

NJDOT Research Library

Carol Paszamant



TRB 98th Annual Meeting

January 2019
Sessions attended

Carol Paszamant
NJDOT Research Library

TRB Roundtable – February 11, 2019

Workshop 1016: **Developing a Roadmap for Ecologically Sustainable Transportation**

- Jeralee Anderson, President/CEO Greenroads International – “**Greenroads**” globally recognized nonprofit
 - Gives credits for ecological connectivity.
 - Rating system – software always being updated, at least every 5 years.
 - **Must consider stormwater on your project.**
 - Stormwater **Management** and Construction **Compliance**;
 - How to determine what’s above and beyond standard mitigation?
 - Incentives for projects with the lowest possible social and environmental impact.
 - Looking for help to improve the tool.

Workshop 1016: **Developing a Roadmap for Ecologically Sustainable Transportation**

- Daniel Smith, University of Central Florida – “**Achieving Ecological Sustainability for Wildlife**”
 - Wildlife habitat fragmentation issues due to roads.
 - **Problems/mechanics:** Road curvature, up and down, and slopes (i.e., **visibility**):
 - Greenways network set up, but roads competing;
 - Conducted multiple projects – all began with baseline average of impacts of highways on wildlife – studies of > 100 species.
 - **Key aspects: *Political Will* and *Financial Investment!***
 - Collaborative Public-Private Partnerships (P3);
 - FDOT policy to develop option to avoid and minimize impacts or include mitigation measures.

Workshop 1016: Developing a Roadmap for Ecologically Sustainable Transportation

- Kris Gada, Arizona DOT – “Novel Roadside Ecosystems”
 - Roads as *Landscape Corridors* - beneficial for plants *AND* connectivity
 - Multiple uses of roadside landscape – functional: erosion, water quality, aesthetics, and habitat:
 - Roadside design process – vegetation management zones - create edge habitats;
 - Nitrogen deposition on roadsides due to auto emissions, actually *good* for plants!
 - Seed dispersal due to traffic and wind currents;
 - Integrated vegetation management – use of native plants to reduce need for mowing and pesticides – good for pollinators; timing of mowing and pesticide use is important.
 - Partnerships to provide types of habitat wanted.
 - Maintain zones near roads in early successional state.
 - Design and maintain with multiple objectives in mind.

Transportation Research Thesaurus (TRT)

Subcommittee B0002(1) Meeting

- Multiple participants from TRB, National Transportation Library (NTL), Transportation Libraries (including some DOTs), Consultants.
 - Outreach:
 - Website: trt.trb.org – “The Transportation Research Thesaurus (TRT) is a tool to improve the indexing and retrieval of transportation information. The thesaurus covers all modes and aspects of transportation. The TRT's purpose is to provide a common and consistent language between producers and users of transportation information.”
 - Janet Daly (TRB) produced new print brochure;
 - Video on TRT website: “Why Use the TRT?”
 - Article in *TR News* (Issue 305, 2016, pp 36-39).
 - New software: “PoolParty” (<https://www.poolparty.biz/>) - ISO-compliant, can handle multiple vocabularies and link them. (We want to align with National Information Standards Organization (NISO standard, slightly different.)

Transportation Research Thesaurus (TRT)

Subcommittee B0002(1) Meeting

(continued)

- The National Academies is using TRT as a pilot project.
- Washington State DOT and L.A. Metro are each working on their own versions of the TRT:
 - WSDOT using text analytics with “SmartLogic” – starting from scratch, from bottom up.
 - LAMTA also using “SmartLogic” tool to create thesaurus for their different archive collections.
- Discussed issues and tasks identified in NCHRP Report 874, *The Transportation Research Thesaurus: Capabilities and Enhancements*.
- Subcommittee considers new terms for inclusion – anyone can propose new terms.
- Looking for new members - Subject Matter Experts welcome.
- An updated list is sent out quarterly via newsletter.

TRB Information Services Committee

B0002 Meeting

- Serves as a sounding board and feedback mechanism to ensure the quality of the Transportation Research Information Services (TRIS) and TRB library services.
- Attendees : TRB staff and a host of others, mainly librarians.
- Outreach:
 - Website updated;
 - New TRID videos posted in 2018;
 - New TRID webinar to be given by Mary Moulton on 3/21/2019 re: the 4 included databases;
 - Launched a new FAQ.
- Quite a few new journals being indexed in TRID – send any other journal title suggestions to Bill McLeod (wmcleod@nas.edu).

TRB Information Services Committee

B0002 Meeting

(continued)

- **Annual Meeting** papers – publication delayed due to changes in data entry system - still need to have registered for the Annual Meeting.
- I asked about marked record sets in TRID downloading in reverse publication date order – It's a known problem, and nothing can be done at this time.
- Continuing digitization of pre-2004 TRB publications. Progress posted on TRB website:
<http://www.trb.org/information-services/information-services.aspx>
- Website features “SNAP” searches, e.g., workforce, innovation, electric vehicles, etc.
- TRB Centennial upcoming – Alexandra Briseno (abriseno@nas.edu) is collecting photos for a Centennial book – 15 chapters, will be available at 2020 Annual Meeting!

Other Sessions Attended:

- Workshop 1054: The Long Engagement: From Writing Data Management Plans to Actually Managing Data.
- Poster Session 1432: Current Issues in Ecology and Transportation.
- Event 1455: Developing Climate Adaptation Strategies That Address Ecological Concerns Associated with Transportation Facilities.
- Poster Session 1552: Making Transportation Research Smart, Sustainable, and Equitable Through Libraries, Information, and Data.
- Workshop 1577: Knowledge Management 101: Strategies for Discovering the Best Fit for Your Organizational Needs.
- Committee Meeting: Library and Information Science for Transportation (LIST) Committee.

Thank you for this opportunity to attend -