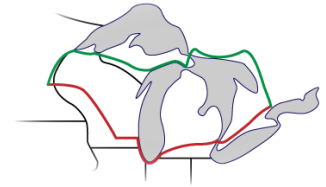


2015 Chicago and Great Lakes Regional Operations & Construction Coordination Meeting



Workshop Notes

Wednesday, February 4, 2015 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Central
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

Please refer to the agenda for the schedule of events. The morning session covered the Chicago region and included presentations from counties and municipalities. There were approximately 25-30 participants. That session was facilitated by CMAP, and materials for that are available via <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/mobility/strategic-investment/construction-planning>

The afternoon session for the Great Lakes megaregion was the 5th annual event, and its most successful with the greatest level of agency participation. The Wisconsin TOPS Lab received 100% participation from member agencies, and the online map (<http://www.glrto.org/workzones/map/>, login required) displays high impact work zones and special events for 11 different agencies encompassing a population exceeding 60 million and an area around half a million square miles. This includes the Ontario Ministry of Transport, tolling authorities, and newcomers Iowa DOT, Ohio DOT, and the Ohio Turnpike. There were about 15-20 participants, both in person and via the web meeting.

Please refer to the introductory slides posted separately for some background and illustrations of how the coalition might visualize mobility at the megaregion level. What follows here are some key items to highlight. For any of them, agencies should refer to the online mapping application.

- Ministry of Transport Ontario
 - Blue Water Bridge will have width and length restriction for over-dimensional commercial vehicles. Impact from lane reduction from 6 to 2 on bridge span. This is a high impact project.
 - Suggestion to sign up for the BWB Twitter feeds for the latest conditions:
 - MDOT BlueWaterBridge @MDOT_BWB
 - Blue Water Bridge @BWBCanada
 - Wait Times: BWB @CBSA_BWB
 - The Pan Am Games in Toronto in July will cause a variety of traffic impacts, including lanes designated for athlete buses.
- Ohio DOT
 - Several work zone projects near Toledo that will have high and medium impacts to I-75 and I-475/US-23.
 - Note the projects along I-75 from Toledo to Findlay.

- Ohio Turnpike (added afterwards)
 - There are two resurfacing projects from April to June. The one at the Indiana state line will have a permanent work zone with medium impact to travel.
 - Four pavement replacement projects will have contraflow zones between May and October, each with an anticipated medium impact.

- Michigan DOT
 - High impact bridge rehab on I-75 north of US-2.
 - High and medium impact work zones on I-94 west of Kalamazoo.
 - I-69 projects west of the border crossing that will further impact travel along that northern crossing route.

- Indiana DOT
 - Work along I-65 between Gary and Roselawn.
 - Bridge work on I-80/94 near Illinois border.

- Indiana Toll Road
 - I-90 westbound on-ramp demolition and reconstruction near Lake Station.

- Illinois DOT
 - With Chicago area congestion the way it already is, there are several medium and high impact projects to keep aware of.
 - The largest impact will be the Circle Interchange, with major ramp and lane impacts, some full closure weekends, and not expected to be completed until early 2016.

- Illinois Tollway
 - Projects along I-90 Jane Addams west of Chicago between the Elgin Toll Plaza and I-294.
 - The Elgin O'Hare Western Access (EOWA) Project - extension from I-290 to O'Hare Airport – \$3.4 billion to include 17 miles of toll roads, 15 new or improved toll road interchanges.

- Wisconsin DOT
 - Up to 16 different projects along I-39/90 between Beloit and Madison.
 - Work on Zoo Interchange in Milwaukee.

- Iowa DOT
 - Projects near Council Bluffs, Sioux City, and Des Moines were noted.

- Minnesota DOT
 - Work zone on I-494 west of Minneapolis will be high impact. Three other high impact work zones in Minneapolis and St. Paul.
 - High impact zone on I-35 north of Albert Lea.
 - High impact bridge work on US-2 in Duluth.

Follow Up Items

- Request to coordinate on performance reviews - related to the WZ monitoring and performance measures projects - so efforts are not duplicated.
- Follow up with Ohio Turnpike with work zone information. (Completed)
- Sign up for the Blue Water Bridge Tweets noted above for traffic updates at border crossing.
- Agencies should notify TOPS Lab of special events they would like to add to the map.
- Agencies can notify the TOPS Lab of any new or changed work zones so that can be updated on the map.
- Agencies should share information and project specific websites with Travel Midwest. Travel Midwest can also add a banner to their website for upcoming/current closures. The Great Lakes website also includes links to agency traveler information resources, and these will be updated once the new site rolls out later this year.
- Materials will be posted on GLRTOC site.
- Link to CMAP will be added to the GLRTOC site.
- The Illinois Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) program may also have work zone impacts to be aware of. Their status map is available via <http://www.createprogram.org/maps.htm>