

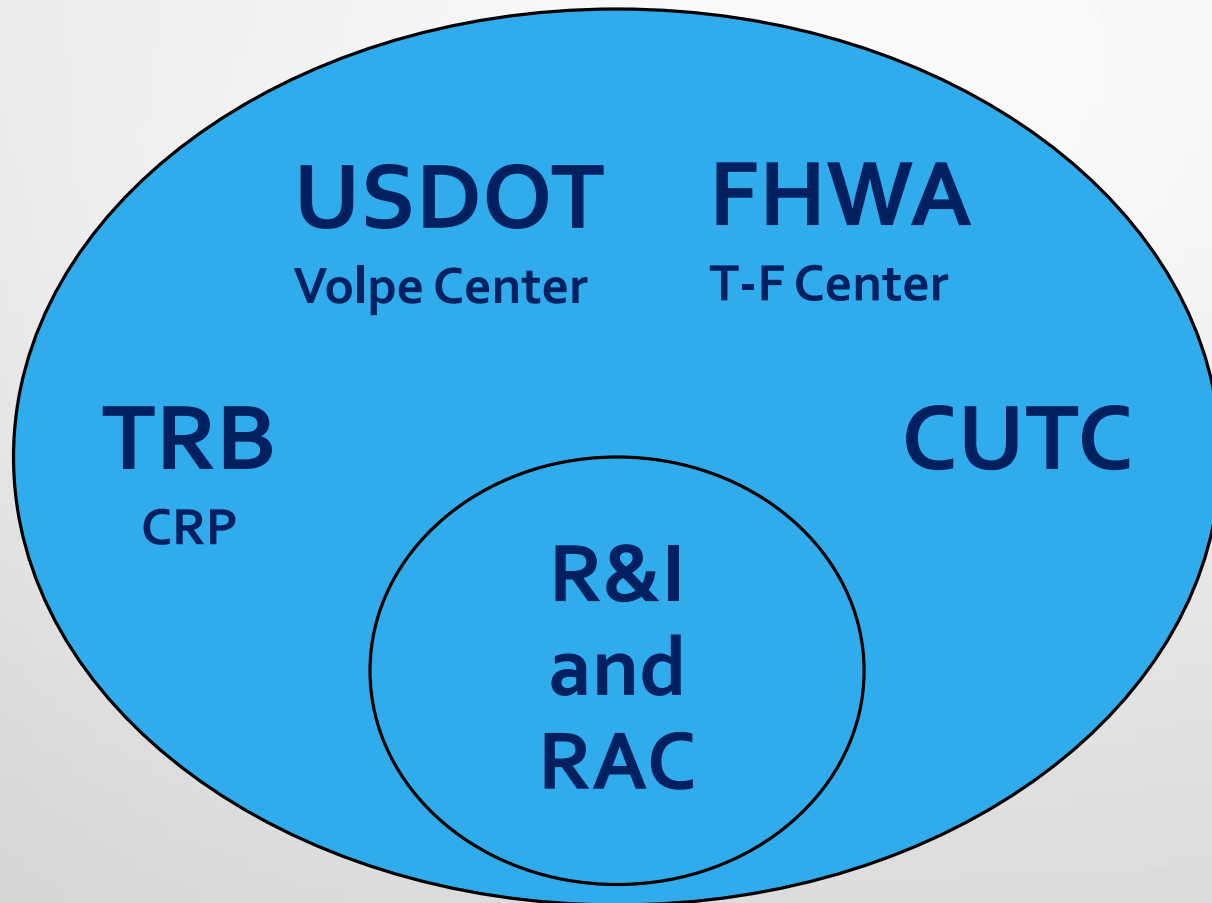


An Introduction to AASHTO Research Advisory Committee

Talking Points

- Transportation Research Community: Overview
- Special Comm. on Research & Innovation (R&I)
- Research Advisory Committee (RAC)
- Getting Things Done through Task Forces
- RAC-CUTC Partnership

