



Committee on Accessible Transportation and Mobility Transportation Research Board

Newsletter: January 2024

Item 1: Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting

The TRB Annual Meeting took place January 8-12, 2024. Thank you to those of you who were able to participate in the AME50 Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting either in-person or remotely. The content that was shared and Committee business discussions are always robust - we wish we had more time!

In addition to the Committee meeting, AME50 also hosted a workshop "At the Intersection of Disability, Justice, Pedestrian Safety, and Health", and held the following lectern and poster sessions:

- Travel Barriers to Accessibility and Practices in Improved Americans with Disabilities Act Implementation
- Older Adults, Travel Options, and Barriers to Accessibility
- Innovation in Accessible Transportation and Mobility posters
- Advancing Policy, Research, and Practice Around Air Travel for Passengers That Use Mobility Devices (with AV010 and AME00)

A summary of the meeting and links to the meeting materials can be found in the [meeting notes](#).

Item 2: AME50 Mentoring Program

Are you new to the industry or TRB? Do you have questions regarding how you can be engaged in TRB and committee activities?

AME50 recently launched a peer-to-peer mentoring program where we match long-time TRBers with professionals new to our committee or the industry. We will maintain a directory of seasoned members and friends, that will be made

available to those members/friends interested in mentorship support. This is a voluntary program for both mentors and mentees, and interactions are not intended to take a lot of time for anyone. This program is not a replacement for professional development that may be available in our field.

If you would like to be included in our mentor directory, please [complete this form](#). If you are interested in mentorship support, [please complete this form](#).

Item 3: Re-friending the Committee

TRB has advised that friends of the committee should receive an email in April to re-friend the committee or risk being dropped from the list as TRB is updating its lists and will be doing a purge. Please make sure to go into your MyTRB account and re-friend the committee at that time if you wish to remain on the list – this is critical for continuing to receive emails from our committee! We'll send a reminder closer to the date.

Item 4: TRANSED Conference

We have robust planning committee working on planning a conference outside of the U.S. for 2025. Anyone who would like to join the committee can reach out to [Judy](#).

The planning committee is working hard to identify partners who can help plan an international event. Partner organizations should be aligned with the purposes of AME50 and TRANSED and would need to be able to provide monetary support up-front to advance the conference. If you are aware of any potential partners, please reach out to [Judy](#). Finding a partner is key to holding this event.

This [flyer](#) can be shared with potential partners to share information about TRANSED and considerations for partnership.

Item 5: Seeking Guest Contributors

Members and Friends can make submissions to the AME50 Quarterly Newsletter using the following guidelines:

- Content shared must be aligned with the mission and activities of AME50 and its members and friends.

- Members and friends who wish to include content in the AME50 Quarterly newsletter must be able to articulate this connection and do so in their request to include the content.
- The newsletter is not a forum to share information about commercial products or revenue generating services.
- The content must appeal to a range of AME50 members – across professional disciplines – across geographies, etc.
- AME50 Leadership will make decisions regarding content that will be included in the newsletter based on the relevance and appropriateness of the content to our members, the currency of the topic, and the availability of space in the newsletter.

This information can also be found on our [web site](#).

To contribute content, please send your request to [Susan](#).

Item 6: Reminders

- You can visit our [web site](#) for the latest AME50 information, including meeting minutes and member resources.
- Please make sure to keep your MyTRB profile information, especially your contact details and professional interests, up to date so that you don't miss out on information.

Item 7: Committee Liaison Updates

We are fortunate to have a number of members and friends who have offered to act as liaisons between AME50 and other TRB subcommittees. The following are some brief updates from our liaisons:

Item 7.1: AP090 – Transit Data Committee

The committee is considering planning for mid-year workshops and webinars. They are looking to connect with other conference organizers for transit data-related sessions.

Item 7.2: AKD40 - Roundabout Committee

The Final PROWAG provided options for crosswalk treatments at roundabouts – Signals, hybrid pedestrian beacons, rectangular rapid flash beacon, raised crosswalks, or a combination of these.

The recent edition of the Roundabout Guide was published last year and includes information on tactile wayfinding indicators across the top of bicycle

ramps to assist people who are blind or have low vision in finding their way past the ramps and not mistaking them for curb ramps.

Item 7.3: ACS40 - Occupant Protection

The Occupant Protection committee is looking at developing more representative crash test dummies. There was a discussion on the impact of winter clothing on Seat Belts.

Item 7.4: AR020 - Rail Rolling Stock

The new procurements by AMTRAK are using the accessibility recommendations that Uwe Rutenberg and Kate Hunter-Zaworski have worked on for decades. The committee had an excellent presentation by the Japanese of High Speed Rail developments, including energy management of the new systems.

Item 7.5: AME 50 - Women and Gender in Transportation Committee

[Call for Abstracts](#) for the **7th International Conference on Women and Gender in Transportation. Progress and Possibilities: Bridging Perspectives**. It is being held Monday, September 9 through Wednesday, September 11, 2024, in Irvine, California and is now open through February 21, 2024!

Individual presentations are being sought, as well as pre-organized panels of three or four presentations on a particular theme, workshops, and roundtables. Abstracts may present original research, practical experiences, case studies, and/or solutions to policy concerns.

Presentations will be accepted of work that has been published recently or is currently under consideration for publication. Topics of interest include any mode or modes and infrastructure: aviation, roadways, active transportation, airports, transit, freight, rail, water, and space. Submissions are welcome from countries of all levels of income. <https://womenandgender.wixsite.com/ame20>

Below is the circular from the last **International Conference on Women and Gender in Transportation**. Transportation Research Circular Number E-C268, January 2021- <https://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/circulars/ec268.pdf>

Item 7.6: A00020C – International Coordinating Council

The recent ICC meeting at TRB 2024 was notably productive. We've established new partnerships, particularly with organizations from Asia, who are keen on

collaborating with the TRB Committee for our upcoming events. A list and contact details of these new partners will be shared with AME50 once available as such collaborations would be beneficial for future conferences.

Item 7.7: APO45 – Passenger Intermodal Facilities

The benefits of public art are multidimensional. It can serve as an important focal point in wayfinding, as a means of facility or community identification, and even as a means to build a broader understanding and appreciation of the art itself.

Item 7.8: ACH40- Human Factors

There was an update about the “Can You See Me?” workshop, which was well attended. The webinar of the same name and the workshop at the annual meeting produced research questions that will contribute to research needs statements. Also discussed was the proposed joint subcommittee with ACP55 Work Zone Safety and Mobility Management. The proposal was received favorably with several members and friends of ACH40 expressing interest in the topics the subcommittee might take on.

We will share more information from committee liaisons as we receive updates.

If you are affiliated with another committee not captured above and interested in being a liaison, please reach out to [Todd](#).

Item 8: Next Meeting

Our next meeting will take place on April 24 from 12:00 – 1:00 ET:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83659832553?pwd=cm83YjF2WmxPa1huUFF3djdWV3hiQT09>

Meeting ID: 836 5983 2553

Passcode: TRB

Item 9: Questions?

Contact your AME50 Co-Chairs:

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