Welcome and Introduction

Ronald S. Harichandran
Chair of MTRB Executive Committee
Professor and Chairperson
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering
Michigan State University
Research and Evaluation Action Team was created at the Transportation Summit in 2003 with Dr. Mumtaz Usmen as moderator.

Team met 3-4 hours about once a month for a year to create a charter for a research advisory body. The body was named MTRB.
What is MTRB?

MTRB is a voluntary advisory body to Michigan’s transportation agencies, led by MDOT, that will:

- Assist in identifying and prioritizing transportation research needs
- Interact with organizations that conduct and support research
- Champion the value of research to improve Michigan’s transportation system
Promote an exchange of information, ideas, and knowledge benefiting transportation stakeholders through open discussions.

Help set broad direction for annual research programs, and evaluate progress on an annual basis consistent with MDOT’s and other agencies’ business plans.
A 16-person executive committee representing MDOT, FHWA, state universities, local government, and associations was established to guide MTRB.
MTRB Meetings

- MTRB meetings will be held once or twice a year
- The MTRB Executive Committee will meet more regularly