2015 TRAC & RIDES Program Update

AASHTO Annual Meeting 2015
Matt Dunn, P.E.
Chair - Special Committee TRAC & RIDES
Transportation and Civil Engineering
• Students participate in hands-on activities to solve real-world problems through math, physical science, and social science.
  • Bridge Design
  • City Planning
  • Design and Construction
  • Environmental Engineering
  • Highway Safety
  • Magnetic Levitation
  • Motion
  • Traffic Technology

Roadways Into Developing Elementary Students
• RIDES introduces elementary students to engineering and transportation careers
  • Laws of Motion
  • Inertia and Safety
  • Transportation Careers
  • Environmental Topics
  • Roadway Geometry
  • Using Maps
  • Related transportation topics
TRAC & RIDES Vision and Mission

Vision
To deliver educational outreach programs that connect students to the world of transportation while enhancing math, science, and technology skills.

Mission
To introduce students in grades K-12 to the working world of transportation, especially civil engineering, and inspire them to consider careers in those fields.
Fiscal Year 2015 Program Information

• There were 21 states that participated in the program, including Namibia, Africa.
  • Alabama
  • Connecticut
  • Hawaii
  • Illinois
  • Iowa
  • Kentucky
  • Louisiana
  • Michigan
  • Mississippi
  • Nebraska
  • Nevada
  • New Hampshire
  • North Dakota
  • Oklahoma
  • Oregon
  • Pennsylvania
  • Rhode Island
  • Tennessee
  • Utah
  • Virginia
  • Wyoming

• AASHTO performed training in 8 states and the District of Columbia
  • California
  • Kentucky
  • Louisiana
  • Nebraska
  • New York
  • Rhode Island
  • Utah
  • Virginia
  • Namibia Africa (DC)
Fiscal Year 2015 Program Information

• National Bridge Challenge
  • 100 student teams submitted applications from Mississippi, Michigan, New Hampshire, Illinois, Louisiana, New York, Florida, Kentucky, Nebraska, North Dakota
  • 9 teams were chosen from Mississippi, Michigan, and New Hampshire to compete at the Spring Meeting.
  • We would like to see more state diversity in the teams going to competition.
Fiscal Year 2016 Program Information

• We are counting on support from the 21 states that participated in the program last year.

• Added 4 new states so far this year
  • Delaware
  • New Jersey
  • New Mexico
  • South Dakota

• Trainings scheduled so far
  • Louisiana
  • New Jersey
  • Oregon
TRAC & RIDES Future

• Board of Directors Resolution
  • TRAC Working Group was formed in May consisting of four state DOT executives, two sponsors, and AASHTO staff.
  • Group was charged with developing a business structure to prevent the program from operating in a deficit beginning in FY17.
  • Group held four conference calls over the summer.
  • Group presented the plan to the TRAC & RIDES Advisory Committee on September 24th.
  • Group will present the plan to the Board of Directors on September 28th for approval.
Summary of Proposed Changes

- Increase oversight of program by the TRAC & RIDES committee
  - Training requests and fulfillment
  - Managing budget and cost tracking
  - Managing all aspects of the Bridge Competition
- Transition TRAC module fulfillment to lower cost facility that already handles RIDES trunks.
- Significantly reduce AASHTO staff time spent on TRAC & RIDES management and meetings.
- Increase voluntary contribution to help insure viability of the program moving forward.