MINUTES

Clear Roads 2026 Spring Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Pooled fund Project, TPF-5(479)

Tuesday, April 21 to Thursday, April 23, 2026 (Hyatt Regency; Lexington, KY)
Breakfast will begin at 7:00 am in Thoroughbred Room 2.

In-Person Attendees

Marcus Zimmerman, Alaska
Kevin Hensley, APWA
AJ Johnson, California
Jim Fox, Colorado
Kirsten Seeber, CTC & Associates
Greg Waidley, CTC & Associates
Jerry Wayne Smith, Georgia (Guest)
Ty Winther, Idaho
Brian Galloway, Illinois
Ben Haines, Indiana
Craig Bargfrede, Iowa
Jim Frye, Kansas
Stacy Beason, Kentucky
Eric Bowman, Kentucky
Rick Durham, Kentucky
Randi Feltner, Kentucky
Austin Shields, Kentucky
Rynell Hyman, Maryland
Mark Goldstein, Massachusetts
Carl Fedders, Michigan
Joe Huneke, Minnesota (Lead State)
Adam Wellner, Minnesota (Lead State Tech Liaison)
Steve Felix, Montana
Jasmine Dondlinger, Nebraska (Chemist)
Mike Mattison, Nebraska (Vice Chair)
Andrew Lawrence, Nevada
Alan Hansom, New Hampshire
Samantha Canulli, New Jersey
Joe Thompson, New York
Wade Harper, North Carolina (Guest)
Aaron Murra, North Dakota
Dean Alatsis, Ohio
Patti Caswell, Oregon
Dan Whetzel, Pennsylvania
Matthew Ouellette, Rhode Island
Danny Varilek, South Dakota (Chair)
Matthew Heinze, Texas
PJ Roubinet, Utah
Ashley Atkins, Vermont
Brandy Borja, Virginia
James Morin, Washington State
Darren Bennett, West Virginia
Jeff Pifer, West Virginia
Wayne Shenefelt, Wyoming

Materials Posted

Agenda
Budget
Attendees List
Research Proposals List
Research Scoring Sheet
Research In-Progress Update
Communications Report
PDH Certificate
Expense Report and Guidelines
Hotel Confirmation Numbers
Airport Pickup Schedule

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Introductions and Meeting Objectives – Danny Varilek

- Facilitated member introductions.
- Opening remarks from James Ballinger – State Highway Engineer, Kentucky TC
- States with new representatives
  - Ben Haines, Indiana
  - Adam Wellner, Minnesota (Technical Liaison)
  - Steve Felix, Montana
  - Alan Hanscom, New Hampshire
  - Jon Arps, Oklahoma (Not in attendance)
  - Ashley Atkins, Vermont
  - Darren Bennett, West Virginia
- States with temporary replacements standing in for representatives
  - Rynell Hyman for Scott Simons, Maryland
  - PJ Roubinet for Jessica Andrews, Utah
- Invited States
  - Jerry Wayne Smith, Georgia
  - Wade Harper, North Carolina
- Overview of Clear Road's goals and activities

Research and Synthesis Proposals

Eight (8) research proposals and seven (7) synthesis proposals were presented and discussed by TAC members. After all the proposals were presented, each voting member of the TAC submitted scores for each project based on each project's own merit, using a 1-5 scale (5 being the greatest need). Those votes were tallied after day one of the meeting and presented at the beginning of day two.

1. **Developing and Implementing a National Vehicle Restriction Plan to Improve Safety During Winter Events**
   - Presenter: Mark Goldstein, Massachusetts
   - Project Summary: During significant winter weather events, vehicle restrictions are often imposed by one or more states. This action impacts adjacent states, who should be aware of the restrictions' potential impact on them and be prepared to message guidance to their traffic headed toward a state with active restrictions. The fact that most states have their own version of these vehicle restrictions can be a hindrance to coordination of restrictions between agencies. The goal of this project is to achieve consensus among states about a uniform set of vehicle restrictions and a platform for which the restrictions can be disseminated and used by the traveling public, especially commercial vehicle operators.

2. **Synthesis: Simulators for Training Snowplow Drivers**
   - Presenter: Jim Frye, Kansas
   - Project Summary: This synthesis will set the groundwork for those that are interested in either purchasing or contracting with a vendor. The synthesis will be used to improve the winter maintenance operations by sharing best practices with other state DOTs; using all available resources to improve the safety of our drivers and the traveling public; and as a starting point for DOTs wanting to consider the use of simulators as part of their driver training program.

