The spirit of collaboration

CP Road Map Collaboration

National CP Road Map Program
Executive Committee Meeting
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CP Road Map

Collaboration

No single organization has the funds, expertise, or political capital to carry out a program of this magnitude.

Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP) programs don’t come along every day, and certainly not for single products
The spirit of the road map is that individuals, agencies, and companies will come together under a common vision.

They will agree to work together to implement the plan, develop the next level of detail, and then collaborate to accomplish the work.
FHWA defines it as any cooperative effort between and among governmental and private partners to achieve common goals.

Such collaboration can range from very informal, ad hoc activities to more planned, organized, and formalized ways of working together.

The collaborative parties work toward mutual advantage and common goals. They share a sense of public purpose, leverage resources to yield improved outcomes, and bridge traditional geographic, institutional, and functional boundaries. [i] [ii]
From Mr. Dennis Judycki, FHWA:

“FHWA is not about what to do for the agency, but for the nation.

Collaboration begins when the agenda is set, not afterward.

How that agenda is determined is the first measure of true collaboration.”
From Dr. Dan Turner, U of Alabama:

“Collaboration is a marriage in which partners need to know not just what each is doing, but also what needs to be done.

“The key question is whether collaboration will be done shotgun style or by careful, well-structured cooperation.”
From Wes Lum, Caltrans:

“Collaboration takes real patience and perseverance.

“It takes meeting after meeting to understand each other before you can even get close to collaboration.”
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Collaboration

Collaboration is a mutually beneficial, well-defined relationship entered into by two or more organizations to achieve common goals.

Collaboration is the process of various individuals, groups, or systems working together, but at a significantly higher degree than through coordination or cooperation.

Collaboration typically involves joint planning, shared resources, and joint resource management. Collaboration occurs through shared understanding of the issues, open communication, mutual trust, and tolerance of differing points of view.

To collaborate is to “co-labor.”

Questions:

How do we build from CP Road Map (a collaboration, by the way) to actually link DOTs, industry, and academia collaboratively?

How do we get organizations to think partnerships as part of the formation of a research plan?
What are the barriers to collaboration in your organizations?

What would be required to overcome those barriers?
Can we get MOU from DOT research managers? Do we rest our laurels on pooled funds? Is there not more than that?

How do we link academia and universities?

How do we get industry to think collaboration?

How do we link to the international community?
What is the role of the Administrative Support Group?

-- An in-depth look at existing research funding programs (continuing Dale’s preliminary work)?

-- A thorough documentation of barriers to collaboration and possible solutions?
How can the Executive Committee help?

Do we need a policy or guidance document acceptable to all funding organizations?
Thank you

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