

Happy New Year I-81 Corridor Coalition Stakeholders,

I'm writing to update you on our recent activities.

As of today it looks like we'll be holding our Coalition Meeting this fall. Scheduling around a host of other related events has been challenging.

Included below is a partial list of activities that we've undertaken on behalf of the Coalition.

Our 2019 efforts will focus on providing pertinent information to our stakeholders and others through webinars and our semi-annual meeting as well as through periodic newsletters, social media, and our website. The first of our webinars will likely focus on innovative incident response activities and quick clearance. We want to use this as an opportunity to share innovative methods to improve incident response and increase corridor reliability.

We also look to organizing two multi-state "Task Forces".

- The first, on Truck Parking and with the concept that Drowsy Driving Doesn't Begin or End at State borders, will look at what can be done to improve truck parking along the corridor.
- The second Task Force will look at standardization of the interstate environment with respect to things such as signage, message boards, work zone configurations, etc.

We are still working towards redefining the Coalition as a Public-Private Partnership and are currently revising our existing by-laws for this. We are looking now at TennSmart as a potential model for this. Please check them out here: <http://tennsmart.org/>

Below are a few other items that we're working on that might interest our stakeholders.

- Roadside Truck Placard Readers for Advanced Notice and Response at Safety-Critical Facilities – This project investigates how roadside cameras may be used to read Hazmat Placards on trucks to allow critical facilities to prepare for their arrival and respond to any incidents that may occur more effectively.
- Truck Parking needs analysis – We are working with a data analytics firm to access truck Hours of Service data along with GPS data. This data will be used to perform the 1st known assessment of where truck parking is needed based on objective data from electronic logging devices (ELDs). This is important in that it will allow for better placement of truck parking to improve safety and driver efficiency.
- Opportunities for automated traffic enforcement – Our corridor would work better if the traffic laws in place were better enforced. Unfortunately, State Police are having trouble keeping officers on patrol and Move Over laws in each state meant to protect officers and responders may actually be creating traffic safety and congestion issues. We have started preliminary investigation into opportunities for automated (e.g. camera) enforcement along the corridor. Some of this is being done now in work zones. Left lane truck restrictions in 3-lane sections is another potential opportunity.

We'd love to hear from you about any of these issues or others. Also, please follow us on Facebook and Twitter to see more about what we're up to. Our Twitter feed is particularly relevant (and current) and a good source of current Corridor issues.

As always, thanks for your support!

~Andy

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Recent Activities

- National Coalition on Truck Parking - State, Regional, and Local Government Coordination Working Group Meeting (8-21, 2019)
- Transit Technology Roundtable, Charlottesville, VA, (9/10/18)
- I-81 Corridor Coalition Stakeholders meeting
- Road Weather Stakeholders meeting, Louisville, KY (9/18-20/18)
- Drone Use in Bridge Inspections at Minnesota DOT – Webcast (10/2/18)
- “Importance of Upgrading I-81” Event, Dublin, VA (10/4/2018)
- AUVSI Conference Hosting and Presentation, Blacksburg, VA (10/9 – 10/10/2018)
- VA DRPT Rail Event, Richmond, VA (10/16/18)
- AMS Automated Vehicle & Meteorology Summit, Washington, DC (10/23/18)
- Mobility 21 - Next Generation of Truck Freight Transport Summit, Presentation, Philadelphia, PA (10/24/18)
- Meeting with Fairfax County on Salt Removal, Fairfax, VA (10/29/18)
- VDOT/VTRC Traffic and Safety Research Advisory Committee, Charlottesville, VA (11/29/18)
- VDOT/VTRC Systems Operations Research Advisory Committee Meeting, Charlottesville, VA (12/6/18)
- State of Unmanned Systems in Virginia: Roundtable & Reception, Richmond, VA (12/13/18)
- Carlisle Chamber of Commerce, Carlisle, PA (01/08/19)
- TRB, Washington, DC (01/14-16/19)

Upcoming:

- Transportation Information Exchange, Richmond, VA (1/31/19)
- 2019 ITSVA Legislative Reception, Richmond, VA (1/31/19)
- Presenting at ITSVA Annual Conference, Richmond, VA (5/16/19)