3. **Synthesis: Heated Pavement and Renewable Energy Systems for Bridge and Roadway Anti-Icing: State of Practice, Feasibility, and Implementation Considerations**
   - Presenter: Andrew Lawrence, Nevada
   - Project Summary: Bridge decks and other "cold spot" roadway locations tend to freeze earlier and more frequently than adjacent pavement. These localized icing conditions can be difficult to

predict, require additional monitoring, and can create sudden loss-of-traction risks for motorists. This synthesis proposes a shift in focus toward heated pavement / heated structure technologies and the renewable or low-carbon energy sources that could support them within the right-of-way. The goal is to identify practical approaches that can prevent or delay ice formation on bridge decks and target roadway cold spots, reducing chloride use, structural damage, and winter maintenance burden. The synthesis would also identify how a pilot "test bed" site can be designed so it can later be replicated at other high-risk locations.

4. **Feasibility of High-Speed Material Application**
   - Presenter: Mike Mattison, Nebraska
   - Project Summary: It is often necessary to apply deicing chemicals to highways where traffic is moving significantly faster than snowplow trucks. The large difference in vehicle speed may create conditions where collision is more likely. Increasing the effective speed at which the materials can be efficiently applied would reduce the time required to treat the route, saving time and enabling the truck to do more work, while also potentially improving safety. Since plowing is commonly done during application of chemicals, safe and effective limits for speed while plowing should also be considered.

5. **Clear Roads Winter Data Survey Enhancement**
   - Presenter: Mike Mattison, Nebraska
   - Project Summary: The Clear Roads Winter Data Survey provides information on a comprehensive set of winter maintenance parameters from member state DOTs. The benefits of the survey accrue from the compilation of data by the state and provide state comparisons to help identify areas of excellence and opportunities for improvement. This project will explore methods for classifying state DOT routes with respect to population density, traffic volume, and Level of Service to enable benchmarking and identification of best practices; assess the ability of states to provide the classifications for their routes; and develop measures that include the classifications and methods for including them in the survey report.

6. **Synthesis: Salt Contract Language Best Practices**
   - Presenter: Randi Feltner, Kentucky
   - Project Summary: Recent years have seen increased salt cost/ton, salt availability issues, and salt vendor performance issues with quality and delivery times. This synthesis should compile contracts terms from various states such as: min/max and guaranteed delivery amounts, delivery time, fee/penalties, if terminal information is provided, material specifications, etc. Information about the success or issues experienced will be compiled as well.

7. **Investigation Correlation of Crash Severity and Snow/Ice Accumulation**
   - Presenter: Randi Feltner, Kentucky
   - Project Summary: Practitioners in Kentucky have observed events with lesser accumulation of snow/ice see more severe crashes because driver behavior does not change much during smaller snow/ice events. The goal of this project would be to evaluate the data and determine if there is indeed any relation to snow/ice accumulation and crash severity (KABCO scale). The goal would be to remove the subjectivity of this possible correlation.

8. **Estimating Snow & Ice Material Required Based on Forecasted and Measured Weather Event**
    - Presenter: Joe Thompson, New York
    - Project Summary: Snow and ice material management is an integral part of snow and ice operations. Managers are often asked how much material is needed for an event or season by location or how much material should have been used for an event or season. The goal of this project is to have a way to estimate how much material is required theoretically by lane mile and multiplied for a jurisdictional responsibility boundary.

9. **Synthesis: Friction Test Method**
    - Presenter: Patti Caswell, Oregon
    - Project Summary: The Clear Roads QPL requires friction testing of liquid deicers prior to consideration of inclusion on the QPL. Vendors have historically used the same laboratory to send samples to for this testing. This laboratory no longer performs this testing; therefore, new deicers have been accepted to the QPL without requiring this testing, but with an asterisk stating that testing had not been conducted. The QPL should evaluate other friction testing to determine if there is an appropriate method to cite that could be conducted at other lab(s).

