

## Preliminary Program SASHTO 2008 As of 7/28/08

**Monday, August 11, 2008 – 8:30 am to 11:30 am**

### **Opening Session: *Moving Us Forward*** *Ballroom of the Americas*

You won't want to miss the exciting session that officially opens SASHTO 2008. Officers from Florida DOT's Motor Carrier Compliance Office will serve as Color Guard, the National Anthem will be sung by Yvonne Collins of the Florida DOT Construction Office, and each state will have the opportunity to announce its presence in the Roll Call of States. Special guests will include Pat Williams, Senior Vice President of the NBA's Orlando Magic and one of America's top motivational speakers.

## **Concurrent Sessions**

**Monday, August 11, 2008 – 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm**

### **Safety is Key: *The Challenge of Saving Lives*** *Grand Republic B*

Early in the new millennium, the U.S. roadway systems' incident trends plateaued at a fatality rate that was the lowest in history. Consequently, the number of annual roadway fatalities remained virtually unchanged for many years. Then many states experienced upward trends. In reaction to these alarming trends, SAFETEA-LU recognized the need for all transportation safety partners to focus their activities and resources on strategically identified traffic safety problems. In concert with FHWA, states have created Strategic Highway Safety Plans (SHSPs) that focus on reducing fatalities and serious injuries in the areas identified through their development processes. This session focuses on SHSP implementation and best practices in reducing traffic fatalities.

Moderator: Marianne Trussell, Chief Safety Officer, Florida DOT

Panel:

Marianne Trussell, Chief Safety Officer, Florida DOT, will discuss the implementation and challenges of Florida's SHSP which focuses on reducing incidents attributed to lane departures, intersections, aggressive driving and vulnerable road users.

Mike Hancock, Chief of Staff, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, will discuss Kentucky's SHSP which focuses on the traffic safety issues on Kentucky's roadways and the state's efforts to reduce fatalities.

Thomas Smith, FHWA Division Administrator, West Virginia Division, was part of a very recent FHWA scan tour of Australia's and Japan's Older Road User programs. The scan tour members sought policy options and initiatives regarding transportation system planning, operations, and design as they relate to this growing population of Americans.

David O'Hagan, State Roadway Design Engineer, Florida DOT, will provide a presentation on Florida's implementation and in-service performance of cable barriers on their limited access system. Cable barrier is a very effective method to reduce lane departures fatalities and injuries.

David Nicol, Director of Safety Design, Federal Highway Administration, will discuss effective design techniques and highway features for improving highway safety.

**Growing Our Own: *Cultivating Tomorrow's Workforce Today***  
*Grand Republic A*

This lively interactive session will highlight the Mississippi Department of Transportation's (MDOT's) experience establishing Mississippi's first formal succession planning program. Taking a longer-range view, MDOT explored ways to ensure that students were aware of the variety of transportation-related careers open to them and were developing the vital foundation of math and science skills necessary to pursue these careers. The workforce challenges faced by MDOT are common to the entire

transportation industry, and the ideas which will be discussed are broadly applicable to both the public and private sectors.

**Moderator:** Danada McMurtry, M.Ed., Outreach Director with the Mississippi DOT, will facilitate this session and will provide an overview of the challenges faced by MDOT.

**Panel:**

Beth Ann Wann, Workforce Development Manager at MDOT, will discuss MDOT's workforce development initiatives.

Amy Whitten, J.D., The Whitten Group, will describe MDOT's process of planning and implementing succession planning.

Linda Clifton, M.Ed., Principal, Tupelo Middle School, will provide an introduction to MDOT's school-based initiatives and programs.

Connie Gusmus, M.Ed., National Board Certified Teacher, Tupelo Middle School, will take participants on an exciting journey through the eyes of students!

Talina Knight, M.Ed., National Board Certified Teacher, Tupelo Middle School, will co-host the participants' "hands-on" experience.

## **Global Climate Change: *Meeting the Challenges*** *Nutcracker 1 and 2*

Global climate change is emerging as a major policy issue that will be debated during the authorization of the federal highway and transit programs and is currently being addressed by many states. What are the major issues related to transportation's contribution to climate issues? How are state Departments of Transportation trying to reduce emissions from the transportation sector and mitigate the impacts of climate change? A national panel of experts will discuss these issues and more, including current and future actions at the state and federal levels.

**Moderator:** David Ekern, Commissioner, Virginia DOT

Panel:

Cindy Burbank, National Environment and Planning Practice Leader, PB Americas Inc, will provide an overview of climate change, strategies to reduce emissions and adaption to climate change impacts.

