

# GA ITE Roundabout Subcommittee | MINUTES

Meeting date | time 5/9/2022 | 12PM | Meeting location Microsoft Teams

## Attendees

Scott Zehngraff (Chair): [szehngraff@dot.ga.gov](mailto:szehngraff@dot.ga.gov)

Laura Nesbitt (Secretary): [LaNesbitt@dot.ga.gov](mailto:LaNesbitt@dot.ga.gov)

Mojtaba Alemohammadi

Tommy Alexy

Kwaku Boakye

Travis Brewer

Rich Coakley

Malaika Faciane

Adam Gomez

Juan Gonzalez

Sam Harris

Zhang Huang

Pratiti Khan

Mark Lenters

Onabanjo Oladimeji

Landon Perry

Christopher Raymond

Maegan Reid

Kelli Roberts

Justin Stutts

Jaap Tigelaar

Daniel Trevorrow

## Non-Attendees

Christina Barry

Matt Boyd

Herman Hill

Stefon Joseph

Randy Parker

Shafikul Shafik

Clay Smith

Daniel Spann

**Subcommittee Goals:** To provide resources on roundabouts, such as research, guidance, and manuals at the state and national levels to promote networking among transportation professionals involved in roundabouts.

## AGENDA TOPICS

### Since last meeting (3/14/22)

3/25/22 – Questionnaire on subcommittee scheduling closed. Also included questions on direction of subcommittee and results are shown later in this document.

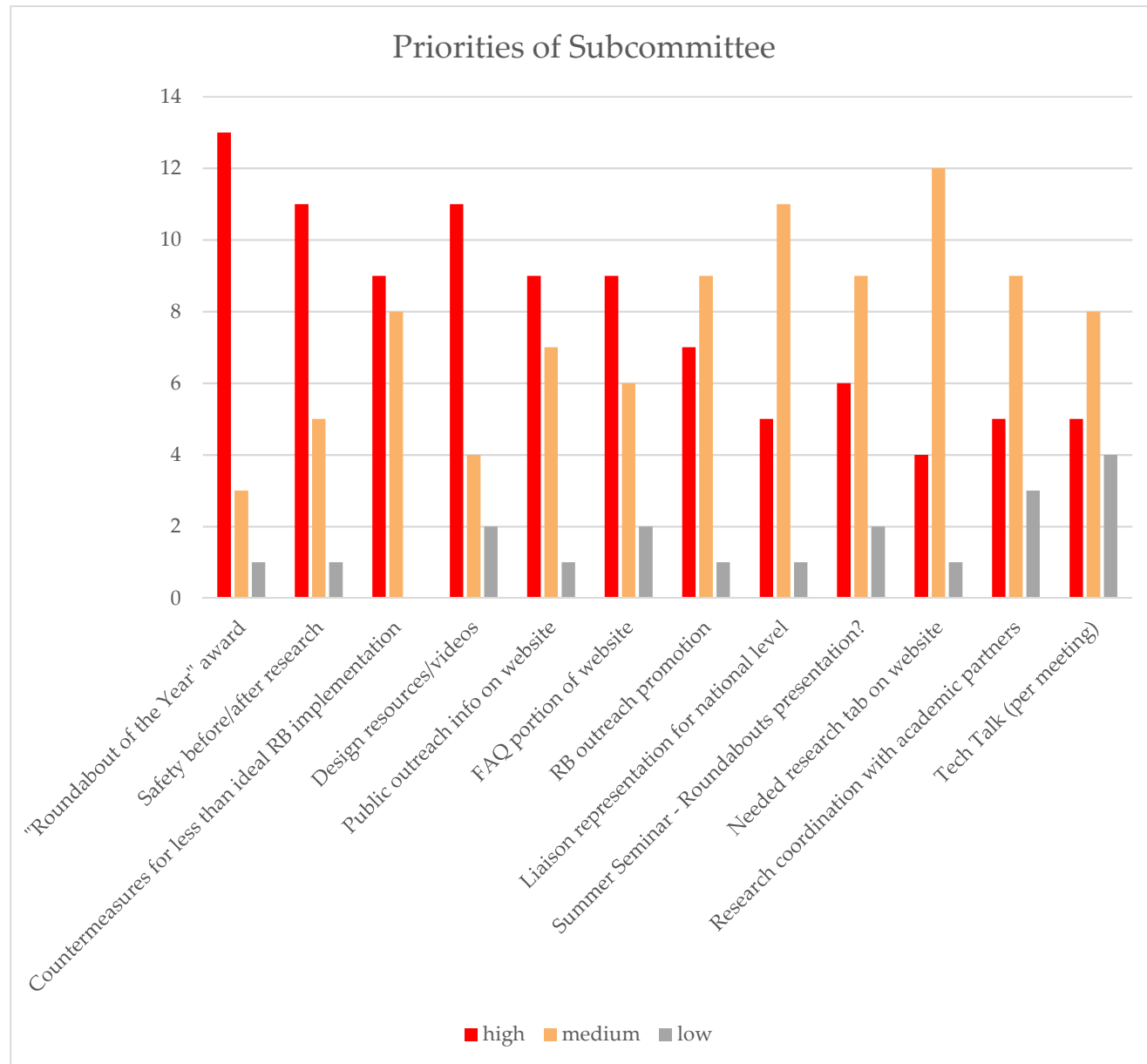
3/31/22 - Watched webinar on Roundabout Education and Enforcement of Operations in the United States