10. **Methodology for Identifying and Quantifying Snow Traps Using AVL Engine Data**
    - Presenter: Adam Wellner, Minnesota
    - Project Summary: There are many locations on the highway system where local conditions result in extra snow, and ice removal efforts are needed. Some of these locations may be able to see improvements using capital improvements such as snow fencing. The goal of the project is to develop a method of identifying and quantifying extra effort and costs, such as fuel, used to treat relatively small portions of the roadway network compared to neighboring sections. Newer AVL systems provide much more data than was collected in the past that may provide additional insight into the costs of these "snow traps." In particular, identification of engine performance data should be considered to identify impacts to fuel usage / strain on equipment.

11. **In-Depth Cost Analysis of Liquid and Solid Deicing Materials**
    - Presenter: Adam Wellner, Minnesota
    - Project Summary: It is important to understand the benefits and costs when making decisions, including costs associated with both solid and liquid materials. The purpose of this project is to build on existing research on the benefits of incorporating liquids into deicing and establish a total cost comparison of solid and liquid materials applied to the road. This would include accounting for the total cost of applying liquid material such as brine generation equipment, costs of input materials, labor costs, application equipment, etc.

12. **Synthesis: Strategies to Reduce Chloride Impacts on Bridges**
    - Presenter: James Morin, Washington
    - Project Summary: It is recognized that chlorides have an impact on highway bridges and structures. In many cases observed damage is blamed on the use of chlorides without regard to lack of proper design, construction techniques, preventative maintenance and preservation activities that would potentially reduce or eliminate “chloride damage.” The goal of this synthesis would be to poll states to identify established best practices related to design, construction, preventive maintenance and preservation activities that would reduce chloride impacts to bridge structures.

13. **Synthesis: NaCl Brine Blend Ratios**
    - Presenter: Dean Alatsis, Ohio
    - Project Summary: At a certain temperature, salt brine alone is not an effective for pretreatment or during events. Once this occurs, use of various liquid deicers are needed to be effective at these lower temperatures. Typically, operators and managers use what works—starting with the lower application rate and bumping up or reapplying as needed. It would be helpful to better understand what other states are using (different blends) and how effective they are in different situations and at different application rates. This synthesis will compile vendor and manufacturer product information and state experience with liquid deicers.

14. **Transitioning the Annual Survey of State Winter Maintenance Data from an Excel Spreadsheet to a Web-based Tool**
    - Presenter: Emil Juni, Wisconsin
    - Project Summary: Each year, since the winter season of 2014–2015, Clear Roads member states have provided data for the Annual Survey of State Winter Maintenance Data (ASSWMD). There is potential to upgrade the interface / modernize how the data is displayed and make the process of updating the database more efficient. The goal of this project is to convert the display of data from an Excel Spreadsheet to a web-based data visualization tool, such as with an ESRI, or Power BI, dashboard.

15. **Synthesis: Artificial Intelligence in Winter Highway Maintenance: Current Practice and Trends**
    - Presenter: Mike Mattison, Nebraska
    - Project Summary: Clear Roads members need a coordinated study of AI uses for winter maintenance that are currently being used or planned and what costs and benefits to expect. There has been significant research into AI for winter maintenance. A need exists for a condensed resource to aid transportation agencies in creating a strategy for using AI in their winter operations. This synthesis will include a literature search on the use of AI in winter maintenance operations, a survey on current or planned AI projects and a description of development and procurement strategies that have been successfully used for AI projects.

Clear Roads Budget and Available Funds

- Income through FFY2026: $4,800,000
- Expenses through FFY2026: $4,259,212.52
- Funds available for research in 2026: $540,787.48
    - Additional $60,000 from TPF-5(353), brings the total to about $600,000.
- Adam Wellner – Need 100% agreement from members to roll over funds from TPF-5(479) to next phase of the pooled fund. If not, then funds get proportionally returned.
    - **ACTION ITEM**: Greg will send an email to TAC members to obtain member votes.

Colorado State Report

- Presented by Jim Fox
- See *Spring 2026 State, Industry, and Project Reports* under TAC Meeting Presentations on the members only page.

Kentucky State Report

- Presented by Randi Feltner
- See *Spring 2026 State, Industry, and Project Reports* under TAC Meeting Presentations on the members only page.

Illinois State Report

- Presented by Brian Galloway
- See *Spring 2026 State, Industry, and Project Reports* under TAC Meeting Presentations on the members only page.

