

TRB's Committee on Accessible Transportation and Mobility Subcommittee on Policy and Practice ABE60(1)

Subcommittee Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, January 15, 2019 1:30 PM - 3:15 PM
Marriott Marquis, Howard University (M1)

I. Welcome & Discussion of Subcommittee Purpose and Goals: Judy Shanley, Easterseals and Mary Crass, International Transport Forum at OECD

Judy opened the meeting recalling the subcommittee mission and guiding principles as follows:

Policy and Practice Subcommittee Mission

To sustain a vibrant international forum to share research, experience, and practice related to accessible mobility options for people with disabilities and older adults in order to facilitate the replicability of evidence-based practices across member countries.

Guiding Principles

- Members will explore opportunities, challenges, and solutions related to policy to practice accessibility topics through trusted and respectful forums;
- Member forums will seek opportunities to inform and learn from international events such as TRANSED.
- Forum agendas, communications, and materials will reflect inclusive perspectives from broad and diverse subcommittee stakeholders.
- Content of the subcommittee will align with the mission and purposes of ABE60 and its research and technology committees, as well as with, the TRB organizational principles and agenda.

II. Introductions by subcommittee members: name, organization:

All subcommittee members and observers introduced themselves in a tour de table.

III. Accessibility in university planning programmes

Mary introduced this topic recalling that the subcommittee had identified as a topic of focus the exploration of how accessibility is/is not considered in university curricula. Further to the discussion at the January 2018 session of the subcommittee, Virginia Tech PhD candidate Mahtot Gebresselassie had initiated exploration of how planning curricula in the US consider accessibility. She was invited to present the preliminary findings of her inquiry to the subcommittee.

Her presentation is available for downloading from the TRB ABE60 committee website.

Preliminary findings of Mahtot's work include the following:

- 9 of 53 course curricula she examined made some mention as defined in the survey of accessibility.
- Opportunities to include accessibility in curricula exist – without major change to the course listing and configuration.

Key points made during the discussion included the following:

- The subcommittee indicated its support for this first stage of work, and encouraged Mahtot to further develop her inquiry to other fields in addition to planning, including transport engineering and economics;
- Where accessibility is addressed, there should be greater focus on the user experience and perspective;
- It would be useful to explore the respective benefits and disadvantages of providing specific coursework on accessibility versus an approach that integrates accessibility elements into the existing curricula.

Next steps

- Mahtot invited subcommittee participants to indicate their interest in providing input to the design of the survey itself or in being part of the inquiry;
- She indicated her willingness to further pursue the inquiry – broadening its scope to other transport fields and with refined indicators for analysis.

IV. Considerations of Shared-use Mobility and Individuals with Disabilities: Outcomes and considerations for our subcommittee

Judy gave an overview of this pre-TRB workshop that took place on Sunday 13 January, and invited subcommittee members to share policy experience in their countries addressing shared mobility and disability.

Key points made during the discussion included the following:

- Use of and impact on users of these shared services need to be better understood and require greater focus in the policy exchange on shared mobility;
- The impact of service aggregation in the context of Mobility as a Service (MaaS) on accessibility needs analysis;
- Issues related to stigma remain pertinent in the context of new mobility;
- There are tremendous market opportunities for high-quality accessible transport service provision by new mobility operators such as Transport Network Companies, shared ride services, and other service providers.

V. Closing - - Mary and Judy

- Subcommittee members are encouraged to submit ideas for preconference workshops, Webinars, and other events – please send ideas to Judy and Mary;
- Please become a friend of the ABE60 committee via the MyTRB website.
- The co-chairs thanked the subcommittee for its reflections and contributions and closed the meeting.