

NYSAMPO Association
Safety Working Group Teleconference
Thursday, September 19, 2013 – 1:30 PM
Call-In #: 1-888-450-5996, Passcode: 167415

1. Participating

- A/GFTC – Kate Mance
- BMTS – Cyndi Paddick, Nancy Dutta
- CDTC – Sandy Misiewicz
- ECTC – Mike Perry
- GBNRTC – Hector Boggio
- GTC – Bob Torzynski
- PDCTC – Emily Dozier
- SMTC – Mike Alexander
- NYSDOT – Jackie Berlant, Marty Neveu, Cathy Kuzsman
- GTSC – Chuck DeWeese

2. Meeting Notes – August 22, 2013 (attached)

Meeting notes were reviews and accepted.

3. SWG Work Plan Updates

3.1 Partnerships and Outreach

▪ **SWG Brochure Update (attached) – Misiewicz**

Misiewicz distributed the draft brochure update for comments and solicited for feedback on the text. Boggio had already sent along comments to Misiewicz. The group discussed how the new MPO in Watertown would be addressed and when it would be legally established. Neveu responded that she does not know yet, the MOU has not yet been finalized, but there will be a 14th MPO when Watertown is added and she will know more soon.

The current work on the SWG brochure is already done and Misiewicz wants to know how to make it flexible for a longer time frame. The group agreed on using the current brochure through end of the year and then once Watertown is established next year, the SWG can update the brochure on an annual update cycle. Dozier wasn't sure what the human behaviors paragraph was referring to. Misiewicz explained that it was Matt VanSlyke's item; he was trying to coordinate with the Bike/Ped Working Group so the text was left in there. Misiewicz will reword the human behaviors paragraph so that it does not sound like a specific event.

▪ **Update from Sept 12th Bike Ped WG Meeting - Misiewicz**

Misiewicz informed the group that at the recent Bike/Ped WG, they spoke about collaborating with the Safety group or meeting in person together. Nothing concrete was decided but ideas included:

- Law enforcement training about bike/ped laws (can be in a podcast similar to the crash reporting series);

- Crash data and getting access/exchange of information from NYSNYSDOT and using materials and models generated in NYC area Upstate;
- Discussion about data collection opportunities;
- Using counter measures for identifying bike/ped projects and building on the PedSafe material from PBIC;
- Funding opportunities, particular HSIP funds.

The Bike/Ped WG also discussed a number of safety-related issues, items related to ALIS to be followed up by Sattinger for the Safety WG. The Bike/Ped WG also asked if there is a way to develop a tool kit of best practices in order to establish consistency, including downloading and looking at the data itself. This could include ways to allow making bike/ped projects more competitive, with lower cost ratio projects. Training would be added to that group.

Neveu talked about NYSDOT policies being developed:

- Shoulder rumble strip policy expected summer 2014.
- Shared Lane Use (sharrow) policy may be adopted as early as Jan/Feb 2014. It will include a discussion about replacing signs and what signs should be used for shared lanes.
- Raised crosswalk engineering instruction is signed.
- Draft pavement marking policy (centerline rumble strips, travel lane shoulder width adjustments within existing pavement area) describe the details on how to utilize paint in low cost improvement projects. This is being drafted currently.

Cathy Kuzsman was at the Bike/Ped WG meeting and mentioned that the NYSDOT is working on a Complete Streets checklist and will be issuing a draft Engineering Bulletin soon. This would replace the pedestrian generator checklist and leave the responsibility to the ped/bike coordinator and the designer. Will be different by Region, but is a method of enforcing the Complete Streets Act. Complete Streets is something both the Bike/Ped and SWG will have to keep tabs on.

- **Website Update - Misiewicz**

Misiewicz mentioned that Steve Gayle is 90% done with the website updates suggested from previous call. She just sent him the safety assessment document and once the next version up and live, members should take a look and comment.

- **Other Updates:**

- **NYSATSB (August 1, 2013 Meeting Notes attached): Van Slyke**

VanSlyke is not present on the call but had sent along meeting notes from the NYSATSB meeting. Leadership will be changing, Sal Trentanelli will be the new NYSATSB president and he is on the Safety WG mailing list, so there may be more contact with going forward. SWG should get on the TSB agenda to talk about the products that they are working on.

- **GTSC: DeWeese**

The Central Avenue project and the workshop to be discussed below.

- **NYSDOT**

Limoges unavailable, no report.