Comprehensive Guide Prewet

- The goal of this project is to determine the optimum application rate of inhibited salt brine and untreated dry salt (gallons/ton) in different delivery systems and spreader configurations to reduce bounce and scatter, activate the melting attributes of salt and inhibit metal corrosion. Didn't look at slurry mixes only prewet.
- Project was contracted to WSU during the 2022 research cycle. The PI left for University of Miami and the contract was cancelled early on. Rebid the project in 2025 but didn't receive any responses. Field testing, and the relationships with DOTs necessary to do the testing, was one reason the RFP received no responses.
- Reposting RFP. Subcommittee has been having discussions regarding project scope.
- Proposed the project includes slurries, not just prewet. What does it do for you at different rates? Only focus on lab piece. Do field component separately.
- Go with the lab portion first. Solid results in a controlled environment will help us determine if we need the field portion. Patti, OR agrees.
    - If separate, then the field portion would need to be rebid and could go to a different PI.
- This project would be reposted as part of phase IV of the pooled fund.
- Motion needed to proceed.

VOTE: Motion to reduce the scope to lab only and repost the RFP for $200,00 (Mike M) Second (Craig B). Vote - ayes have it. **Motion carries**.

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Selection of 2026 Projects

Based on rankings received, the TAC approved the following seven projects, including three projects for RFP and four synthesis projects. The total funding estimate is $485,000. For a pdf containing all the projects proposed, visit the All Proposed Projects page.

Project Discussion

- **Motion –** Combine #5 and #14, for a total of $200,000 (Craig B) Second (Danny V).
    - Suggestion to separate the motions.
        - Recommendation not to combine the projects and maybe not to fund #5 because of the difficulty of getting information the project would be asking for.
- **Revised Motion** – Amend the motion to not combine #14 and #5. Approve and fund projects going down to #11 (seven projects) for $360,000 (Craig B). Second (James M). Vote – ayes have it. **Motion carries**.
- Synthesis: Friction Test Method (#9) – Proposal to convert from a synthesis to a project to find out what's out there for testing and potentially develop a new test method.
    - Potential tasks: Task 1. Lit review to identify what tests exist. Step 2. Different friction test methods and the information they provide, and how they work related to deicers. Step 3. Recommendation on a particular method to move forward. Proposed budget of $150,000.
    - If the need exists to develop a new test method, that would be a new project.

- **Motion –** Convert #9 Synthesis: Friction Test Method to a project to evaluate friction test methods for inclusion in the QPL. Proposed budget of $150,000, up to but not including a test method (Patti C). (Would bring funding total to $485,000) Second (Adam W). Vote – ayes have it. **Motion carries**.

CR 26-01 Friction Test Method for the QPL [Score: 3.515]

- Investigator: To be determined via RFP.
- Budget: $150,000
- Chair: Patti Caswell (OR)
- Co-chair: Jasmine Dondlinger (NE-chemist)
- Subcommittee: Mike Mattison (NE), Matthew Heinze (TX), Carl Fedders (MI), Ty Winther (ID), Samantha Canulli (NJ), Randi Feltner (KY), Brandy Borja (VA), Adam Wellner (MN)

CR 26-02 In-Depth Cost Analysis of Liquid and Solid Deicing Materials [Score: 3.424]

- Investigator: To be determined via RFP.
- Budget: $115,000
- Chair: Adam Wellner
- Co-chair: Marcus Zimmerman
- Subcommittee: Mike Mattison, Ty Winther, Samantha Canulli, Jim Fox, Danny Varilek, Wayne Shenefelt

CR 26-03 Transitioning the Annual Survey of State Winter Maintenance Data to a Web-based Tool [Score: 4.182]

- Investigator: To be determined via RFP.
- Budget: $120,000
- Chair: Emil Juni
- Co-chair: Matthew Ouellette
- Subcommittee: Patti Caswell, Ben Haines, Gabe Alvarado, Craig Bargfrede, Danny Varilek, Adam Wellner

CR 26-S1 Salt Contract Language Best Practices [Score: 4.273]

- Investigator: CTC & Associates
- Budget: Estimated $25k. Budget will be finalized after scoping meeting.
- Chair: Randi Feltner
- Co-chair: Samantha Canulli
- Subcommittee: Carl Fedders, Dean Alatsis, Brandy Borja, Jessica Andrews, PJ Roubinet, Jim Fox, Scott Simons, Adam Wellner

