

Workshop 125 Road Pricing

Sunday, January 09, 2005, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Hilton

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Sponsored by:

Road Pricing Subcommittee (ABE10(1))

Road Pricing Outreach Subcommittee (ABE10(2))

Building on the success of previous workshops at both the annual and midyear meetings, this increasingly popular TRB workshop covers a breadth of emerging political, institutional, and technical issues in road pricing with a particular emphasis on operation, financing, and pricing policy for **managed lanes**.

With a variety of interactive approaches, including small group interaction, audience participation, and actual case studies, transportation professionals in a variety of disciplines will learn from and exchange ideas with peers. Although the focus of the workshop is on operations, finance, and pricing policy, practical information will also emerge on all project phases including, but not limited to, planning, development, and monitoring and evaluation. Among the scheduled topics are geometric design issues, signing and driver information, enforcement of managed lanes, toll technology considerations, active management, flexible operations, and future trends in managed-lane pricing policy and tolling technology.

Both new and seasoned pricing professionals are likely to benefit from this workshop; however, those with little or no exposure to pricing should contact the workshop coordinator to obtain basic pricing information prior to attending. All participants are invited to bring their questions, unique project challenges, solutions, or all three, for discussion.

Workshop Moderator:

Bill Stockton, Associate Agency Director, Texas Transportation Institute

Morning Session: Implementing Managed Lanes

A focus on operations and practical design considerations

8:30 – Opening remarks

- Definition of managed lanes for purpose of the workshop: separated freeway lanes that use pricing and other management strategies, could be either new lanes or HOV to HOT conversions (not exclusive truck or transit facilities)
- Morning session will rely on experiences from managed lanes in operation or near implementation
 - California SR-91, I-15, and I-680
 - Texas I-10 and US 290
 - Minnesota I-394
 - Colorado I-25

8:45 to 9:45 – Topic Briefings – 15 minutes on each topic

Geometric Design Issues

Using Minnesota's proposed I-394 HOT lane as a case study, highlights of operational issues related to geometric design will be illustrated, including access design and spacing, weaving analysis, lane separation, the challenges of one-lane toll operation, ITS infrastructure, and interface with the existing freeway and street system.

Proposed speaker:

- Ferrol Robinson, SRF, Minneapolis, MN

Signing and Driver Information

The current Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) contains limited recommendations for signing and markings for preferential use lanes, including managed lanes or HOT lanes. Based on TxDOT and FHWA research, as well as field experience from the Houston I-10 and US 290 HOT lanes, the presenter will brief the audience on traveler information needs, current practices, and examples of sign development.

Proposed speaker:

- Susan Chrysler, TTI , College Station, TX

Enforcement of Managed Lanes

Enforcement of managed lanes, especially those with HOV preference, is one of the most challenging implementation issues. The speaker will provide an overview of the state-of-the-practice and future directions in managed lane enforcement using experiences from the three operating HOV-to-HOT conversion projects in the U.S. Examples of topics to be covered include toll account verification techniques, occupancy verification, law enforcement coverage, and violation processing and adjudication.

Proposed speakers:

- Chris Swenson, CRSPE, Inc., Cape Coral, FL

Toll Technology Considerations

The speaker will offer insight into the considerations for developing toll operations on a managed lane facility, particularly as it relates to pricing strategy (static, variable, or dynamic). Supporting operations and integration with ITS functions will also be discussed.

- Rick Herrington, North Texas Tollway Authority, Dallas, TX

Active Management: Flexible Operations in Managed Lanes

“Active management” is the cornerstone of managed lanes. Active management involves setting up a facility that can be flexibly operated over the long term so that it constantly achieves a pre-specified level of service. This portion of the program will highlight elements of active management:

- identifying your performance measures and operating thresholds,

- determining what changes you will make if the thresholds are exceeded,
 - developing your operational policy and communicating it to policy makers, and
 - installing the right technologies and procedures to continuously monitor your facility, evaluate changes, and take action.
- David Ungemah, UrbanTrans Consultants, Inc., Denver, CO

10:00 to 10:15 Break

10:15 to 11:15 Breakout groups and discussion

- Group 1 – Geometric Design
- Group 2 – Signing and Driver Information
- Group 3 – Enforcement
- Group 4 – Toll Technology and ITS
- Group 5 – Active Management

11:15 to 12:00 Summaries from breakout sessions

12 – 1:15 p.m. – Lunch Break (on your own)

Afternoon Session: The Financing of and Toll Policies for Managed Lanes

1:15 – 2:45 p.m. Financing Issues in Managed Lanes - Framing the challenges and future trends from the state/local perspective

- Steve Lockwood, Parsons Brinkerhoff Quade Douglas

Mr. Lockwood will frame a discussion of the future policy and financing trends in pricing managed lanes. He will provide a sketch of where financing (and demand management) may be headed and what the evolution or transition from current state to future state might be, particularly when considering a managed lanes approach.

Mr. Lockwood will be followed by a brief introduction to various approaches to managed lanes and pricing in different states currently undertaking serious consideration of a managed lanes approach to pricing. Interactive audience participation will be encouraged and workshop participants are welcome to dialogue with panelists about the challenges that states are likely to face, given the very broad range of financing experiences nationwide. Some examples of challenges could be the integration of toll facilities into the non-toll networks,

public perceptions, political perceptions, and changes that DOTs will have to make to manage in the newer “world.”

- Marthand Nookala, Minnesota DOT
- Joe Wagonner, Maryland State
- Phil Russell, Texas DOT
- Barbara Reese, Virginia DOT

2:45 – 3:00 p.m. Break

3:00 – 4:30 p.m. The Pricing of Managed Lanes – The Future of Tolling Technologies and Policy

Emerging / evolving realm of toll policy and toll setting

This session will feature 3-4 experts to speak on emerging toll policy and toll setting issues, especially as they relate to managed lanes. Each speaker will speak for only 5 minutes each and the audience will be provided an opportunity for questions and answers for the remainder of the session.

- **Mark Muriello, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Moderator**
- Tim McGuckin – Transponder Technology and New 5.9 Ghz Standard
- Charlie Fausti, Technical Committee Chair, EZPass Interagency Group – Interagency Collaboration, Open Road Tolling in a high speed environment
- Herve LeCaignec, Cofiroute – Institutional Arrangements, European lessons, and Customer Service
- David Powell, TxDOT (invited) – Future Business Models