5/3/22 - Watched FHWA's Turbo Roundabouts Webinar. If you didn't get to watch it; it was recorded and should be on their website soon.

## Questionnaire Results

**Question 5 from Questionnaire:** Below are some suggested priorities of our subcommittee. Please rank your opinion below as High, Medium, or Low Priority for our subcommittee to pursue.

Suggested Priorities	high	medium	low	weighted
"Roundabout of the Year" award	13	3	1	46
( <b>Compiling</b> ) Safety before/after research	11	5	1	44
( <b>List of</b> ) Countermeasures for less-than-ideal RB implementation	9	8	0	43
Design resources/videos	11	4	2	43
Public outreach info on website	9	7	1	42
FAQ portion of website	9	6	2	41
Roundabout outreach promotion	7	9	1	40
Liaison representation for national level ( <b>or district</b> )	5	11	1	38
( <b>Encourage</b> ) Summer Seminar - Roundabouts presentation?	6	9	2	38
Needed research tab on website ?	4	12	1	37
Research coordination with academic partners	5	9	3	36
Tech Talk (per meeting)	5	8	4	35



(**Compiling**) Safety before/after research – go through national sources and see which are the most compelling to list on the GA ITE website

- What are the gaps in the research that we can look into filling?
- [Mark Lenters] FHWA webpage has before/after studies at a national level <https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/intersection/roundabouts/>

Tie between (List of) Countermeasures for less-than-ideal RB implementation & Design resources/videos – list of things you could possibly do to fix **the roundabouts in less-than-ideal situations**, design resources/videos- add links to videos and guides we know of, RBDG, etc.

Public outreach info on website – if anybody has any fliers, FAQs, etc. if you're getting ready to go to a public outreach meeting, provide as much resources people could bring to public meetings

- [Sam Harris] thinks these resources could provide a lot of value to help roundabouts succeed

Liaison representation for national level (**or district**) – reached out to national level and talked with the National ITE committee (Ken Sides). They were excited that GA has a roundabout subcommittee and invited us to sit in on the next committee meeting to present what we're trying to focus on. In the next meeting, we plan to invite **their committee** to come sit-in on our meeting as well. **There is a national ITE roundabouts committee**. If somebody else has an interest in attending (link to join ITE national committee). Would somebody want to become more involved to participate in the Southern district committee?

- Thinks we should approach southern district to have District committee on RBs – Scott Zehngraff, Mark Lenters, Adam Gomez, Sam Harris, Maegan Reid, Juan Gonzalez, Landon Perry, Travis Brewer, Jaap Tigelaar, Daniel Trevorrow, Zhang Huang, Justin Stutts, Oladimeji Onabanjo, Khan Pratiti, Richard Coakley, Chris Raymond
  - o Give them information about how our committee is being successful, what we are accomplishing

(**Encourage**) Summer Seminar - Roundabouts presentation? – more encouraging for future years because Summer Seminar is coming up quickly for this year. At least one presentation during a session in the future? Could also spin this into Southern District, Scott Zehngraff is going to be the Technical Chair for next year. Anything roundabout-related would be supported. If you have any ideas related to roundabouts, etc.

Needed research tab on website ? – fill in type-in spot for what research you need that ITE can help you with? Public outreach? Based within some type of email format potentially.

Research coordination with academic partners – falls in line with the safety research/before and after, research needed; how do we reach out to some of our academics in the state? Should we try to solicit some of the professors to work with them on research topics we may need?

Tech Talk (per meeting) – presentation during subcommittee meeting? We could have one in the next few meetings.

- [Mark Lenters] sharing knowledge between the group. Scott Zehngraff thinks it's a good idea that we can try soon, it just didn't rank high this time around.