Gloria Shepherd, Associate Administrator for Planning, Environment and Realty, FHWA, USDOT, will provide the FHWA perspective on federal efforts to address climate change and potential changes to statewide and MPO transportation planning and NEPA activities.

Ed Cole, Chief, Environment and Planning, Tennessee DOT, will discuss how Tennessee is addressing the issue of climate change and the key issues and challenges.

Kathleen Neill, Director, Office of Policy Planning, Florida DOT, will discuss how Florida is addressing the issue of climate change, including current and future strategies for reducing emissions from the transportation sector.

**Airports: *Preparing for the Future***  
*Nutcracker 3*

Aviation is changing. This session will focus on industry, airport and state perspectives on the progress, cost and benefits of upgrading airports to handle the next generation of aircraft including new large aircraft, such as the Airbus A380, and very light jets, such as the Eclipse 500. Changes are happening in aviation that will affect the quality of long and medium distance travel. Almost every air navigation and air traffic control practice that pilots have developed over the last century is on the verge of becoming obsolete. Add new categories of aircraft to the mix and the future of air transportation is bright . . . but at what cost?

Moderator: William J. Ashbaker, P.E., State Aviation Manager, Florida DOT

Panel:

John C. Eagerton IV, D.P.A., Chief, Aviation Bureau, Alabama Department of Transportation, explores how certain macro-level trends may impact the future of our nation's air transportation system. Reduced aviation gas production and increased prices, requirements to reduce aviation's carbon footprint and many other factors will impact aviation's airport infrastructure.

Malcolm Murphy, Director, DayJet Corporation, explains the innovative new passenger transportation system that very light jets bring to the traveling public and how NextGen infrastructure will enable operational, economic and environmental benefits.

Harry Downing, Manager, Wilbur Smith & Associates, discusses the benefits and costs to airports of supporting very large and very small passenger aircraft from a statewide system perspective.

**Monday, August 11, 2008 – 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm**

**The Life of a Bridge: *Conception to Retirement***  
*Grand Republic B*

We will explore the life of a bridge in this session and what is being done to ensure a long and healthy life for our bridges. We will start by discussing load resistance factor rating (LRFR) and how this will ensure that our bridges stress levels are kept to a minimum (as we all know higher stress results in a shorter life). We will then discuss how the location of where a bridge is living, such as our coastal bridges, could make them vulnerable to wave impacts during storm events. Then we will discuss the value of having regular check-ups (inspections) to ensure that our bridges are receiving the proper maintenance during their life. Finally, we will discuss how long we can expect our bridges to perform before it is time for them to retire.

Moderator: Mal Kerley, Virginia Department of Transportation

Panelists:

Andre Pavlov, Florida DOT Structures Office, and Jeff Pouliotte, Florida DOT Maintenance Office, will discuss implementation of Load Resistance Factor Rating (LRFR).

Rick Renna, Florida DOT Roadway Design Office, will provide an update on the AASHTO/FHWA Bridge Wave Task Force.

Mark Bernhardt, Burgess and Niple, will provide information on condition inspection of in-service bridges.

Richard Kerr, Florida DOT Maintenance Office, will discuss the service life of Florida's bridges.

**Public-Private Partnerships: *New Initiatives for Addressing Mobility Nutcracker 1 and 2***

This session will revisit the rationale for public-private partnerships (PPPs) to focus on the opportunities for and value of risk transfer and project delivery efficiency. There are a number of reasons governments are attracted to PPPs. They include the potential for value for money, early project delivery, gains from innovation, obviating the need to borrow to finance infrastructure investment, and access to improved services. The relevant government agency is responsible for assessing whether a project offers value for money compared with the most efficient form of public delivery. The transfer of risk is a driver of value for money. Risk can take many forms including those relating to construction, the size of the market (demand risk), the cost of operations and maintenance, declarations of *force majeure*, and changes to the law and regulations. Whatever the nature of the risk, the principle of optimal risk transfer is: that the risk should be allocated to the public or private sector entity that is able to manage it at the least cost.

Moderator: Jim Hatter, Innovation Finance Specialist, Federal Highway Administration

**Panelists:**

Michael Parker, Managing Director, Jeffrey Parker & Associates, a leader in the field of transportation finance, will address PPPs from an industry perspective.

Simon Santiago, Partner, Nossaman Guthner Knox & Elliott LLP, is a legal expert and will discuss PPPs and help explain the opportunity for PPPs, and the value of risk transfer of these new initiatives.

Charles Nicholas, Vice President and Director, Halcrow, will discuss PPP initiatives from an engineering standpoint.

