



## Comments from the Committee Chair —

The dates are rapidly approaching for a number of TRB summer conferences; for those of you who are coming to Portland in July, I would like to take this opportunity to say “Welcome.” Portland and the Greater Pacific Northwest have a lot to offer visitors, especially in July and August which typically are the driest and warmest months of the year. Both months average less than one inch of precipitation, with average high temperatures of about 80°F (27°C) in Portland. Night-time temperatures cool to 57°F (14°C) on average, so bring a jacket. For more information about the Portland area, see <http://www.pova.com/visitors/>.

As described in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter, about 40 TRB standing committees will be meeting from July 13 to July 18 for the Joint Summer Meeting of the Ports, Waterways, Freight, International Trade, Planning, Economics, Finance, and Management Committees. During the first part of the week, various ports, waterways, freight, and international trade committees will be meeting. The last half of the week will focus on sessions for the planning, economics, finance, management, and freight committees.

Because several A1B05 members will be attending sessions during the first part of the week while others will be attending during the latter part of the week, I have asked TRB staff to schedule the A1B05 committee meeting during the middle of the week. Thus we will be meeting at 6:00 pm, Wednesday, July 16. I will attempt to keep this meeting relatively short so we can go to dinner at a reasonable hour and get up early Thursday for the joint freight committees meeting at 8:00 am. For further information about the summer conference, see: <http://gulliver.trb.org/conferences/JM/default.htm>.

Among the topics for discussion at the A1B05 meeting will be: 1) updating the committee strategic planning concept, and 2) continuing this newsletter. An ad hoc group of A1B05 members currently is reviewing the strategic planning concept and will report on their progress thus far. Regarding the newsletter, please respond to a survey at the end of this newsletter. Your responses will help us decide whether or not to continue the newsletter, as well as what improvements are needed should the decision be made to continue.

I hope to see many of you at the summer conference, the A1B05 committee meeting, joint freight committee meeting, and various other “fun” activities in Portland. If you have questions about the conference or this newsletter, please contact me at [steven.r.kale@odot.state.or.us](mailto:steven.r.kale@odot.state.or.us) or (503) 986-4130.

Best regards,

*Steve Kale, Chair  
Intermodal Freight Transport Committee*



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**Joint Summer Meeting of the Ports, Waterways, Freight, International Trade, Planning, Economics, Finance, and Management Committees**

This conference will be held July 13-18 in Portland, OR, at the Doubletree Hotel—Lloyd Center. The conference hotel is located along the MAX light rail line which also serves the Portland International Airport, downtown Portland, and other locations. See the following for information about riding the light rail line from/to the airport: <http://www.trimet.org/max/redline/>. The Doubletree Hotel is about one-mile from downtown Portland and is across the street from the Lloyd Center Mall, the largest mall and business center in Oregon.

Part One of the conference will be on July 13-15, and will focus on ports, waterways, freight, and international trade. A preliminary agenda of presentations and other activities is available at: <http://gulliver.trb.org/conferences/JM/Agenda1.pdf>. Please note the July 15 (Tuesday) special luncheon presentation by Stephen Dow Beckham on “Lewis on Clark on the Western Rivers.” Dr. Beckham is the Pamplin Professor of History at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, and is a national expert on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. For more information about Dr. Beckham, see: <http://news.statesmanjournal.com/article.cfm?i=59562>

During the latter half of the week, Part Two of the conference will focus on planning, economics, finance, and management. While there will be a few special sessions on Monday and Tuesday, the bulk of the Part Two sessions will begin on Wednesday, July 16. For more information on sessions, see: <http://gulliver.trb.org/conferences/JM/Agenda2.pdf>.

Please note that on Wednesday morning, there will be a plenary session on “Freight Transportation System Issues.” The session will focus on common transportation issues of interest to participants in both Parts One and Two of the conference. Key freight issues to be discussed include: freight corridors, freight gateways, financing challenges, security issues, environmental challenges, and project streamlining. The plenary session moderator will be Anne Canby, Director of the TRB Technical Activities Council and President of the Surface Transportation Policy Project. Other activities include: a reception hosted by the Port of Portland (Sunday evening), tour to the Bonneville Lock and Dam (Monday afternoon), Port of Portland tour (Tuesday afternoon), and light rail/trolley tour (Wednesday evening).