Transportation Research Community



AASHTO Research Community

➤ AASHTO

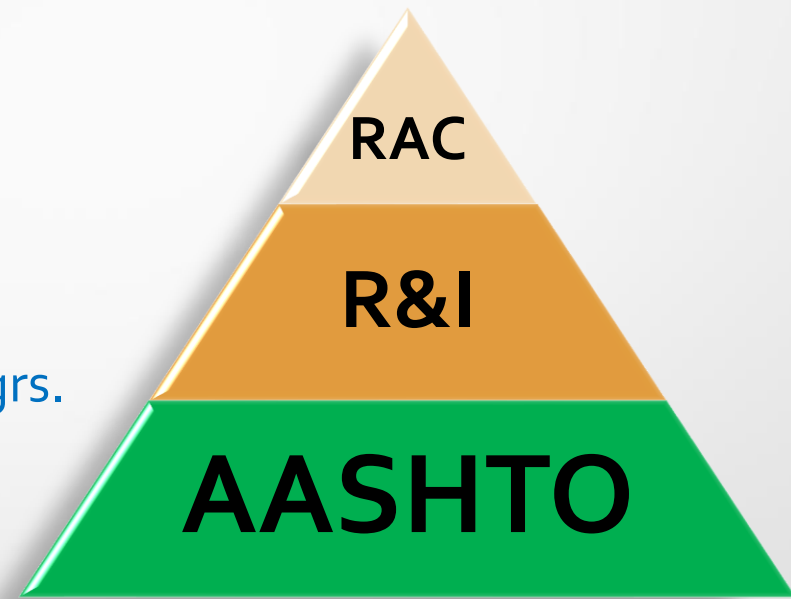
- CEO's of Member DOT's

➤ R&I

- 20 voting members/affiliates
- Unique committee structure:
CEO/upper mgt. ; research mgrs.

➤ RAC

- Advisors to R&I
- Each AASHTO member dept.
participates
- Appointed by member DOT CEO's
- Primarily highway-oriented



Region 4

Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

Region 3

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin

Region 1

Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, District of Columbia

Region 2

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

AASHTO Regions

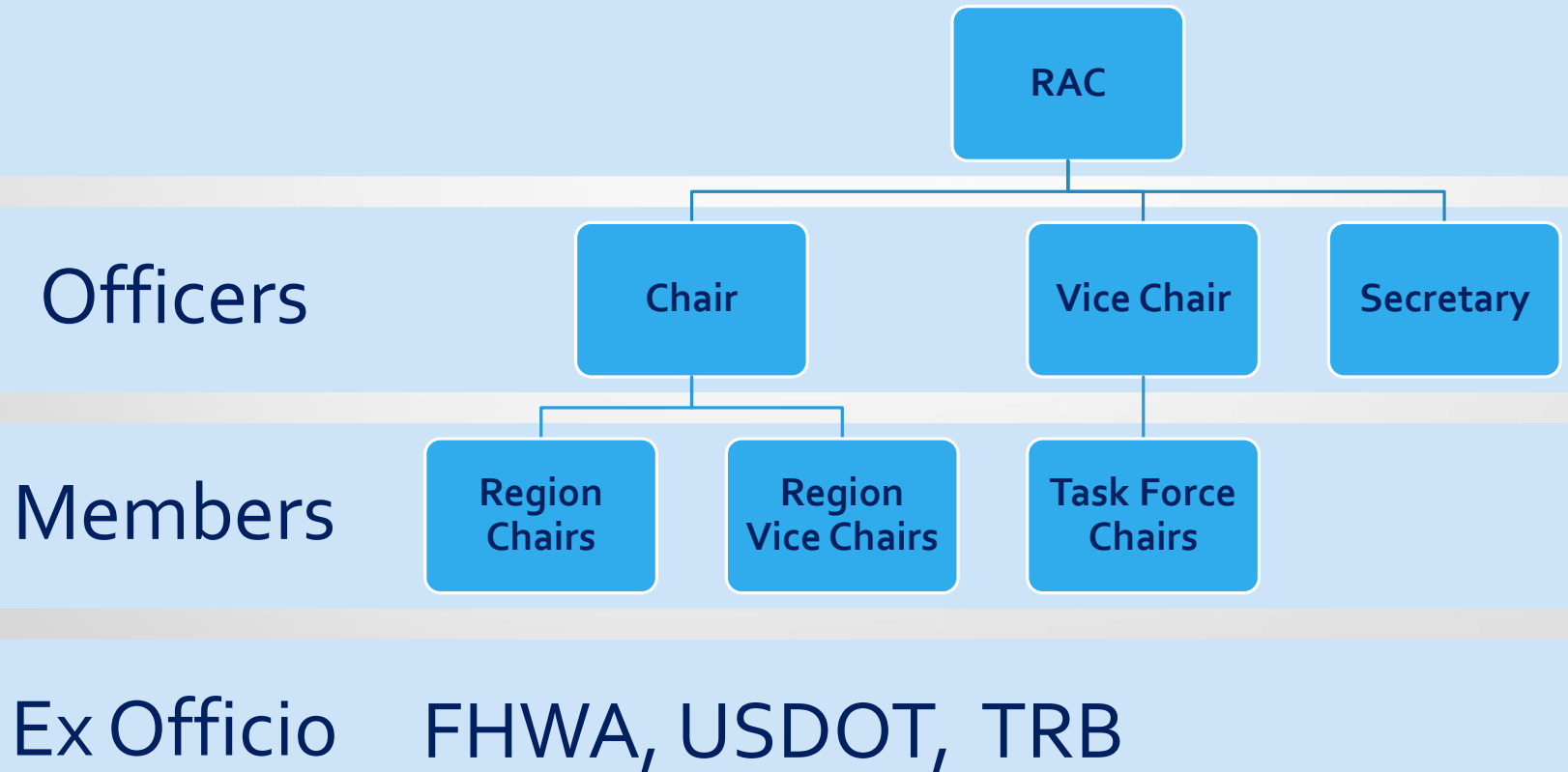
Special Committee on Research & Innovation (R&I)

