

PEER EXCHANGE

Delaware * District of Columbia * Maryland * Pennsylvania
Virginia * West Virginia



- Best Practices
- Partnerships
- Innovations

Hosted by the PennDOT LTAP Advisory Committee
Michael Fleming, Chairman March 30, 2005



PENNDOT
Local Technical Assistance Program

A total of twenty one individuals participated in the LTAP Advisory Committee Peer Exchange. They were:



- ❑ Delaware
 - Larry Klepner, Director-Delaware T² Center
- ❑ District Of Columbia
 - Bill Carr, Research Manager-DC DOT
- ❑ FHWA-Olympia Fields Resource Center
 - Mark Sandifer, Technology Deployment Specialist
- ❑ Maryland
 - Ed Stellfox, Program Manager-Maryland T² Center
- ❑ Pennsylvania
 - Doug Roth, Public Works Director-Penn Township
 - George Marcinko, Manager-East Hempfield Township
 - John Dorin, Mayor-Montoursville Borough
- ❑ Virginia
 - Russ Neyman, Virginia T² Center
 - Steve Scherr, VA DOT
- ❑ West Virginia
 - Bill Wyant, WV LTAP Center
 - Donald Williams, District Engineer-WV DOH
 - Mike Blankenship, WV LTAP Center
 - Mike DeMary, Public Works Director-City of Fairmont
 - Ron Eck, WV LTAP Center
- ❑ **Special Thanks to Our Hostess**
 - **Stacey Cleary, PA State Association of Township Supervisors**



Special thanks to the PennDOT staff who participated:

Heather Engle, Lou Ferretti, Kim Ferroni, Bob Garrett,
Kelby Hunt and Michael Schultz

Who?

Peer Exchange participants were either advisory committee members (municipal officials) or Technology Transfer Center staff members from the states of Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

What?

After introductions from each state, the discussions focused on four open-ended questions that led the participants to spirited and insightful dialogue on best practices innovations, and partnerships with LTAP advisory committees.

When / Where?

The LTAP Advisory Committee Peer Exchange was held in conjunction with the 2005 Roadway Management Conference in Hershey, PA. The union of both activities allowed for maximum participation at minimal costs, given that the participants were already in town

Why?

Peer exchanges have proven to be effective formats for transportation professionals to learn from each other. PennDOT has hosted three research-focused peer exchanges and an LTAP peer exchange. Each of the exchanges resulted in new approaches and/or programs.

Priority Items Discussed By Participants

Innovations

Pennsylvania

- Low Volume Road New Product Evaluation Program
- Partner with RPOs and MPOs to market LTAP in under-served areas

Delaware

- Partnership with the National Highway Safety Training Institute
- Graduate students work with Circuit Training Program and are introduced to DelDOT careers

FHWA

- The Safety Circuit Rider Grants to four state DOT T² Centers are making a high impact

Virginia

- Training partnership with VADOT's Maintenance Training Academy

Innovations

District of Columbia

- Using training to reduce bicycle rider crashes and fatalities (5 in 2004)
- Neighborhood Advisory Committees are assisting on Homeland Security issues such as designating exit routes

Maryland

- Working with the Mid-Atlantic Regional Training Consortium on pavement markings training
- Developed Urban-specific Work Zone Traffic Safety Course

West Virginia

- New Logo was proposed by advisory committee members
- Using the advisory committee member's communities to evaluate new anti-icing materials
- An advisory committee member developed ADA compliance course

Instructors

Pennsylvania and West Virginia use their advisory committee members as instructors.

In both states, the advisory committee members assist in the development of new courses.

West Virginia advisory committee members also make special presentations such as those at the Roadway Management Conference.

Virginia DOT staff who will serve on the advisory committee once it's re-constituted serve as instructors and presenters.

Priority Items Discussed By Participants

Road Scholar Program

30% of West Virginia LTAP participants complete the Road Scholar Certificate Program. The participants must complete eight courses to earn the certificate.

10% of Road Scholar I and 8% of Road Scholar II participants complete the entire Road Scholar Program. Currently, ten completed classes are required to complete the program. However, changes are being made that should make this program more accessible and interesting.