CR 26-S2 Strategies to Reduce Chloride Impacts on Bridges [Score: 3.455]

- Investigator: CTC & Associates
- Budget: Estimated $25k. Budget will be finalized after scoping meeting.
- Chair: James Morin
- Co-chair: Danny Varilek
- Subcommittee: Andy Lawrence, AJ Johnson, Aaron Murra, Alan Hanscom, Jim Frye, Wayne Shenefelt, Darren Bennett, Wade Harper, Adam Wellner

CR 26-S3 NaCl Brine Blend Ratios [Score: 3.697]

- Investigator: CTC & Associates
- Budget: Estimated $25k. Budget will be finalized after scoping meeting.
- Chair: Dean Alatsis
- Co-chair: Brian Galloway
- Subcommittee: Joe Thompson, James Morin, Emil Juni, Jessica Andews, Aaron Murra, Mark Goldstein, Jasmine Dondlinger, PJ Roubinet, Steve Felix, Adam Wellner

CR 26-S4 Artificial Intelligence in Winter Highway Maintenance: Current Practice and Trends [Score 4.121]

- Investigator: CTC & Associates
- Budget: Estimated $25k. Budget will be finalized after scoping meeting.
- Chair: Mike Mattison
- Co-chair: Aidan Neely
- Subcommittee: Brian Galloway, Dan Whetzel, Ashley Atkins, Marcus Zimmerman, Rynell Hyman, Samantha Canulli, Matthew Heinze, AJ Johnson, Adam Wellner

Update on Projects in Progress

21-07 Determining the Migration of Chloride-Based Deicers through Different Soil Types

- Investigator: Washington State University
- Contract End Date: April 2026
- Subcommittee: Aidan Neely, Patti Caswell, Mark Goldstein, James Morin, Joe Thompson, Matt Kraushar, Adam Wellner
- Status: The draft final report and one-pagers on NaCl (and MgCl2) and organic additives have been submitted and approved. The final webinar is complete and posted on the project page. The final report still needs to be made 508-compliant. It will then be formatted / posted and a Clear Roads news post will be generated.

23-01 Development of a Public Service Announcement Library

- Investigator: Western Transportation Institute; Montana State University
- Contract End Date: March 2026
- Subcommittee: David Gray, Dan Varilek, Julie Stevenson (PIO; SD), Ty Winther, Ellen Mattila (PIO; ID), Emil Juni, Jeff Pifer, Randi Feltner, Wayne Shenefelt, Adam Wellner
- Status: Project is complete and will be presented on during the 2026 fall meeting. The communications packages (partnership branding, keeping your distance, keep it slow, and liquid deicers) have been or are being posted to the PSA Library on the Winter Driving Safety microsite.

23-03 Updating the Impact of Capital Projects Decision Support Tool

- Investigator: University of Vermont
- Contract End Date: October 2026
- Subcommittee: Emil Juni, Brandy Borja, Joe Thompson, Chad Huggins, Paul Denkler, Mark Goldstein, Matthew Oullette, Adam Wellner
- Status: PI created an updated version of the Capital Projects Decision Support Tool that is accessible over the internet. States go to the website, select their state, and input their capital projects to see the impact on winter maintenance costs. The website will be shared with the Clear Roads group in the summer to receive feedback on user friendliness. In the meantime, the

PI is working to gather information that will update the assumptions about salt use, vehicle hours of travel increases, and more that go into the tool.

24-01 Toxicity Standards for the QPL (Patti, OR)

- Investigator: Western Transportation Institute; Montana State University
- Contract End Date: September 2026
- Subcommittee: Patti Caswell, Jasmine Dondlinger, Jim Fox, Jessica Andrews, Randi Feltner, Shannon Holland, Adam Wellner
- Status: Project team met on 2/27/2026 to review / discuss Recommendations (Task 3). Research team is working on a draft Vendor Form (Task 4), which will be reviewed during a meeting in late April.

24-02 Effective Pretreatment Methods for Events Beginning as Rain

- Investigator: University of Minnesota
- Contract End Date: July 2027
- Subcommittee: Matthew Heinze, Randi Feltner, Dan Whetzel, Emil Juni, Dean Alatsis, Samantha Canulli, AJ Johnson, Brandy Borja, Roger Matthews, Adam Wellner
- Status: The research team posted a survey of the Clear Roads TAC from February to early April. The results of that survey will be provided to the subcommittee in late April.

