most challenging areas in the highway industry
• 9-year, $232 million research program
• TRB: managed over 100 research projects, involving more than 300 research contractors
• Implementation budget of just over $170 million
Focus Areas

**Safety**: fostering safer driving through analysis of driver, roadway, and vehicle factors in crashes, near crashes, and ordinary driving

**Reliability**: reducing congestion and creating more predictable travel times through better operations

**Capacity**: planning and designing a highway system that offers minimum disruption and meets the environmental and economic needs of the community

**Renewal**: rapid maintenance and repair of the deteriorating infrastructure using already-available resources, innovations, and technologies
Quick SHRP2 Overview

• **SHRP2 Solutions** – 63 products

• **Solution Development** – processes, software, testing procedures, and specifications

• **Field Testing** – refined in the field

• **Implementation** – 430 transportation projects; adopt as standard practice

• **SHRP2 Education Connection** – connecting next-generation professionals with next-generation innovations
SHRP2 Implementation Assistance Program

- Designed to help State DOTs, MPOs, local agencies, and other interested organizations deploy SHRP2 Solutions.

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<th>Proof of Concept Pilot</th>
<th>Lead Adopter Incentive</th>
<th>User Incentive</th>
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<td>To evaluate product readiness.</td>
<td>To help offset costs associated with product implementation and risk mitigation.</td>
<td>To support implementation activities, such as conducting internal assessments, changing processes, and organizing peer exchanges.</td>
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SHRP2 Implementation: INNOVATE.IMPLEMENT.IMPROVE.

Funding Assistance: $130 million
- 52 Recipients (DOT)
- 30 Recipients (MPO/LOCAL)
- 10 Recipients (UNIVERSITY)
- 7 Recipients (FEDERAL/TRIBAL)
- 63 SHRP2 Solutions
- 430+ Projects Implemented
- 230+ RENEWAL
- 100+ CAPACITY
- 90+ RELIABILITY
- 11 SAFETY
SHRP2 Implementation:
INNOVATE. IMPLEMENT. IMPROVE.

- **224,761** Participants Engaged
- **8,939** Outreach Activities
- **14,961** Hours Technical Assistance

Types of Activities:
- Training: 463 hours
- Workshops: 463 hours
- Peer Exchanges: 81 hours
- Demos: 62 hours
- Showcases: 47 hours
Challenge

• Railroad-DOT interaction requires a thorough review of the safety, engineering, and the operational impacts of a roadway project during construction – since it will have lasting effects on the railroad for decades thereafter. Rapid construction goals require a new approach that eases the project agreement process for both industries.

Solution

• Recommended practices, model agreements, and training materials to help resolve potential conflicts.
Available Solutions

• **Best practices and streamlined processes**
  - Facilitates beneficial relationships between railroads and public transportation agencies
    • Institutional arrangements
    • Innovative partnering techniques
    • Approaches to ensure collaboration

• **Standardized (Master) agreements**

• **Partnering Processes**
Streamlined Processes and Agreements

**Best Practices**
- Streamlined internal and external coordination
- Single point of first contact and coordination
- Dedicated railroad project managers
- Formal agreed upon points of concurrence
- Formal project management
- Meetings

**Processes**
- Process manual
- Standardized crossing improvement contract process
- **Streamlined flagging process**
- Expediting right-of-way access
- **Streamlining agreement processing**
- Escalation process to expedite issues
- **Partnering processes**
- Electronic workflow agreement process

**Agreements**
- Standardized (Master) agreements
- Partnering Memorandum of Understanding
Benefits of Using Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies

- Expedited project delivery
- Better management of limited resources
- Improve communication, cooperation, collaboration
- Streamlined processes
- Transparency
- Improved quality & safety
- Win-win solution
- Less risk!
### Implementation Assistance Program

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More information on these activities at:

http://shrp2.transportation.org/Pages/R16_RailroadDOTMitigationStrategies.aspx
Success Stories to Date

• **Washington State DOT**
  - Streamlined Work Flow with clearly defined roles and responsibilities dramatically reduced the need for escalation of Issues – from 15% to less than 1% of projects

• **Florida DOT**
  - Flagging Agreement saved $200K

• **Texas DOT**
  - Reduced railroad agreement processing from 16+ weeks to as little as 4-6 weeks when using standard format agreements.
  - Simple maintenance agreements - 2/3 of State projects - reduced from 2-3 month turnaround to less than 1 month.
EDC3 Examples

• **Alabama DOT** created a new Railroad Certification and Agreement Process; and trained several County Engineers on how to evaluate railroad crossings, leading to faster and more efficient delivery of projects especially LPA projects.

