

Project 9-4973: Guideline for Designing Bridge Piers & Abutments for Vehicle Collisions

Project Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2008, 10:00AM

TxDOT Riverside Office

Prepared by: William Williams

Attendees:

- 1.) Gene Buth, TTI, email: g-buth@tamu.edu
- 2.) Michael Brackin, TTI, email: m-brackin@ttimail.tamu.edu
- 3.) Peter Chang, FHWA, email: Peter.Chang@dot.gov
- 4.) Gregg Freeby, TxDOT, email: gfreeby@dot.state.tx.us
- 5.) Hector Garcia, FHWA, email: Hector.garcia@dot.gov
- 6.) Fred Valles, TxDOT, email: fvalles@dot.state.tx.us
- 7.) William Williams, TTI, email: w-williams@tamu.edu
- 8.) Nick Nemec, TxDOT, email: mnemec@dot.state.tx.us
- 9.) Dr. German Claros, RTI-TxDOT, email: gclaros@dot.state.tx.us

Items Discussed:

- 1.) Provided handouts:
 - a. Powerpoint Slide Handout prepared by William Williams (Attached)
 - b. "Guidelines for Designing Bridge Piers For Vehicle Collisions. Critic of Vehicle Collision with Bridge Piers. (DRAFT)", by Michael Brackin
 - c. Estimating the Crash Risk Involving Heavy Vehicles and Bridge Piers Using Texas Data (DRAFT)" by Dominique Lord
 - d. "Guidelines for Designing Bridge Piers for Vehicle Collisions Simulation Analysis Update & Approach (DRAFT)"

Note: Handouts are available to study partners upon request.
- 2.) Brian Merrill, TxDOT Const. & Maint. Engineer, gets call after all bridge hits.
- 3.) This year \$292K obtained, \$92K spent, need to roll over \$200K for 2009.
- 4.) Discussion about delays in obtaining data from TxDOT's Crash Records Information System (CRIS). TxDOT had identified errors in the data and was not releasing any data from this system. Gregg Freeby stated that CRIS Data is now available.
- 5.) Gave Presentation in Powerpoint.
- 6.) G. Claros wanted information obtained from literature review. Very little related research. This topic has not been well researched. A tech memo will be prepared to summarize the literature review.
- 7.) Michael Brackin gave presentation for computer simulations to date.
- 8.) Gene Buth gave update on statistical work from Dom. Lord.
- 9.) G. Claros wanted updated schedule for project.

- 10.) Discussion about lack of availability of a finite element model for a large truck from the National Crash Analysis Center (NCAC) or FHWA and how this has slowed progress on the tasks associated with this portion of the work. G. Claros advised to proceed with large truck model as-is.
- 11.) Fix meeting in a couple of months for progress status.
- 12.) After this meeting, we need to schedule a meeting w/ pooled fund states to review project status.
- 13.) Prepare tech memo of literature review.
- 14.) The meeting adjourned.