

PMPC Asphalt Task Group (TG+STG Chairs/Leads) Meeting Minutes

Date: February 3, 2021

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: Webex/Conference Call

Facilitator: Tom Pyle

Attendees: Scott Dmytrow, Marco Estrada, Kee Foo, Pat Imhoff, Allen King, Steve Lee, Tony Limas, Doug Mason, Jeremy Peterson-Self, Tom Pyle, Phil Reader, Ken Solak, Chu Wei, Kelly Lorah, Dennis McElroy

Not in Attendance:

1. Introductions/Review Agenda

2. Review Past Action Items

Action Item from 01/05/21: Put together a GHG range for Hot Drops

a. Phil – Tony and Jackie agreed on GHG numbers. This is near final with Tony and Kee and will be on its way to Tom in a decision document.

b. Jeremy – Caltrans is getting new mission, vision, and goals. One of these items is environmental sustainability and it will be required to be reported on.

c. Phil – What are the 5 things?

d. Tom – We'll circle back to this.

Action Items from 01/05/21 #2-4: Complete

Action Item from 12/02/20 #3: Complete

Action Item from 11/19/20 #1: Complete

Action Items from 11/04/20 #1-2: Complete

Action Item from 10/07/20 #1: Complete

3. Introductory Urgent Issues

- Update on the status of pilot project identification and funding – Allen

a. Ken – Mike Keever is requesting all pilot project propositions. Allen, you mentioned some concerns in getting pilot projects. This was forwarded to Ray Hopkins. Mike is working to get things moving. Hopefully, we will generate some movement from this.

b. Tom – I submitted talking points for RAP and RAS.

c. Ken – We're focusing on districts that don't have any projects at all.

d. Tony – I'm happy the pay factors were in the SPF.

e. Phil – Ken, did you get a list of all SPF projects going out?

f. Tom – We have a list. We haven't shared it, due to projects that may not go through completion.

- g. **ACTION ITEM:** Report SPF Projects that have been awarded – Quarterly – Ken
- h. Phil – The list that industry would want would be post reward.
- i. Tom – There is only 3.
- j. Kee – One of those 3 was a Director's Order (emergency work).
- k. Tony – If we can get the information back to Kee, he can track them and share with the ASTG.
- l. Tom – We want industry to be aware of what projects are available.
- m. Jeremy – Does industry want the list now or after more projects are awarded? (Industry reply:) We can wait.
- n. Marco – We're looking for an alternative delivery system for pilot projects.
- o. Ken – Do you have some in mind?
- p. Marco – There are a few in mind, but they're in the works now.
- q. Phil – On the cold plant, are you in the data collection phase?
- r. Marco – That's on the PDR. I think that's going to come up on the PDR/CIR update. I can go over that with Allen.
- Availability of Caltrans representatives that can chair Working Groups – Marco/Phil
 - a. Marco – This is specific to the Recycling STG in regard to Caltrans staffing. We are limited to working on 1 bin list item at a time. We seek more staffing to create more WGs. We would like 2 WGs at a time.
 - b. Ken – I concur that this would be a good model to follow. We have 2 guys in asphalt that are already in teams, so we're tapped out.
 - c. Marco – The response that we received from Caltrans in the STG to help chair the WG is that the owner of the spec has to chair the WG.
 - d. Ken – If we want to diverge from that, we need to have a discussion.
 - e. Marco – We completed the PDR specification so that we can move forward with staffing the CCPR WG, but we can't work on anything else until that is final.
 - f. Ken – We can open up the discussion that we have a chair that is not the spec owner.
 - g. Phil – What can industry do to help you guys get more staff?
 - h. Ken – No.
 - i. Phil – What about reaching out the districts?
 - j. Ken – A retired annuitant may be a valid strategy.
 - k. Jeremy – We host quarterly DME meetings and we want to share and get feedback from the districts. We have solicited folks to get them in the PMPC groups, but in a year, we have only received 1 temporary

member. I am also struggling to find people to join the WGs as members, let alone chair.