Aerial View of the Bonneville Dam

(photo courtesy of the US Army Corps of Engineers)

[https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/op/b/album\\_pgs/bd\\_aer\\_jpg.htm](https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/op/b/album_pgs/bd_aer_jpg.htm)



## TRB 2004 Annual Meeting

Themes for the 2004 annual meeting are security, infrastructure, renewal, and funding (including reauthorization). Papers should be submitted to TRB by August 1, 2003. Information for submitting papers is available at: [http://www4.nas.edu/trb/annual.nsf/web/Calls\\_for\\_Papers](http://www4.nas.edu/trb/annual.nsf/web/Calls_for_Papers).

The Intermodal Freight Transport committee has issued a call for papers as shown at the following: <http://gulliver.trb.org/am/cfp/A1B05.pdf>. Possible topics include: changing customer requirements, congestion mitigation, funding challenges and opportunities, global competition, information communications technologies, infrastructure constraints, and intermodal freight planning, programming, and security issues.

Discussion of co-sponsoring sessions will occur in the joint freight committees' session at the TRB summer meeting in Portland (see "[Comments from the Committee Chair](#)" above). A1B05 has joined other TRB committees in jointly sponsoring annual meeting sessions during the last couple years. Please contact Steve Kale for more information about co-sponsoring sessions.

## Freight Transportation Research Needs Statements

Several years ago, the TRB freight committees were asked to develop a list of freight research needs statements. The resulting list was compiled and made available as a Transportation Research Circular on the TRB Web page at: <http://gulliver.trb.org/publications/circulars/ec048.pdf>.

Of the 18 needs statements, two submitted by A1B05 are now being investigated through the National Cooperative Highway Research Project Program. The first is entitled "Guidebook for Freight Policy, Planning, and Programming in Small and Mid-Sized Metropolitan Areas," is being investigated as NCHRP project #8-47, and is summarized at <http://www4.trb.org/trb/crp.nsf/All+Projects/NCHRP+8-47>.

The second is entitled "Workshop on Issues in Intermodal Connectors" and is one of several topics being investigated as "quick response" research under NCHRP Project 8-36, "Research for the AASHTO Standing Committee on Planning." The project is intended to help the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials identify and disseminate key strategies to improve the nation's National Highway System (NHS) intermodal freight connectors.

## 2003 Annual Meeting Update

At January 2003 meeting, TRB announced a number of initiatives it was considering for implementation. After reviewing feedback from committee members, friends, and others, TRB has decided to proceed as follows.

Thursday Morning Sessions at the TRB Annual Meeting. TRB has decided to continue scheduling Thursday morning sessions and will not end the meeting on Wednesday evening as proposed at the January meeting. TRB will, however, discourage the scheduling of Wednesday evening sessions.