- Setting AASHTO strategic direction for research
- Ensure effectiveness of NCHRP
- Champion deployment of research/innovation
- Facilitate collaboration and partnerships
- Communicate value of Research

Research Advisory Committee

- Research directors from each AASHTO member dept.
- Established as advisors to R&I in 1987
- Advocate for transportation research by promoting:
 - Value of research
 - Implementation of research results
 - Transfer of new technologies
 - Benefits of peer exchanges

RAC Leadership



RAC Mission

RAC is committed to being a proactive committee:

- Promoting quality and excellence in research and
- Applying research findings to improve state transportation systems

Major RAC Responsibilities

- Collect and disseminate info. on active and completed research
- Annual NCHRP
- Research Peer Exchanges
- Demonstrate value of research

RAC Business

- Policies And Procedures:
 - Operating Guidelines
- Meetings:
 - Conference calls
 - January during TRB
 - National Summer meeting

Getting Things Done through Task Forces



RAC Task Forces

- Administration
- Coordination & Collaboration
 - Transportation Knowledge Networks Working Group
- Program Management
- Value of Research



Administration: Scope

- Recommend admin. policy to RAC leadership
- Identify, investigate, and manage RAC administrative matters as directed by RAC leadership
- Facilitate exchange of information and experiences among RAC members (esp. new) through use of educational/training materials

Administration: Products

- RAC Operating Guidelines
- RAC 101
- Mentoring Program
- New Member Handbook
- Update R&I/RAC Website
- State DOT Research Unit Fact Sheets

Coordination & Collaboration: Scope

- Support, encourage, develop, and monitor methods, practices, and tools that allow better coordination/collaboration of research efforts to
 - Improve information exchange
 - Avoid duplication of efforts
 - Influence coordinated national research efforts

Coordination & Collaboration: Products

- Research Program & Project Mgt. (RPPM) website
- Funding Guidebook
- Transportation Research Resources Guide
- “Writing an Effective Research Problem Statement” webinar
- RiP project status categories and definitions

Coordination & Collaboration

TKN Working Group: Scope

- Serve as forum to develop concept, understanding, and application of TKN's for transportation sector
- Advocate and support rapid/efficient exchange of info. resources through development of strategies and innovative use of technology

Coordination & Collaboration TKN Working Group: Products

- Guidance for managing information portals
- Framework for R&D to Improve Transportation Information & Knowledge Management
- TKN video
- Problem statements leading to NCHRP 20-90, "Improving Management of Transportation Information"

Program Mgt. and Quality: Scope

- Actively monitor, support, and encourage methods and practices designed to improve mgt. and quality of transportation research programs and projects
- Facilitate dissemination and exchange of information and experiences related to research mgt. and quality among RAC members

Program Mgt. and Quality: Products

- Best practices: implementing NCHRP products (panel review)
- Best practices: identifying research needs (white paper)
- Guidance in development of Research Performance Measures, RPPM, and TPF websites
- Intellectual property manual (help NCHRP panel)

Value of Research: Scope

- Actively monitor, support, and encourage methods and practices designed to demonstrate value of transportation research
- Facilitate exchange of information and experiences among RAC members
- Advocate methods and practices that identify, market, maximize and convey the values of research to others

Value of Research: Products

- High value research annual process, presentations, and publications
 - Research Impacts: Better, Cheaper, Faster
 - High Value Research: Sweet 16
 - TRB Annual Meeting Poster Session
- *Research Makes a Difference* publications
- RPM website and application
- Best practices for implementing research

RAC-CUTC Partnership:

Where We've Been
Where We Are
Where We Can Go



Where We've Been

- Antiquity: Ad hoc partnership “began” in 1987
- Medieval: RAC-CUTC roundtables @ AASHTO-RAC meetings
- Modern: “Prototype” MOU in 2010
 - First step toward formalizing partnerships
 - Lacked specific, tangible deliverables

Where We Are

- Moving from ad hoc- to working partnership
- Moving from roundtables to RAC task force participation
- Moving from prototype MOU to delivery-focused MOU
 - Next step toward formalizing partnerships
 - Includes specific, tangible deliverables
 - Room to grow

Where We Can Go

- More actionable peer input
- More mutually beneficial products
- More sense of community of practice



¿Questions?