**Linking Planning and NEPA: *Early Environmental Consideration***  
*Nutcracker 3*

SAFETEA-LU specifically requires greater consideration of environmental issues during transportation planning. This panel will discuss actions states are taking to ensure that environmental considerations are being addressed in the planning stage.

Moderator: John Taylor, PE, State Systems Planning Engineer, Florida DOT

**Panel:**

Lamar Smith, Project Development and Environmental Review Team Leader, Federal Highway Administration, will provide a federal perspective on linking planning and NEPA.

Bob Crim, PE, State Environmental Development Engineer, Florida DOT will provide an overview of the corridor planning process, tools and techniques for integrating NEPA requirements into planning, and the link provided by Florida's Efficient Transportation Decision Making process to traditional NEPA processes.

Mike Bruff, Transportation Planning Branch Manager, North Carolina Department of Transportation, will discuss his agency's efforts in integrating planning and environmental review processes.

## **Innovative State Transit Programs: *Partnerships for Mobility*** *Grand Republic A*

This session will examine the implementation of major transit projects at the state DOT level, with a focus on partnerships, non-typical funding mechanisms and economic impacts. Speakers will discuss the integration of highway tolling and transit, public private partnerships, and ways in which transit-oriented development can generate private sector support. The economic impacts of transit, including the return on investment from successfully coordinating local, state and federally funded paratransit services will be presented.

Moderator: Ed Coven, State Transit Manager, Florida DOT

Panel:

Lowell Clary, Principal, Clary Consulting, LLC, is a transportation finance expert who will share his thoughts on innovative state funding mechanisms for transit, including public private partnerships.

Matthew Click, Senior Associate, Cambridge Systematics, is a leading authority on highway tolling, and will discuss how the integration of transit and tolling can benefit both modes and reduce gridlock.

Lisa Bacot, Executive Director, Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, will discuss the structure and issues associated with Florida's coordinated system, as well as the economic benefits which derive from this program.

**Tuesday, August 12, 2008 – 8:30 am to 10:00 am**

## **Highway Design and Operations: *Optimizing our Systems*** *Grand Republic B*

As growth in travel demand has exceeded our ability to provide adequate new capacity, we need to optimize our transportation systems. There is not a single solution to this challenge but rather many options to help improve our roadways, from the rapid clearing of traffic accidents, to improving traveler information systems and greater ease in movement of people and goods. This session will focus on providing mobility-related level of service through improved operation and management systems.

Moderator: Lap T. Hoang, State Traffic Engineer, Florida DOT

Panel:

Doug McLeod, Planning Manager, Florida DOT, will provide a glimpse at the 2010 Highway Capacity Manual, including major new topics such as a multimodal approach to urban arterials, a new interchange ramp terminal chapter, and guidelines for the use of alternative traffic analysis tools.

Matthew Fowler, Assistant State Transportation Planning Administrator, Georgia DOT, will look at Georgia's statewide Truck Lane Needs Identification Study which set out to answer two key questions: Do truck only lanes significantly reduce peak period congestion and if so, where should we build them?

Debra Rivera, District Traffic Operations Engineer, Florida DOT, will discuss the 95 Express – a multimodal travel demand management project designed to offer new travel choices and provide congestion relief along I-95 in Miami-Dade and Broward counties.

Mike Stokes, Lead System Administrator, Mississippi DOT, will showcase U.S. 90 along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, a fast-track ITS corridor project which involved multiple local agencies to provide state-of-the-art traffic management on surface arterial streets with high traffic volumes.

Gary Millsaps, Incident Management Manager, Georgia DOT, will discuss the importance of traffic incident management with highlights of Georgia's Highway Emergency Response Operations (HERO) and the Metro Atlanta traffic incident management team known as Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Taskforce.

## **Innovative Financing Partnerships: *Combining our Resources*** *Nutcracker 1 and 2*

This panel will explore workable practice-based approaches to financing large-scale infrastructure projects. Contemporary problems and concerns within the public sector will be identified. Common objections to public-private partnerships will be examined along with a framework for selecting an appropriate infrastructure delivery model for a variety of scenarios. Real world examples of successful partnerships and lessons learned will also be included.

Moderator:

D.J. Gribbin, General Counsel, U.S. Department of Transportation

Panel:

Alice Bravo, Director of Transportation System Development, Florida Department of Transportation District Six, will discuss Florida's efforts in the Innovative Financing Partnerships. She will highlight some of the projects that Florida is undertaking.

Mal Kerley, Chief Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, will highlight and discuss Virginia's efforts in moving forward with innovative financing partnerships.

Margo Bennett, Partner, Nossaman Guthner Knox & Elliott LLP, will give her thoughts on innovative state funding mechanisms, including public-private partnerships.