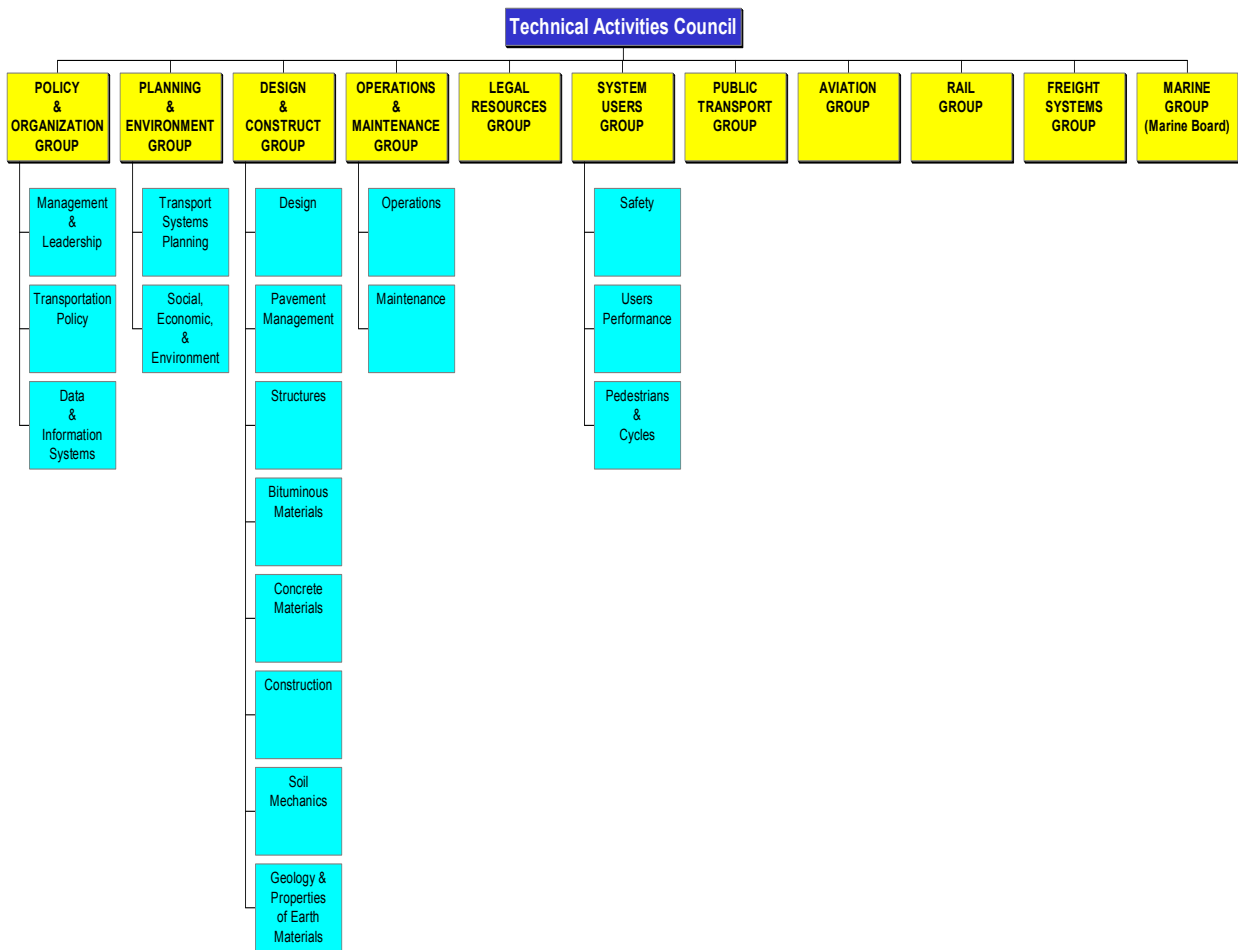
Future Joint Mid-Year Meeting. Based on feedback, TRB decided not to hold a joint meeting of all 200 standing committees. Instead, TRB will encourage the sponsorship of future conferences to address critical and cross-cutting issues and to attract a cross-section of committees from multiple Groups and Sections.



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Big Issue Policy Studies. Over 100 suggestions were received in response to solicitations for ideas for potential self-initiated TRB policy studies. These have been provided to the TRB Subcommittee on Planning & Policy Review, and to the TRB Executive Committee for consideration and follow-up. The Technical Activities Council will be using this list for a number of other purposes and will provide a complete listing in the near future.

Revised organizational structure. The approximately 200 standing committees of TRB's Technical Activities Division will be re-organized into eleven Groups as shown in the following diagram. Six of the groups, consisting of 150 committees, address various functional components of transportation, with a major focus on highways. Each of the remaining five Groups concentrates primarily on a specific mode, i.e., public transportation, rail, marine, aviation, and freight systems.



Proposals for relocating a committee to another Group and/or Section can be made at any time in the future, as can requests for changes in committee titles, scopes, etc. This is consistent with existing practice and supports the TRB goal of maintaining a flexible organization that is adaptable to changing needs of the transportation community.