- l. Tom – Based on the conversation I had with Tony and Marco earlier, we have a solution to help.
- STG Representation on ATG – Tom
 - a. Tom – In Place Recycling and Preservation would like to have a member on the ATG. Preservation, please propose your member.
 - b. Scott – We should have a seat at the table. We understand that industry voted in their membership. RAP in rubber and RAP in RHMA should have a representative.
 - c. Phil – Does that mean someone will take over your spot on the STG?
 - d. Scott – Yes.
 - e. Phil – Keep in mind you will need to propose a new person.
 - f. Marco – The Recycling STG have nominated Dennis McElroy to represent us. He has years of experience and he will be a good addition to the ATG.
 - g. Tom – Questions/comments?
 - h. Minor/fast questions.
 - i. Phil – Quick update. HMA companies that left CalAPA and are now working at CalCIMA. We're not sure if/how this will affect our representation at the EC level.
 - j. Tony – We have to look at how reports are distributed to individual industry association representatives. We should have the industry representatives distribute reports to HMA associations. This will remove the appearance that Caltrans is being selective in what they share with whom and serve to keep Caltrans out of hot water.
 - k. Tom – Thank you.
 - l. **ACTION ITEM:** Add Scott Dmytrow and Dennis McElroy to ATG meeting invites/materials - Kelly
4. Section 39 High RAP
 - a. Kee – The current chair met with a project manager in D7 to use the RAP nSSP. We're still trying to find pilot projects. Negotiations for using this nSSP are ongoing. We're (Sai) reformatting this nSSP into 2 parts.
 - b. Tony – This spec is detail orientated and isn't a functional as a change order.
 - c. Kee – We're looking for a project that doesn't have bids on it yet and include the nSSP.
5. Evaluate new HMA Pavement Smoothness

- a. Ken – We're gathering data in Construction. The team will meet the deadline for the final report, but there may be some date shifting in the milestones.
 - b. Allen – We are on track for meeting our milestone due dates on time. We're meeting on a weekly basis to analyze the data we're receiving and determine the best way to move forward with the specification.
 - c. Ken – The final report will help us determine how to move forward.
 - d. Allen – There are certain districts that are not applying nSSPs as they should be. We need to deliver more training in the future, particularly when it becomes an RSS. There will be a lot of training to be done for Design and Construction at the end of the year. There have been some adjustments made due to issues coming up. The pay factors will be tightened up a little bit. We're paying the full amount almost every time.
 - e. Tom – We applied this nSSP to about 250 jobs, but we have only received data from about 37. We really need data.
 - f. Allen – About 80-90% of contactors are receiving incentives and those who are receiving disincentives are low.
6. RAS up to 3%
- a. Kee – Caltrans is still looking at possible project in District 3.
7. Section 37 Update
- a. Steve – As of now, we have completed milestone #5 on 02/02. We are going to send the second round of changes to industry and Caltrans stakeholders.
 - b. Scott – The final draft is done and this should be complete.
8. PDR (CIR) FA & PDR (CIR) EA
- a. Allen – That working group is completed. We're working on the next scoping document for CCPR. We're working on creating a new WG towards the end of the year.
9. Post Plant Gradation
- a. Jeremy – There is an agreement on the changes. Milestone 1-2 have been completed. Milestone 3 is under review, but so far has been agreed upon. They're starting to work on milestones 4-5 and discussing with IA staff for preparing certifications.
 - b. Tony – The nSSP is pretty much done. We're discussing in the department on how to distribute training. Whatever the internal process, we just need to make sure the people performing the new tests procedures on the pilot projects are proficient.
 - c. Jeremy – Any trainings that are done through training go through a committee, which industry has some seats on.
10. RAP in RHMA-G

- a. Jeremy – We are still having trouble securing mixes. We need some help from the industry side.
- b. Kee – We are going to meet tomorrow. Options: If we cannot secure plant produced samples, we may make lab produced samples or we can reach out to UCPRC.