## **Future Growth Trends: *How States Respond to Growth*** *Nutcracker 3*

In this session we will discuss how states are responding to changes in demographic trends, travel behavior and freight movement; and how these growth trends affect and impact the transportation system in their state.

Moderator: Dr. William Ankner, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Transportation

Panel:

Ed Cole, Chief of Environment and Planning, Tennessee Department of Transportation, is responsible for the activities of the Divisions of Transportation Planning, Environment, and Public Transportation, Waterways and Rail.

Coby Chase, Director, Government and Business Enterprises, Texas DOT, served as one of the architects of the Trans-Texas Corridor, the department's plan to reshape the transportation system in Texas and oversees four crucial areas of department business: State Legislative Affairs, Federal Legislative Affairs, Marketing, and Research.

Charles Gauthier, Director, Division of Community Planning, Florida Department of Community Affairs, is heavily involved in Florida's growth management initiative. Mr. Gauthier will present on Florida's growth management experience with a community perspective.

### **Intercity Passenger Rail: *Reviving a Mobility Option*** *Grand Republic A*

In this session, we will examine the state of intercity passenger rail service in the U.S., discuss the prospect for Amtrak's federal reauthorization and share information about successful state-supported intercity passenger rail systems and describe various states' plans for introduction of new service.

Moderator: Nazih Haddad, Manager, Passenger Rail Development, Florida DOT

Panel:

Frank Busalacchi, Secretary, Wisconsin DOT, will discuss the prospect of future intercity passenger rail service in the U.S. He will also share his perspective as a member of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission and as Chairman of the States for Passenger Rail Coalition.

Gene Skoropowski, General Manager, California Capitol Corridor, will offer a presentation on the Capitol Corridor Intercity passenger service and share the secrets of the phenomenal success of this state-supported corridor service between Sacramento and the Bay Area.

Anne Witt, Vice President, Amtrak, will discuss Amtrak's strategic plans and their six-year federal reauthorization.

Patrick Simmons, Director of Rail Division, North Carolina DOT, will provide a presentation on North Carolina's state-supported intercity passenger rail service and plans to expand such service.

**Tuesday, August 12, 2008 – 10:30 am to noon**

**Innovative Strategies for Highway Construction: *Getting the Job Done***  
*Grand Republic B*

This session will look at Florida's approach to alternative contracting, to reducing contract administration costs, and look at a SASHTO state's approach to temporary bridging to avoid or minimize impacts to waters and wetlands during construction. We will also take a look at Highway Construction indices and performance specifications.

Moderator: Brian Blanchard, Director of Construction, Florida DOT

Panel:

Brian Blanchard will discuss Florida's recent approach to alternative contracting, as it relates to cost control. He will also present examples of Design Build Maximum Price, Bid Options, Design Build Finance for early delivery, and Frank O'Dea, will discuss how FDOT is simplifying construction administration processes, for example, reducing restrictions, contractor invoicing pilot projects, lump sum projects, Witness and Hold Specifications.

George Gibson, P.E., Mulkey Engineers & Consultants, will provide a presentation on the research study “Temporary Bridging to Avoid or Minimize Impacts to Waters and Wetlands During Highway Construction” and present findings and procedural guidelines that state highway agencies and other stakeholders currently use or can apply when bridging wetlands or waters of the United States. The study (National Cooperative Highway Research Program Number 25-30), incorporated state of the art engineering experience and understanding for the temporary bridging of wetlands across the United States.

David Mincey, PE ,North Carolina DOT. With highway construction costs soaring several times faster than the Consumer Price Index, each state agency needs its own cost index to plan future expenditures. A highway construction cost index unique to your agency would help you to more accurately adjust for inflation and compare your costs to other states. Each SASHTO state could benefit from numerically seeing how different or how similar their predicament is compared to their neighbors. We will touch on the highlights of what a cost index is and how to use it.

Sid Scott, Trauner Consulting Inc., will showcase Trauner’s \$3 million Performance Specifications for Rapid Highway Renewal in which Trauner will develop guidelines for ranking important performance parameters (e.g., time, quality, cost, risk, complexity) based on project type and new performance specifications for different highway renewal scenarios (e.g., road, bridge, structures, traffic control) and guidelines for their implementation.

### **Infrastructure Preservation: *Protecting the Investment*** *Grand Republic A*

As we enter the new millennium, the demands on our highway network and available transportation funding are greater than ever. These demands, combined with growing public expectations for safety, quality, and performance, require highway agencies to maintain the highest level of service practical. To meet these demands, highway agencies are redefining their objectives, requiring them to focus on preserving and maintaining rather than expanding our existing highway system. Transportation departments are struggling to meet increasing demands

with declining resources. This session will focus on the allocation of limited resources and the results of those decisions.

