

**NYSAMPO BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN WORKING GROUP
DECEMBER 12, 2013**

MEETING NOTES

Participating:

- A/GFTC – Kate Mance
- BMTS – Scott Reigle
- CDTC – Jen Ceponis
- ECTC – Scott Shaw
- GTC – Bob Torzynski
- HOCTS – Matt VanSlyke
- OCTC – Chad Wade
- PDCTC – Emily Dozier
- SMTC – Danielle Krol
- UCTC - David Staas
- NYSDOT MO – Mary Harding, Cathy Kuzsman
- NYSDOT Regions
 - R2 – Sharon Heyboer
 - R4 – Bruce Cunningham x
 - R6 – Jeff Spencer
 - R7 – Lynn Godek
 - R8 – Jim Rapoli, Lisa Mondello
 - R9 – Mark Bowers
 - R10 – Lanny Wexler
 - R11 – Mark Maglienti
- NYBC – Josh Wilson

1. Review of pressing issues from written summaries

a. Ped Bike counts

i. PTNY automated counts

Reigle reported that Beauvais has been in touch with PTNY. They have been using the Eco-Counter pyroelectric counter for 3 years. They cost about \$2,500 each, and do not differentiate between peds and bikes. Eco-Counter has add-on tube counter for bikes; can subtract from total count to get peds.

Ceponis reported they can also count wildlife, but provide reasonable count estimates on trails.

VanSlyke – HOCTS has 10-15 traffic counters to count FA off-system on 3 year cycle. Thinks tube counters record bikes – will follow up.

Dozier – PDCTC count contractor says even the most sensitive tubes used for traffic counts will pick up no more than half of bikes. Notes an app (Counts Pro) that can enable a cell phone to be used to do manual counts, then download data to Excel.

Josh Wilson provided information on Bike and Walk app for iPhones.

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bike-and-walk/id524254162?mt=8>

Reigle reports that BMTS does manual turning movement counts, includes bikes and peds.

ii. Counters

Reigle reports on his research on automated counters. Used documentation from National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation project as a starting point.

Options include: MioVision, Eco-Counter, TrafX, Econolite. [Jamar device no longer on the market]

Range of capabilities and prices.

For a Shared Cost project, need to answer: How many? How to be shared? Perhaps some in each region of the state. If there is a need to differentiate between peds and bikes, that will govern the choice of counter, price.

Aaron Frankenfeld from A/GFTC will survey the MPO Directors; then back to the Working Group for a recommendation.

Dozier: Notes that some counters have a problem with groups of peds.

Reigle: A separate issue may be purchase of software for analysis, whether that is online or installed. MioVision receives the data, does the analysis for a fee.

Bowers: Is video (MioVision) most accurate?

Gayle: The Directors will want a decision for the upcoming UPWP; do not wait until next WG call to make a recommendation.

Dozier: The National Parks Service in Hyde Park has had some experience with TrafX counter for their trails. The counter they use does not differentiate between bikes and peds, but they use observations to apply percentages to get the split.

ACTION ITEM: Reigle will contact WG members with results of MPO Director survey.

b. Regional Bike Routes

Coordination/connection with NYSDOT. Reigle would like to add this to next year's Work Program. Coordinate with NYSDOT if they are doing an update of Bicycle Pedestrian Plan.

Kuzsman: This has not been determined, they will have to propose a task to Executive Management (focus now is on Freight Plan). She does not know if there will be support for Bike Plan update.

c. Recent best practices

i. Ithaca sidewalk maintenance and liability

FHWA webinar on maintaining pedestrian facilities included a presentation on Ithaca's approach of developing Sidewalk Districts as a revenue mechanism. Is this of interest for March 13 in-person meeting?

There was general interest.

ACTION ITEM: Reigle will follow up with ITCTC.

2. Complete Streets Fact sheet

Gayle reports that they are completed and delivered to the MPOs. An addendum to the original, it focuses on (1) incorporating CS elements in simple paving projects; and (2) accommodating goods movement in Complete Street design and operation.

ACTION ITEM: Gayle will provide link to Cathy Kuzsman to be posted on the NYSDOT CS web page.

3. Work Plan Implementation

- a. Survey of past funding recipients

Krol reported on behalf of the Subcommittee: received many emails, have not been able to add changes. Close to final survey document, in Survey Monkey. Test within MPO offices, then ready. Will need to get list of agencies to send the survey. Use FHWA list of grant recipients, provide email contact information. Will finish within the next week.

ACTION ITEM: Dozier will email FHWA list to WG members to add email contact info.
 - b. Driving exam questions

Reigle reported that Arey submitted a proposed question, which has been distributed. There were 2 other questions developed, but it was agreed to start with this one. Need to develop a letter to DMV – refer to Directors for meeting on 12/20.

ACTION ITEM: Reigle will prepare a draft letter, send to Gayle for Directors agenda. It was suggested and agreed that the draft be shared with Chuck DeWeese of GTSC; he is a member of the Safety Working Group, and deals with NYSDMV regularly.