Delaware, Maryland and Virginia do not have Road Scholar Programs.

New Courses

Pennsylvania

- A sub-committee of advisory members recommends and assists with developing new courses

Delaware

- DeIDOT recommends new courses as they are needed

District of Columbia

- Training courses are developed to meet needs as they arise

Virginia

- The state APWA chapter members and the Hampton Roads Training Academy staff have recommended courses in the past

West Virginia

- Advisory Committee members suggest, assist in developing and pilot new courses

Federal/State Involvement

Pennsylvania

- Advisory members work closely with PennDOT, little interaction with Penn State and none with the FHWA

Delaware

- No advisory committee but staff does work closely with DeIDOT and FHWA

District of Columbia

- Once a center is established it will work very closely with multiple jurisdictions due to unique U.S. Capital arrangement

Virginia

- FHWA will be invited to participate on the advisory committee

West Virginia

- Center is used both by WVDOH and local government employees

For Consideration in Delaware



- ❑ Training of local government officials on Homeland Security issues through the Delaware T² Center will be considered.

For Consideration in District of Columbia



DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

□ The logistics of the required match need to be resolved before an LTAP Center can be established in the District. This peer exchange provided a forum that may have led to a better understanding of the District's needs and there's a new openness to partner on this issue. The appropriate District DOT staff and FHWA staff will meet soon to discuss this topic. Also, the APWA has expressed interest in partnering on an LTAP Center.

For Consideration in FHWA



- Expert FHWA videographers will assist in assessing the video needs of the LTAP Centers. If appropriate, production assistance will be provided.
- “Hands-on” or “Tech Assist” style training will be considered for promotion as a model approach.

For Consideration in Maryland



- Coordination services will be considered for a regional approach to updates to videos.

For Consideration in Pennsylvania



- Pennsylvania will consider leading the efforts to establish a regional video library and sharing system.
- The use of quick, 5 to 8-minute, training videos will be considered for the use in training classes.
- Field training on project management will be considered.
- Follow up peer exchanges will be promoted as an annual Roadway Management Conference activity.

For Consideration in Virginia



- Advisory Committee models from Pennsylvania and West Virginia will be considered for Virginia's newly re-formed Advisory Committee.
- An assessment of current videos to determine which could be shared with other LTAP Centers and which need to be updated will be considered.
- Staff will post advertisements for potential advisory committee members.

For Consideration in West Virginia



- Will consider the development of more “hands on” and “in field” training classes.
- Will follow up on Bill Carr’s suggestion of leading the efforts to establish a “Research in Progress” data base model for LTAP Center staff to be able assess other center’s training best practices, videos, tech sheets, etc.

Appendix –
Session Agenda

**LTAP Advisory Committee Peer Exchange
March 30, 2005
AGENDA**

7:30 AM *Working Breakfast and Introductions*

8:00 AM *5-minute Introductions from Each State*

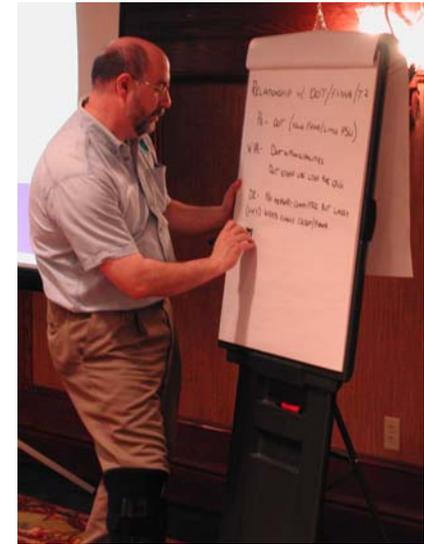
8:30 AM *Open-ended Questions and Discussion*

9:30 AM *Networking Break*

**10:00 AM *Open Discussion/Discussion Topics
from the Participants***

10:45 AM *Final Report Development*

Pennsylvania LTAP Advisory Peer Exchange Committee Hershey, PA



March 30, 2005