NJDOT Research Library

Carol Paszamant
TRB 98th Annual Meeting

January 2019

Sessions attended

Carol Paszamant
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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?”
  • 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.)
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).
• **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.


• 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:

- 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 -