Wade: Cyclist struck because line of sight of driver was obstructed by HC hang tag.
 VanSlyke: Raises discussion of enforcement of safe passing laws; drivers use obstructed view as reason to dismiss charges
 Wexler: noted that on the DMV website there is some bike/ped info. It is in chapter 11 of DMV Driver Manual. Practice exam also has some bike/ped questions.
 - c. Complete Streets – NYSDOT checklist

Kuzsman reported that there is not a lot to offer, because there have been a large number of comments on the first draft. Internal work group to meet early January to review comments. Internal group discussed including certain types of maintenance projects, similar to the Smart Growth checklist. Another issue is whether to have 2 checklists – one for local projects, one for NYSDOT.

Expect second draft Feb-March.

Van Slyke – who is on internal WG?

Kuzsman: Office of Design; Nancy Alexander, Environmental, Kuzsman (Planning), R1 Planning, Mendoza.

Kuzsman: the internal WG did not originally want to include simple paving projects, but there was a major concern voiced by stakeholders at CS Workshops.
4. Collaboration with Safety Working Group
- Reigle reported: Always look for opportunities. SWG is looking at the ALIS GIS based system for crash data analysis, eg.
5. NYSDOT
- a. TEP

Harding: Regional recommendations in review; hope to announce by year's end. Need to get Commissioner and Governor's approval. Refer any questions to Doug Burgey, Maryanne Mariotti
 - b. TAP

Circulate new Draft TAP guidebook to TAP WG by tomorrow. Based on comments, realign project rating criteria to attachments. Provide breakdowns on rating points. Notes no flexibility on budget – work with OSC. Will include more information on ROW

documentation where acquisition is required, or even if owned by the sponsor. Need to get ROW clearance certificate.

Finalize by end of December, get Executive Management approval to initiate solicitation process.

Working toward a late January announcement, workshops.

Bowers asked if the pre-application optional review is in the guidance. Harding: Yes, in schedule.

Gayle raises question of coordinating workshop schedule with Tom Vaughan for §5310 program, which also requires workshops. They will be doing many of theirs by webinar.

Harding: TAP requires attendance at workshop. Logistics can be a barrier for webinars.

c. Complete Streets Workshops

Kuzsman reported: NYSDOT intends to post a link providing a synthesis of the workshops on its Complete Streets website in January. It will include findings, overarching themes, and concerns; not broken down by workshop.

Follow up has not been determined. Would like to respond to any recommendations that were directed to NYSDOT. The Internal WG likes the idea.

NYSDOT must complete a report by 2014 to Legislature, which will include Workshop findings.

Dozier: Asked if there were highlights.

Kuzsman: Funding, there are those unhappy that there is no designated fund source for CS improvements. Needs to be more collaboration among DOT, MPOs, and municipalities.

Proposed more education for locals, noting that the NYSAMPO Fact Sheets are valuable.

Should include information on Highway Design Manual, bike/ped design sources.

Gayle asked if NYSDOT has looked at NACTO Urban Street Design Guide and Urban Bikeway Design Guide. These have been well-received by the profession as an alternative to the broader AASHTO approach. There could be conflicts if an MPO municipality proposes using the NACTO guides for a FA project.

Kuzsman agrees that NYSDOT will need to examine.

d. Rumble Strip Policy

Design: Policy should be released in early January.

e. Sharrows

Policy not been finalized. Barbara Abrahamer is lead. Cathy will send to Scott, expect final version Jan-Feb. [After the meeting, Cathy sent an email advising that the Shared lane Marking Policy has been approved.]

f. Raised Crosswalk EI

EI-13-018. Approved 8/30/2013. On website www.dot.ny.gov/EIEB

g. Travel Lane & Shoulder Width (Pavement marking)

EI-13-021. EI effective 9/26/13. Includes widening narrow shoulders – over 215 centerline miles with posted speed <= 40 mph. Applies to “qualifying highways” – 2 lane NYS highways.

ACTION ITEM: Kuzsman will distribute policies and EIs.

h. Bike Map printing
No update

6. Work Plan Update

Reigle reports that need to update. Referenced current year, discussed items that can be removed or retained. Proposed adoption at March meeting.

Gayle stated that the Directors would need the Working Group Work Plans sooner, to reference in the UPWPs.

Bowers: Potential task: continued CS training for municipalities. Partnership of MPOs and NYS DOT?

Wexler: Couple of items from 2007 brainstorming list – condition rating for bike routes, sufficiency ratings, signing.

ACTION ITEM: Comments to Reigle by end of month. Draft completed by mid-January

7. 2014 meeting schedules

March 13 – in-person, Elmira

June 12 – teleconference

Sept TBD – in-person

Dec TBD – teleconference

Gayle noted that the MPO Directors may be considering an in-person event in September for all of the Working Groups.

8. Other Business

Wexler: Region 10 is doing a new bike map. Asked if anyone else is doing the same.

Torzynski: GTC will publish in early 2014.

Wexler: Looked at CDTC 2006 edition, liked the strip maps.

Ceponis: CDTC is looking at moving toward online map, apps.

Rapoli: Region 8 also updating, get changes, using GIS platform.

Dozier: Online maps and apps would be a useful item to report at March meeting.