• The **Minnesota DOT** has selected the Red Wing Project to demonstrate having the contractor include flagging costs as part of their contract; MnDOT District 6 and Canadian Pacific are developing a district-wide streamlined railroad agreement process that can be used statewide and with other railroads in Minnesota.

• **Indiana DOT** continues to add to its growing library of “master/template” documents and is working to format all of these new documents for ease of use internally at INDOT.
15-Minute Break
Session 2

Partnering, Leadership, and Communications: Advancing Railroad-DOT Relationships

• **Randy Blankenhorn**, Transportation Secretary, Illinois Department of Transportation
• **Jo Strang**, Vice President, American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association
• **John Dinning**, Manager of Public Works, Canadian National
• **Amtrak**, Representative
• Moderator, Frank Frey, General Engineer for HSR, Federal Railroad Administration
Lunch on You Own - Start Back at 1:15
Session 3

Railroad/DOT 101: Identifying the Intersections in their Processes

Breakout Facilitators:

- Group 1 – Pam Hutton
- Group 2 – Kate Kurgan
- Group 3 – Dave Solow
- Group 4 – Hal Lindsey
- Group 5 – Jessica Rich
15 Minute Break
Session 4

Structuring Agreements to Meet State-Specific Requirements

• Lisa Stern, Railroad Engineering & Safety Supervisor, Wisconsin DOT

• Steve Meyer, Capital Projects Director, Utah Transit Authority

• Scott Hoftiezer, Railroad Program Manager, Colorado Department of Transportation

• John Dinning, Manager of Public Works, Canadian National

• Moderator, David Solow, SME, CH2M
Day One Wrap Up

- Thoughts from participants
  - Items of particular interest?
  - Items to stress tomorrow?
  - Any follow up items?
- Dinner at Club Lago 331 W. Superior Ave.
  - meet in lobby at 5:45
Welcome and Day One Recap

- Good morning!
- Thoughts from yesterday’s workshop?
- Recap of Day 1
- Overview of Agenda for Today
Section 130 Perspectives Part 1

• **Kelly Morton**, FHWA Transportation Specialist, Office of Safety
30 Minute Break
Session 6

Section 130 Perspectives – Part 2

• **Scott Hoftiezer**, Railroad Program Manager, Colorado Department of Transportation

• **Jim Weatherhead**, Rail Program Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Transportation

• **Moderator: Kamie Young**, Manager of Public Projects, BNSF
Questions
Session 7

Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE)

• **Samuel Tuck**, Bureau Chief Freight Rail Management, Illinois Department of Transportation

• **Jeffrey Sriver**, Director of Transportation Planning and Programming, Chicago Department of Transportation

• **Elliot Ramos**, Rail Project Engineer, Illinois Department of Transportation
15 Minute Break
Session 8

The Effect of Implementing Design-Build and other Innovative Contracting Methods on Existing Agreements and Processes

• **Dan Leonard**, Grade Crossing Engineer, PennDOT

• **Troy Creasy**, Project Manager II, CSX

• Moderator: Mike Loher, SME, CH2M
How the COI Can Benefit You

- **Lisa Stern**, Railroad Engineering & Safety Supervisor, Wisconsin DOT
- **Troy Creasy**, Project Manager II, CSX
- Moderator, Pam Hutton, SHRP2 Implementation Manager, AASHTO
What is the Community of Interest?