11. Review bin lists

- a. Asphalt Bin List
 - i. There are two lists at the moment. One that is Caltrans and one that is industry.
 - ii. Phil – I thought we were going to have Section 39 as #1 and Open Grade as #2.
 - iii. Tony – 3 and 4 should be switched. 6-8 should be removed.
 - iv. Kee – It will be difficult to convince OE to change things for the 2-year mix design effort.
 - v. Chu – FHWA is working on a roadmap for balance mix design.
 - vi. Tony – Will the AMPT be part of the BMD?
 - vii. Phil – Is Open Grade still a top priority for Caltrans?
 - viii. Tom – Yes.
 - ix. Phil – We should pull 39 off the list and clarify the information.
 - x. **ACTION ITEM:** Kee/Tony – Clarify/evaluate Section 39 and create short scoping documents for Section 39 Quality Characteristics and UCPRC Report on OGFC Mix Design.
 - xi. **ACTION ITEM:** Kee – Remove #6-#8 on the Asphalt Bin List and switch #3 and #4
 - xii. Tony – We should be able to work on items at the same time. It would take too much time/resources to do things one at a time. This PMPC process is not in alignment with the Department's Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP)
 - xiii. Tom – We feel the same way.

12. Roundtable / Review Action Items / Next Meeting

- a. Phil – I reached out to by METS about possible AMPT trials. I just want to know what we're trying to accomplish with AMPT. Paul reached out to me regarding a project. Where is Caltrans trying to go with AMPT?
 - i. Jeremy – We have a pilot project going to collect data. That's where we're at right now: collecting data. Someone took specifications for another projects.
 - ii. Phil – We want to be a part of this.
 - iii. Chu – FHWA is creating an incentive for AMPT.
- b. Tony – In one of the Caltrans regions, the contractors are asking for 3rd party lab assistance and the labs are being rejected. There appears to be

favoritism among the 3rd party labs. Is this something that the PMPC can help with or do we need to seek answers elsewhere?

- i. Tom – This is a Construction issue. We are expressly forbidden to get involved in an existing contract. This needs to go through the Dispute Resolution process with Construction.
- ii. Ken – Give me a short write up on the issue and I will share with Ray Hopkins. We can share the information with the Districts.
- iii. Tony – This is an example of something that can be remedied with a sentence in Section 39. No need for a separate Scoping Document and work group. This goes back to the discussion on the Standard specification bin list item and the ability to work on more than one issue at a time.

13. Feedback

Action Items from 02/03/21:

1. Clarify/evaluate Section 39 and create short scoping documents for Section 39 Quality Characteristics and UCPRC Report on OGFC Mix Design – Kee/Tony
2. Remove #6-#8 on the Asphalt Bin List and switch #3 and #4 – Kee
3. Report SPF Projects that have been awarded on a quarterly basis – Ken
4. Add Scott Dmytrow and Dennis McElroy to ATG meeting invites/materials and remove Tim Greutert from calendar invites – Kelly
5. Update calendar invites from 3+2 to 3+4 – Kelly

Action Items from 01/05/21:

1. Put together a GHG range for Hot Drops – Jackie/Phil – **Ongoing/In Progress**
2. Talk to Jack VanKirk to ask why JMFs were set up for one year – Phil – **Complete**
3. Send out information received from Maged regarding Post Plant Gradation to the group – Richard – **Complete**
4. Follow up with the STG chairs for reprioritized bin lists in preparation for the 01/21 EC meeting – Kelly – **Complete**

Action Items from 12/02/20:

1. Provide official statement for the CalAPA newsletter about the change in RSS tack coats and when the change will occur – Tom/Ken – before the next ATG meeting
 - a. Notify industry through CalAPA about change in RSS for tack coats – Pat/Phil

2. Request end of the year UCPRC update from Nick Burmas – Tom/Jeremy – 12/31/20 – **Scheduled for 03/18**
3. (Dependent on conversation between Tom and Sergio) Reach out to industry and report back to the ATG the GHG and sustainability of 2 (or 3)-year JMF – Phil/Pat – before next ATG meeting – **Complete**

Action Items from 11/19/20:

1. ATG to review and prioritize STG's bin lists for all STGs under them – ATG – by the end of the year – **Complete**

Action Items from 11/04/20:

1. Industry discussion on technical standpoint for the combination of specs for PDR FA & EA – Pat/Phil – 11/18/20 – **Complete**
2. Industry meeting to further the quota discussion for In-Place Recycling – Phil – 11/18/20 – **Complete**

Action Items from 10/07/20:

1. Reach out to Marco and Scott to discuss personnel representation on the ATG – Pat and Phil – 10/14/20 – **Complete**

Action Items from 10/02/19:

1. Review and provide feedback on conflict escalation form – All ATG – **HOLD**