AASHTO SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSTRUCTION

RESOLUTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP BEST PRACTICES

WHEREAS, most transportation system construction and maintenance activities have potential environmental impacts, and

WHEREAS, many states have successfully implemented various initiatives to enhance environmental stewardship and change the culture in construction and maintenance organizations. These include but are not limited to: erosion and sedimentation control, energy efficiency improvements, use of recycled materials and recycling, facility management, ecological preservation, stream preservation, context sensitive solutions, hazardous materials substitution, pursuit of ISO certifications, etc., and

WHEREAS, there are benefits to good environmental stewardship practice in construction and maintenance such as improved air and water quality, citation/conflict avoidance, improved relationships with environmental agencies, improved public perception and support, and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Research Board, A5T60 Task Force on Accelerating Innovation and the AASHTO Technology Implementation Group (TIG) support the implementation of environmental stewardship best practices and propose the development of a strategy to accelerate the implementation of best environmental stewardship practices in construction and maintenance, and

WHEREAS, there is a recognized need for resources, both dollars and people, to develop and promote the implementation of the best practices in environmental stewardship in construction and maintenance, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the AASHTO Subcommittee on Construction requests the Standing Committee on Highways to support the implementation of environmental stewardship best practices in construction and maintenance with NCHRP 20-7 funding.
WHEREAS, More than 1000 people are killed and 5000 injured each year in accidents that occur in highway work areas across the nation; and

WHEREAS, One of the major recommendations made by the AASHTO-AGC-ARTBA Joint Committee is the establishment of a National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse; and

WHEREAS, Section 358(b) of the National Highway Designation Act of 1995 requires the Secretary of Transportation to use a variety of methods to improve work area safety, and one of the methods listed in Section 358(b) is a work zone safety information Clearinghouse; and

WHEREAS, ARTBA has contracted with the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) to operate, manage and promote the Clearinghouse; and

WHEREAS, FHWA is no longer providing financial support and ARTBA is now responsible for funding the program through cost-sharing with others or through unique financing strategies; and

WHEREAS, The Clearinghouse was developed to establish a single contact point for potential users soliciting information concerning safe and effective work zones; provide several access communications modes to the Clearinghouse such as toll-free telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for computer-interacted inquiries; and store and control materials applicable to work zone safety for duplication and distribution upon request; and

WHEREAS, AASHTO, through its member states and its technical committees, will make extensive use of the Clearinghouse through contributions of research, guidelines, practices and important papers, and will draw heavily upon the materials made available through the Clearinghouse; and

WHEREAS, The AASHTO member states will often provide work zone safety information to other governmental and non-governmental agencies within their states to further the interests of highway safety in the work zone; and

WHEREAS, The AASHTO Subcommittee on Traffic Engineering has endorsed AASHTO member state support of the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that AASHTO Subcommittee on Construction reaffirms its commitment to work area safety and its role with ARTBA and AGC in furthering this safety effort through the Clearinghouse; and be it further

RESOLVED that AASHTO Subcommittee on Construction, in sharing with its private sector partners, urges each of its member states to support a voluntary contribution to the Clearinghouse through AASHTO to ARTBA, the sum $2,000 for FY 2002, and $2,000 for FY 2003, and be it further

RESOLVED the Board of Advisors of the Clearinghouse is requested to develop a financial support plan for the Clearinghouse that may be approved by AASHTO prior to the designation of any AASHTO-sponsored financial support for the Clearinghouse by any member state for FY 2004 and beyond.
WHEREAS, The AASHTO Highway Subcommittee on Construction (SOC) initiated a self evaluation of the existing SOC organization structure in the fall of 2001 to better meet the growing need for organizational flexibility and streamlining of the subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, The AASHTO Standing Committee on Highways (SCOH) asked in the Winter of 2002 that each of its subcommittees do a self evaluation and make recommendations for an organization to better address the needs of the members of AASHTO; and

WHEREAS, the SOC wanted to address maintaining or enhancing the subcommittees ability to develop products, modify processes to produce its products and enhance the ability of its members to get involved in the development and implementation of the subcommittees work plan, products and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, The SOC must also retain its ability to meet the requirements documented in the SOC Mission Statement and be able to prepare, publish, and keep current the guide specifications for construction and the manual of construction practices, facilitate information exchange and liaison with other AASHTO Committees; and

WHEREAS, Global recommendations of the SOC include: reducing the existing number of Task Forces, changing the “Task Force” title to “Section”, allowing Sections to work on a variety of Emphasis Areas during any given year, continuing to utilize FHWA and NCHRP funding assistance, using pooled fund efforts where necessary, that state membership in Sections will be evaluated on a bi-annual basis and assignments made to insure meeting the subcommittee’s charge; and

WHEREAS, The new organization will include: Pavement and Structures Task Force being renamed to the “Roadway and Structures” Section, the Environmental Task Force expands to become the “Environmental & Human Resources” Section, the Computer in Construction Task Force becomes the “Computers and Technology” Section, the Contract Administration Task Force becomes the “Contract Administration” Section, the Quality Task Force becomes an emphasis area for the four Sections with the Research Steering Committee remaining the same; and

WHEREAS, Let it be known that the current organization is made up of five Task Forces and one Steering Committee and that the new SOC Organization consist of four Sections and one Steering Committee; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That in keeping with the desires of the SCOH the SOC members adopt these changes to the SOC organization, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the SOC members have established an effective date of this resolution of August 2003 at the SOC summer meeting in North Carolina.
WHEREAS, the AASHTO Highway Subcommittee on Construction has assembled in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware to hold the 2002 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the business of the 2002 meeting has been successfully completed; and

WHEREAS, the Subcommittee recognizes the effort and the hospitality provided by our host, the Delaware Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Subcommittee further recognizes and appreciates the educational and social activities made available to the conference attendees and their families including interesting technical tours, spouse activities, board walks, Dolles salt water taffy, sea shells, all you can eat crabs, walks along the beach, delegate holdups at local shopping establishments, delectable culinary experiences, and numerous opportunities to enjoy the historic, scenic, cultural and beach life opportunities of the great city of Rehoboth Beach; and

WHEREAS, extracurricular activities showcased Delaware environmental jewels such as heights, capes, beaches, creeks, islands, coves, necks, canals, lakes and points; and

WHEREAS, Rob McCleary, and the entire DELDOT Field Services team of Susan Ettinger, Chip Rosan, Bob Perrine, Brad Saborio, Wendy Gillin, Salvador Palalay, Vince Davis, Randy Cole, Dave Buehler, Steve Chantry, Barbara Long and Joe Ellis as ambassadors for the great state of Delaware made tremendous efforts to extend hospitality and friendship to the Subcommittee members, their spouses and their families;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the grateful appreciation of the AASHTO Highway Subcommittee on Construction is given to the very capable and professional Field Services team of the Delaware Department of Transportation for hosting the 2002 meeting.

Unanimously Adopted By
AASHTO Highway Subcommittee on Construction
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware; August 8, 2002