• **What is it?**
  – Neutral platform to discuss efforts to improve coordination and communications between transportation agencies and their respective railroads
  – Opportunity for face-to-face peer exchanges and collaboration
  – Opportunity to share best practices, lessons learned, challenges, new processes, agreements, and other information

• **Who is represented?**
  – State DOTs
  – Class 1 Railroads
  – Short Lines
  – Transportation Associations
  – FHWA/AASHTO/FRA

**How often will COI meet?**
• Quarterly meetings
  ✓ Q1 in person
  ✓ Q2, Q3 and Q4 via Webinar
Role of COI Members

• Serve as advocates and subject matter experts
• Advocate for best practices and get buy-in from railroads and other transportation agencies
• Advice on outreach for national adoption
• Identify and share innovations with peers
• Test innovative practices and agreements
COI Activities

- Project updates on COI member implementation efforts
- Executive leadership panel on importance of partnership and communications in advancing railroad-DOT relationships
- Roundtable discussions of processes and existing/desired agreements
- FRA/FHWA updates on Section 130 program, FAST Act state action plans
- Lessons learned from working on alternative project delivery methods
- Upcoming webinar topic discussions
COI Activities to Date

- Section 130 Case Study (in your folders) with at least one more Case Study to come.
- Strategies Document (in your folders) reviewed by COI.
- Introductory and two subject matter webinars (recorded and posted on web site). Next Webinar in December related to Flagging Best Practices. 2018 Webinars in Q2, Q3 and Q4.
- Innovation Library
- First of two Peer Exchanges in Chicago in October of 2017; second Peer Exchange will be in Q3 of 2018, feedback requested for location
• A library of agreements and other documents developed by state DOTs and rail agencies.
• State and Railroad Agreements, Manuals, and Processes (R16)
  – Organized by State/Railroad
  – Organized by Topic

http://shrp2.transportation.org/Pages/R16_InnovationLibrary.aspx
Innovation Library - Agreements, Manuals, and Processes Organized by State and Railroad (R16)

A library of agreements and other documents developed by state DOTs and rail agencies.

To view these documents sorted by TOPIC, click here.

Connecticut Department of Transportation
- ConnDOT Amtrak Support Service Master Agreement

Delaware Department of Transportation
- Delaware DOT Railroad Coordination Workshop Slides

Georgia Department of Transportation
- Georgia DOT CSX Railroad Special Provisions
- Georgia DOT CSX Right of Entry Acquisition Agreement Form
- Georgia DOT CSX Special Provision CSX Higher Atlanta Division
- Georgia DOT Guidance on Right of Way Acquisition
- Georgia DOT Norfolk Southern Railroad Master Agreement
- Georgia DOT Norfolk Southern Right of Way Agreement Form
- Georgia DOT Norfolk Southern Special Provisions
- Georgia DOT Vertical Clearance of Bridges over Railroad Tracks
- Georgia DOT Railroad Plan Submittal Checklist

Illinois Department of Transportation
- Illinois DOT Flagger Agreement
What’s Next for R16

- Next COI meeting will be Virtual (Webinar) in December - Best Practices related to Flagging
- In-person meeting of the COI in Q1 2018
- Virtual COI meetings (Webinars) in Q2, Q3 and Q4 of 2018
- Q3 2018 Peer Exchange
- Additional case studies
## For More Information

### Product Leads:

**Kate Kurgan**  
AASHTO Co-Product Lead  
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**Pam Hutton**  
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**Jessica Rich**  
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**Joe Taylor**  
FHWA Product Lead  
joseph.taylor@dot.gov

### Additional Resources:

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<tr>
<td>GoSHRP2</td>
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<td><a href="http://shrp2.transportation.org/Pages/R16_RailroadDMitigationStrategies.aspx">http://shrp2.transportation.org/Pages/R16_RailroadDMitigationStrategies.aspx</a></td>
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Wrap Up and Next Steps

• Travel Reimbursement Reminders
• Evaluation and Photo Permission Forms
• Thank You for Participating
Contacts and Resources

- **Contacts:**
  - Ken Jacoby, FHWA, Ken.Jacoby@dot.gov
  - Pam Hutton, AASHTO, phutton@aashto.org
  - Kate Kurgan, AASHTO, kkurgan@aashto.org
  - Mike Loehr, CH2M SME, Michael.Loehr@ch2m.com
  - Dave Solow, CH2M SME, David.Solow@ch2m.com
  - Susannah Kerr-Adler, CH2M SME, Susannah.KerrAdler@ch2m.com
  - Hal Lindsey, CH2M Project Manager, Hal.LLindsey@ch2m.com

- **Resources**
  - AASHTO SHRP2 R16 Webpages: http://shrp2.transportation.org/Pages/R16_RailroadDOTMitigationStrategies.aspx
Thank you!