24-03 Salt Management Training for Non-DOT End Users

- Investigator: University of Minnesota
- Contract End Date: November 2026
- Subcommittee: Scott Simons, Mike Mattison, Aidan Neely, Brandy Borja, Matthew Ouellette, Paul Denkler, Samantha Canulli, Adam Wellner
- Status: The Homeowners track, residing on Smartwintersalt.com, has been completed and is currently being reviewed by the project subcommittee. After completion of the Homeowners track, the research team will prepare draft modules for the Property Managers and Contractors tracks.

2024 synthesis projects

24-S1 Predictive Methods to Update Road Condition Reporting

- Investigator: CTC & Associates
- Expected Completion Date: June 2026
- Subcommittee: Randi Feltner, Dan Whetzel, Craig Bargfrede, Joe Huneke, Joe Thompson, Chad Huggins, Wayne Shenefelt, Joe Huneke, Adam Wellner
- Status: A synthesis project update was provided in March 2026. CTC is currently drafting the final synthesis report.

24-S2 Snow & Ice, 2030 – Be Ready for Change within the Snow & Ice Fighting Industry

- Investigator: CTC & Associates
- Expected Completion Date: May 2026
- Subcommittee: Mark Goldstein, AJ Johnson, Andy Lawrence, Carl Fedders, Marcus Zimmerman, Aaron Murra, Matthew Heinze, Chad Huggins, Jeremy McGuffey, Adam Wellner
- Status: The draft final synthesis report, along with the supplements, was provided for subcommittee review in late March. Subcommittee is currently reviewing those materials.

24-S3 Status on the Update of AVL/GPS for Winter Operations

- Investigator: CTC & Associates
- Expected Completion Date: June 2026

- Subcommittee: Jim Frye, Jessica Andrews, Randi Feltner, Paul Denkler, Dean Alatsis, Carl Fedders, Alastair Probert, Joe Huneke, Adam Wellner
- Status: A synthesis project update was provided in March 2026. CTC is currently drafting the final synthesis report.

24-S4 Best Practices for Research Implement

- Investigator: CTC & Associates
- Expected Completion Date: May 2026
- Subcommittee: Mike Mattison, Dan Whetzel, Craig Bargfrede, Scott Simons, Dean Alatsis, Andy Lawrence, Kevin Hensley, Clark Moe, Adam Wellner
- Status: The draft final synthesis report, along with the supplements and a technology transfer brief, was provided for subcommittee review in late March / early April. Subcommittee is currently reviewing those materials.

South Dakota State Report

- Presented by Danny Varilek
- See *Spring 2026 State, Industry, and Project Reports* under TAC Meeting Presentations on the members only page.

Proficiency Testing Program for Labs

An AASHTO re:source program

- Presented by Jasmine Dondlinger, Nebraska (Clear Roads Chemist)
- See *Spring 2026 State, Industry, and Project Reports* under TAC Meeting Presentations on the members only page.
- ACTION ITEM: Jasmine will email a draft overview of what is needed that states can share with their agencies and labs. A webinar is also available at Webinars and Other Videos under Implementation Webinars.

Recently Completed Projects Report

23-02 Quantifying the Economic Value of Snow & Ice Operations Success

- Presented by Mark Goldstein, Massachusetts
- See *Spring 2026 State, Industry, and Project Reports* under TAC Meeting Presentations on the members only page.

Business Roundtable

- Use of 4-wheel drive plow trucks or 6x6 plow trucks to push heavy snow.
- Clear Roads Training Subcommittee update.
- Current situation with Tungsten Carbide blades.
- GPS platforms experiencing issues when rerouting interstate traffic to back roads.
- Experience with Planet Labs using real time satellite imagery for tree trimming for solar impacts on the pavement.
- Use of electronic ticketing for salt orders.
- Update on New York's AVL program.

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Future Meetings

2026

- Fall Meeting: Mystic, CT. Week of September 14.
  - In the process of negotiating a contract with the Hilton Mystic.