The remainder of 2003 will be used for a gradual transition from the existing organization to the revised structure. The timetable for specific transitional items during 2003 will vary by Group. All committees are expected to be operating under the revised structure by the 2004 TRB Annual Meeting.



The Intermodal Freight Committee will be part of the Freight System Group, the composition of which is shown below.

**A1B00 FREIGHT SYSTEMS GROUP (Christina Casgar – Chair)  
Freight Systems Committees**

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A1B05	Intermodal Freight Transport
A1B02	Freight Transportation Planning & Logistics
A1B11	Military Transportation
A5006	International Trade & Transportation
A2M03	Intermodal Freight Terminal Design & Operations
A1B04	Motor Vehicle Size & Weight
A1B06	Freight Transport Economics and Regulation
A1B07	Urban Freight Movement
A1B14	Transportation of Hazardous Materials
A1B55	Task Force on Agricultural Transportation
A5T69	Task Force on Trucking Industry Research

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### **Sharon D. Banks Award**

TRB is soliciting nominations for the 2004 Sharon D. Banks Award for Innovative Leadership in Transportation. This award is intended to recognize individuals or organizations that make a significant difference in the lives of those who use, deliver, or support transportation services.

The recipient of the Award will have a documented record of successful and innovative leadership by improving transportation services, operations, management practices, mentoring and training programs, community relations, or labor relations. Recognition may be based either on specific programmatic and leadership accomplishments of unique distinction or on sustained accomplishments over an extended period of time.

Candidates will be considered from the broad spectrum of the transportation community, including all transportation modes, government, industry, and academia. Nominations must be submitted no later than August 15, 2003, to the TRB Executive Director, in the form of a letter summarizing the accomplishments of the candidate and such additional information on the individual's career (e.g., a resume or bio) as may be needed to support the nomination. A selection committee, appointed by the Chairman of the TRB Executive Committee, will select the recipient. For more information, see the following: [http://www4.trb.org/trb/homepage.nsf/web/sharon\\_banks\\_award\\_announcement](http://www4.trb.org/trb/homepage.nsf/web/sharon_banks_award_announcement).

### **Member News**

Bill DeWitt and Gerhardt Muller are currently writing the 5th edition of the intermodal freight transportation book. It has taken a lot of hard work and time to identify and implement an almost totally new approach to the book--this time it will be more like a textbook, given that the majority of the buyers are academic institutions--and that it will basically follow a container from origin to final destination chapter by chapter. This was much harder than it originally appeared given all of the twists and turn along the way, especially when considering that the players and numbers change everyday. Previous versions were found to be widely used by many academic institutions for reference therefore; this new version will be more in text-book format. It will include questions and a CD ROM with a PowerPoint and teaching manual. They expect to publish next summer.



The Transportation Research Board Statewide Transportation Planning Conference: Making Connections held from Sunday, May 18, 2003 to Wednesday, May 21, 2003 at the Hawk's Cay Resort included an array of professionals from both the public and private sector. The TRB website is <http://gulliver.trb.org/conferences/Statewide>. The atmosphere of the conference was very relaxed and the break-out group sessions were very productive. Some of the poster presentations and speakers included freight transportation as a consideration in planning. The poster presentations included one from FDOT presenting the first phase of the Statewide Intermodal System (SIS) for Florida which can be viewed at <http://www11.myflorida.com/planning/sis/>, and one from the University of Central Florida presenting intermodal freight modeling and computer simulation applications which can be viewed at <http://www.catss.ucf.edu/jack2/presentations.htm>. Below are a few snapshots from the conference location.



## Newsletter Survey

To determine whether to continue this newsletter and/or identify ways to improve it, A1B05 is conducting a reader survey. Please complete and return the form below to Newsletter Editor Jack Klodzinski at [jklozdzin@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:jklozdzin@mail.ucf.edu) or 407-823-3315 (fax).

1. Should the A1B05 newsletter be continued?  
 Yes  
 No  
 No opinion
2. If yes, how often should the newsletter be produced?
3. If yes, how might the newsletter be more useful?
4. Do you have any other comments about the newsletter?