- **MPO SWG session at the NYSDOT Safety Evaluation Engineers Meeting**

Misiewicz reported that NYSDOT is holding a safety evaluation workshop at the Main Office and she has been asked to attend and present the work of the SWG and MPOs. She wants to start building lines of communication with the Regional Safety Engineers. This meeting will be an opportunity for the group to bring questions and issues to their attention. Boggio mentioned that he works indirectly with the Region 5 Safety Evaluation Engineer, not regularly but have found them helpful in the past. Dozier mentioned that she does not know who the Safety Engineer is in Region 8, but the Region participated in

the safety assessment process last year. Terrance Donahue took over as the Safety Evaluation Engineer for Region 8 and works for the regional transportation engineer.

Safety engineers have been tasked to help with the HSIP projects, developing benefit cost ratios and looking at the data. They are the “worker bees” of the safety field. The Safety WG and the Regional engineers should be working together to identify projects. Misiewicz will collect any questions, comments and bring them to the meeting.

- **TED GIS Monthly Report (attached)**

Misiewicz sent the GIS monthly report along because it describes the location of the data-oriented projects. There is also a traffic viewer data update along with updates with ALIS. Misiewicz will continue to periodically send it around so members can review.

- **NYSP**

No report.

3.2 Education and Training

- **Complete Streets 2.0 Fact Sheet (attached) - Misiewicz**

The updated text has been shared with the MPO Directors and Bike/Ped WG. Some changes have been made since this version was sent out, but Misiewicz would like to hear any specific comments/questions about the fact sheet. Misiewicz also solicited the group for pictures of a truck making a delivery on a Complete Street. The fact sheet should be finalized before end of October to bring to the national AMPO conference.

- **NYS DOT/DOH/GTSC NY 5 Pedestrian Safety Project (attached) - Limoges**

Rob Limoges isn't able to join the call today but Misiewicz sent along the press release to the group, which contains a link to the materials. “See and be seen” is the message and the materials are tailored to be replicated throughout the state. The PDF's are poster and palm-card sized, in addition to a linear banner to be used on transit above the seats. The plan is to have a comprehensive spread of the messaging throughout the corridor. The campaign was in the local newspaper and initial comments were that a lot of tickets were being issued to pedestrians for jaywalking in the Schenectady end of the corridor. Limoges will likely have some data and numbers associated with the ticketing issue. Overall, the campaign is a simple message about pedestrian safety.

- **PEDSAFE Guide Webinar Update (attached) – Misiewicz**

Through FHWA, Misiewicz provided a copy of the slides from the recent PEDSAFE webinar. FHWA in partnership with PBIC has updated their pedestrian guide selection system. Now there is an online tool that provides the counter measures to improve pedestrian issues. There was also a similar system for bicycling as well that identified which counter measures would reduce what types of crashes. Boggio has already put in the request for a recording of the webinar and will send it along to the group once he receives it.

- **In-Person Workshops:**

Misiewicz put out the idea for identifying areas for staff training, particularly since the Safety WG has not had a training course in some time. Beyond the ALIS training, the group is encouraged to think about topics to offer staff training in and send emails/comments to Misiewicz. She will work with Steve Gayle and NYSAMPO to bring training to New York for those items.

- **Complete Streets Workshop, Oct 1st in Connecticut (attached)**

Misiewicz also attached the agenda for this workshop for those interested and live closer to CT.

- **Designing Pedestrian Safe Streets, October 15-16 and 17-18, NYC**

This workshop was invitation only and already filled.

- **NY Highway Safety Symposium, October 20-22, 2013, Liverpool, NY**

Misiewicz would like to make sure the Safety WG group is well-represented at this symposium.

- **Intersection Safety Workshops, November 18-19, Mount Vernon, NY and November 20-21 at NYMTC. (Preliminary agenda's attached).**

The preliminary agenda will be tweaked to address the NYMTC region. CDTC area is looking to bring the workshop to upstate and perhaps can piggyback on the NYC workshops. There is no charge for these workshops so definitely take a look at the intersection safety.

4. Other Topics and Next SWG Meeting - Misiewicz

- **Final Draft of the ALIS Data User Policy for MPOs**

Misiewicz will have the Final ALIS Data User Policy for the next call - hopefully will have the language down.

- **Next Teleconference: Thursday, October 24, 2013 @ 1:30 PM**

Safety evaluation engineers meeting, results of safety campaign on Route 5, Bob will get case studies from MPO's and people should send their safety initiatives to share. When/where is the ALIS training, did jointly with the GIS group last year in Utica. Consider whether to do that again.

- **Development of SWG Goals for 2014: Need for an in-person meeting in November?**

Misiewicz asked the group how they felt about an in-person meeting coinciding with the GIS group. Two people chimed in favor of the idea – will discuss in more detail on the next Safety WG call.

Misiewicz also mentioned that the UPWP cycle expires March 2014, so late Fall/early Winter would be a good time to begin developing the work plan for the next UPWPs. In the next Safety WG call in October, the group will discuss next steps for topics, priorities that the WG would like to be more involved in or change in some manner.