**Question 6 from Questionnaire:** What are your ideas for the subcommittee to pursue?

- Listening to the public and understanding their reasoning behind negative stigma against roundabouts. Is there anything that can be done design-wise to convince the public more when we engineers achieve our safety and operations goals? Also, find ways to convince people why roundabout is applicable. As a subcommittee we can brainstorm and find ideas to battle this negative stigma.
  - Sam Harris – **how do we go about to listen to the public**? What forum could we solicit feedback? Reviewing PIOHs? Taking in all the comments from there? That could build a database. Is it a campaign through communications to gauge interest on certain countermeasures?
  - Scott Zehngraff – achieving our safety and operations goals, we could see the before/after data on some specific ones. GDOT Safety and Ops teams could see if they are achieving the goals. With respect to the negative stigma, as we continue to deliver more quality roundabouts, we can gain momentum. Any chance we can highlight positive locations would be worth it. For example, the map of GA roundabouts could have a design example of a good-looking RB and trying to identify that example.
  - Rich Coakley – if we could get statements of local officials that were opposed to them before and how well they work now.
    - Scott Zehngraff – reach out to local officials and try to ask specific questions about their account of if they were opposed to RBs. [Sam Harris to follow-up] [Mojtaba to follow-up]
    - Chris Raymond – larger focus specifically on multilane roundabouts, outreach on multilane roundabouts (FAQ, outreach, answer questions about multilanes as well)
- Preparing material that could demonstrate to common citizens the potential benefits for roundabouts, be it Safety or Operational. Information debunking many of the common misconceptions that have built up negative stigmas around roundabouts.
  - Roundabout Mythbusters episodes [Chris to find roundabout mythbusters: <https://www.wimp.com/mythbusters-four-way-stop-vs-roundabout/>] conclusion: **how come people don't**
- Feedbacks from the freight operators and bike/peds users would be good inputs to improve current best-practice in designs and additional safety considerations.
  - Scott Zehngraff – bike/ped side, work with community to see if anybody has an opinion on roundabouts to provide negative/positive feedback to us
    - <https://gradynews.uga.edu/west-broad-hancock-roundabout-aims-to-solve-traffic-issues/>
    - Daniel Sizemore, bicycle, pedestrian, and safety coordinator at Athens-Clarke County Unified Government – **mentione** in article above
  - GDOT – reach out to freight group to get some feedback on roundabouts – are there things we can adjust in our designs to make it more freight-friendly
- Resources for ORD design for roundabouts
  - Open Roads Designer – put together some tips and resources for RB designs [work with road designers, gather FAQs for designers, etc.]

- Consider developing a process of monitoring the operations of an expandable roundabout configuration. to make proactive planning decisions on when the roundabout should be modified/upgraded to a multi-lane configuration. via the use of current technology like radar & video detection or new emerging technology like communications/data from vehicles and phones (for peds and bikes) that will provide us with delay and queue lengths and patterns.
  - GDOT could identify expandable roundabouts on State Routes list
  - Look to see locations that are starting to get congestion/delay
  - Any local roundabouts that could be expandable – let us know if it can be monitored
  - Come up with a list of saturated RBs to target potential upgrades – those would be the ones monitoring.

**Website:** Can someone from the subcommittee help (lead) with maintaining the website page? Mojtaba Alemohammadi, Kwaku Boakyee, Landon Perry

- Sam Harris and Webmaster can help with this GA ITE Roundabouts website setup.
- Assuming it matches the GA ITE website as a subpage, if it doesn't have to then it could be its own format [Sam Harris will follow-up]
- GAITE website (<https://gaite.org/index.php>)
- Could look something along the lines of what [TexITE](#) has.
- Map of all the roundabouts in GA
- Local, State, National Research
- Guides from local governments
- State guides and manuals
- List of RAB experts
- Photo and Video Gallery (link to map)

## **Other ideas**

- 

## **Upcoming events**

- TRB International Conference on Roundabouts (May 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> )
  - Presentations by: Daniel Spann, Chris Raymond, Scott Zehngraff, Laura Nesbitt
  - Scott/Laura – find out if there's a virtual link to any of the conference or any updates about it that were good
- GA ITE Summer Seminar
- Summer Seminar Technical Meeting (next Thursday)
- Sam Harris- if anybody wants to create a Quickbites post on an overall view, some type of variety

## **Reminder**

There is a Roundabout Research email group that you can email to subscribe to: [ROUNDABOUTS@LISTSERV.KSU.EDU](mailto:ROUNDABOUTS@LISTSERV.KSU.EDU) This listserv is to allow for communication between people all around the world about different roundabout-related topics.