2027

- Spring Meeting: Boise, ID. Week of April 12.
  - Backup: Spokane, WA
- Fall Meeting: Deadwood. Week of September 20.
  - Backup: Ohio

2028

- Spring Meeting: Wichita, KS. Week of April 17. [Travel on Easter Monday?]
  - Backup: Morgantown, WV
- Fall Meeting: Oakland, CA. Week of September 18.
  - Backup: Morgantown, WV
    - Combination of the Clear Roads fall meeting and FHWA's Road Weather Management. Jeremy is open to it – potentially fall 2028. Set up a separate planning meeting to talk through what this would look like. FHWA offers three attendees from every state. The Riverside Hotel in Boise could accommodate this large group, so potentially shift the dates. Vendors would want to attend this meeting. FHWA is having a virtual meeting in 2026.

2029

- Spring Meeting: New Jersey. Week of April 16.
  - Backup: Juneau, AK
- Fall Meeting: Colorado
  - Backup: Wyoming

2030

- Spring Meeting: Juneau, AK
  - Backup: Oregon
- Fall Meeting: Oregon
  - Backup: Juneau, AK

2031

- Spring Meeting: Savannah, GA
  - Backup: Manchester, NH
- Fall Meeting: Traverse City, MI
  - Backup: Wisconsin Dells, WI

2032

- Spring Meeting: Morgantown, WV
  - Backup: Pittsburgh, PA
- Fall Meeting: South Lake Tahoe, NV
  - Backup: San Antonio, TX

National Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange

- Typically a fall meeting.
- Combines Clear Roads, Aurora, and AASHTO Winter Weather Management TSP. Includes invited guests and vendors.

- Clear Roads funded its portion as a project. Vendors' registration fees helped to offset some of the costs. AASHTO has an online registration system that would greatly reduce the effort / complexity of the meeting logistics.
- FHWA may be able to contribute money if multiple groups are interested.
  - Other groups that may be interested in attending – Standing International Road Weather Commission (SIRWC) and PIRAC (has a winter congress). Both groups would be interested in attending. Jeremy could help facilitate working with these groups.
- Assemble a planning team and begin meeting via Teams.
  - Adam, MN – Soonest would be fall 2028 (Oakland, CA – AJ should be a part of the planning group).
  - Planning Committee: Adam Wellner, Mike Mattison, Marcus Zimmerman, Dan Whezel, Greg Waidley, plus Aurora, AASHTO (Rick Nelson), FHWA (Jeremy) and others.

Massachusetts State Report

- Presented by Mark Goldstein
- See *Spring 2026 State, Industry, and Project Reports* under TAC Meeting Presentations on the members only page.

APWA Report

- Presented by Kevin Hensley
- See *Spring 2026 State, Industry, and Project Reports* under TAC Meeting Presentations on the members only page.

Nevada State Report

- Presented by Andrew Lawrence
- See *Spring 2026 State, Industry, and Project Reports* under TAC Meeting Presentations on the members only page.

Winter Weather Management TSP Report

- Presented by Joe Thompson, New York
- AASHTO Winter Maintenance Meeting in Houston, May 7-8, 2026
  - Segments on Liquids, Variable Speed Limits, Operations and Fleet, Machine Learning, Supply Chain, Maintenance Operations
- AASHTO Winter Weather Management Terminology Group – Wiki is on the Talkin Winter Ops website at https://talkinwinterops.com/wiki/winter-maintenance-wiki/.

FHWA Update

- Presented by Jeremy McGuffey
- No slides
- FHWA Road Weather Management program – Goal is to improve safety and mobility.
- Invest money into high level research
- Perform technology transfer and deployment support. Also conduct training.
- New research projects.
  - Safey strategic Plan
  - Winter Aps Plan Template
  - Updating the Capability Maturity Framework.
  - Pathfinder

- Training – three NHI courses
  - Free for DOT staff
  - Principles and Tools for Road Weather Management
  - Road Weather Information Systems Equipment and Operations
  - Weather Responsive Traffic Management
- Standing up two groups this year
  - Weather Data Forum
  - Road Weather Management Leadership Working Group
- Next Gen Winter Ops Benchmarking Tour looking at how other countries deployed operational AI.
- Outreach
  - National Operations Center of Excellence webinars
    - May 13 – Major Storms
    - July – Weather Responsive Automation
    - Let Jeremy know about topics of interest.
- Stakeholders Meeting – Virtual. Next one June 9-11. Three hours per day.
- Hiring an intern.