Moderator: King Gee, Associate Administrator for Infrastructure, Federal Highway Administration

Panel:

Tim Lattner, State Maintenance Engineer, Florida DOT, will explain Florida's priority and allocation process and give the results of those decisions.

Janice Williams, Chief Systems Engineer, Louisiana DOT, will discuss Louisiana's process for system preservation of both roadways and bridges.

Rex Bush, Assistant Chief Engineer, Pre-Construction, Alabama DOT, will discuss Alabama's approach to system preservation.

### **Long Term Fiscal Challenges: *Preparing for Tomorrow and Beyond*** *Nutcracker 1 and 2*

The nation's pending fiscal crisis related to transportation has been the subject of much media coverage. There is an emerging debate about new systems for transportation finance and funding approaches for the future. This session not only addresses the impact on the federal government but also focuses on the affect the crisis will have on state and local government programs and operations.

Moderator: William Thorpe, Interim Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration, Florida DOT

Panel:

Jim Tymon, Staff Director, U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, will discuss the long term fiscal challenges from a federal perspective.

Marsha Johnson, Director of the Financial Development Office, Florida Department of Transportation, will discuss the long term fiscal challenges from a state point of view.

James E. Harrison, Director of Growth Management for the Orange County Government, will focus on the long term challenges from a local and regional perspective.

### **Moving Freight: *Public Investment Makes Sense*** *Nutcracker 3*

States are confronted with major transportation system congestion and safety issues. Additionally, states understand the importance of freight mobility to commerce and the economy. This session will focus on innovative approaches to expanding freight transportation capacity based on partnerships between state DOTs, railroads, and seaports in order to address issues related to congestion, safety, the environment, economic development, highway maintenance costs, and fuel consumption.

Moderator: Fred Wise, State Rail Manager, Florida DOT

Panel:

Kevin Page, Chief of Rail Transportation, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, will share Virginia's approach to freight rail public/private partnerships with emphasis on public benefits.

Lisa Mancini, Vice President, Strategic Infrastructure Initiatives, CSX, will address rail freight capacity partnership opportunities and benefits from the railroad company perspective.

Rick Ferrin, Port Director, JAXPORT, brings the seaport perspective regarding economic impacts and freight movement efficiencies created through Florida's port investment initiatives.

Ed Lee, Administrator, Rail Planning and Safety, FDOT Rail Office, will discuss the evolution and characteristics of Florida's Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) with emphasis on freight rail, seaports, and intermodal, including public benefits associated with investing in freight transportation.

**Tuesday, August 12, 2008 – 1:30 pm to 2:45 pm**

**The New Federal Authorization: *Will Our Federal Partners Come Through?***  
*Ballroom of the Americas*

The federal legislation, SAFETEA-LU, will expire on September 30, 2009. Congressional staff from the United States Senate and U.S. House of Representatives will provide their perspectives on the challenges facing the 111th Congress in enacting new federal surface transportation legislation.

Moderator: Stephanie Kopelousos, Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation

Panel:

Kathy Dedrick, Majority Senior Policy Director for Transportation, U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, will provide an overview of the process and anticipated schedule for enactment of new surface transportation legislation in the U.S. Senate.

Ruth Van Mark, Deputy Minority Staff Director for Transportation, U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, will outline some of the key issues that will need to be resolved before new legislation can be passed.

Jim Kolb, Staff Director of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, will provide an overview of the Subcommittee's hearing agenda and key issues to be considered as the Congress begins to develop new surface transportation legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Jim Tymon, Minority Staff Director of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, will offer comments on how states and others can best get involved in the process.

**Tuesday, August 12, 2008 – 3:15 pm to 4:30 pm**

**Moving Us Forward: *The SASHTO States Respond to the Challenges of the Future***

*Ballroom of the Americas*

Join our SASHTO and AASHTO leaders in a discussion of where we go from here as SASHTO 2008 comes to a close and we return to our respective states with new ideas and best practices.

**Moderator:** Debbie Hunt, Assistant Secretary for Intermodal Systems Development, Florida Department of Transportation

**Panel:**

Pete Rahn, President of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials and Director of the Missouri Department of Transportation, will share his views of the challenges facing departments of transportation in the U.S.

Ben Watts, former Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation (1989-1997) and President of Carter & Burgess, Inc., will offer his perspectives as a well-known leader in the public and private sectors.

An interactive session with the audience will provide an opportunity for everyone to share their "take-aways" from SASHTO 2008.