



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

2016-2017 WORKING GROUP WORK PROGRAM

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INTRODUCTION

The New York State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NYSAMPO) established Working Groups a number of years ago as a mechanism to accomplish a number of outcomes:

- Provide topical forums for key planning functions
- Create the opportunity for MPO and NYSDOT staff working in each topical area to develop professional networks through a “community of practice” concept
- Establish an opportunity to share practices, identify training needs, and to collaborate on the development of best practices

As the Working Groups have become well established, some additional benefits have emerged:

- Supporting the NYSAMPO Integrated Planning initiative, often by collaborating among Working Groups on topics of mutual interest
- Formalizing the involvement of additional partner agencies
- Developing Fact Sheets and White Papers, with MPO member agencies as the primary audience
- Reviewing federal rulemaking related to MAP-21 - and now the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act - and preparing responses to the docket on behalf of the MPO Directors
- Using the staff services consultant to arrange for web-based presentations by national experts.

The current Working Groups are:

- Bicycle and Pedestrian
- Climate Change
- Freight
- Geographic Information Systems
- Transportation System Management & Operations
- Modeling
- Safety
- Transit

Each Working Group has developed goals and a work plan. This overall effort has provided more structure to what was initially an ad-hoc approach. The Working Groups now have more focus on structure and products. They are also beginning to identify opportunities where they may collaborate on specific projects. The Working Groups are supported by the NYSAMPO staff services contractor.

What follows are proposed goals and work plans for each of the Working Groups and a matrix that shows potential collaborative activities.

INTEGRATED PLANNING

This ongoing effort is focused on creating opportunities for collaboration among the MPOs and with NYSDOT and other partners to ensure the most efficient and productive use of Federal transportation planning funds. MPOs are funded by the FHWA PL program and the FTA Metropolitan Planning Program. NYSDOT receives FHWA State Planning and Research (SPR) funds. A new partner in the past year is the University Transportation Research Center, which is supported by the USDOT Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA).

The Integrated Planning Action Plan lists the actions that the NYSAMPO Directors intend to accomplish. Many of these utilize the Working Groups as the means of implementation. Examples include the creation of the Transportation Systems Management & Operations Working Group in 2014, and the White Paper “How New York’s MPOs Address Planning for Sustainable Transportation and Sustainable Communities” in 2015.

The NYSAMPO Directors are in the process of updating the Integrated Planning Action Plan for 2016-17. When adopted, it may result in changes to the work plans of some of the Working Groups.

BICYCLE and PEDESTRIAN WORKING GROUP

Goals

- Improve bicycle and pedestrian safety through sharing safety education ideas and projects, helping members plan safety projects, and sharing best practices.
- Provide a forum for sharing bicycle and pedestrian best practices among NYSDOT Regions and MPOs through Working Group meetings and shared emails in order to increase the two modes use as transportation.
- Support the implementation of Complete Streets by NYSDOT and local jurisdictions.
- Work with NYSDOT to review, develop and implement plans, policies, or Engineering Instructions (EIs) that will improve walking and bicycling as a mode option and improve safety.
- Collaborate with State agencies including the Departments of Health, Education, and Motor Vehicles; and the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee; other NYSAMPO Working Groups; as well as with advocacy groups including the New York Bicycling Coalition (NYBC) to involve them in discussions and achieving mutual goals.
- Track State and Federal legislative and regulatory initiatives related to biking and walking; use NYBC as a resource. In this year, a significant element will be learning about the new Federal legislation, FAST.

2016-2017 Tasks

(* New Item this year)

Improve Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety *(This goal is also addressed through additional tasks listed under the other goals below.)*

- Encourage more MPO involvement in bicycle/pedestrian conferences and symposiums, in particular the Walk-Bike NY Symposium.

Provide Forum for Sharing Bicycle and Pedestrian Best Practices

- Meet 4 times per year, whether in person or by conference call.

NYSDOT and MPO Coordination

- Work with NYSDOT to review, develop and implement plans, policies, or Engineering Instructions that affect walking and bicycling.
- Work with NYSDOT on the execution of new round(s) of the FHWA Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).
- Support the implementation of Complete Streets by NYSDOT and local jurisdictions.
 - Develop a Complete Streets Implementation Guide and Training program for local agencies.
 - Work closely with public health community, particularly those locations with “Creating Healthy Places” or “Creating Healthy Schools and Communities” grants from the NYS Department of Health.
 - Share information about projects that have incorporated pedestrian-bicycle elements as models for Complete Streets implementation. Include projects across a number of dimensions, including project size, location (urban, suburban, and rural), and geography across all regions of New York.
 - Create a compilation on how Complete Streets is included in MPO Long Range Plans.
 - Work with NYSDOT to prepare a methodology to apply Complete Streets concepts to

preservation and simple pavement maintenance roadway projects.

- Continue to identify options that MPOs can consider to conduct regular (annual or more frequent) pedestrian and bicycle counts. These may include add-ons to NYSDOT Region traffic count programs and use of the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project guidelines (<http://bikepeddocumentation.org/>) or the FHWA Traffic Monitoring Guidelines – Chapter 4, and share best practices among the MPOs.
- Work with NYSDOT Main Office Bicycle/Pedestrian Unit to print State Bike Route maps/brochures using available SPR funds and have them distributed to MPOs.
- Collaborate with NYSDOT on development of mobile app for navigating State Bike Routes.

Collaboration with State Agencies and other Working Groups

- Work with the Safety Working Group and NYS DMV to encourage updates to the driver’s manual and website, adding state of the practice pavement markings and signs, recent legislation such as the safe passing law, and other pertinent bicycle and pedestrian information.
- * Work with the Safety Working Group on **MPO Safety Education Peer Exchange and Toolkit**. *Most if not all of the MPOs have or are developing their own safety education materials. CDTC has [Capital Coexist](#), PDCTC is working on a ‘Be Street Smart’ marketing/education campaign targeting safe driving, walking & bicycling behaviors (roll out planned in 2016). The SWG and BPWG project would catalog all of the MPO campaigns (as well as those of our partner agencies), review them for what was effective and not effective and possibly lead to the development of a toolkit of images/slogans/materials that all the MPOs could use or adapt for their use.*
- *Coordinate and be consistent with NYSDOT’s upcoming Public Education and Pedestrian Safety campaign.*
- Work with NYBC, NYSDOT, and other agencies to pursue a report on the economic benefit of bicycling and walking. A list of reports about the economic impacts of walking and biking are available on the NYSAMPO website.

Track Federal and State Legislation (Collaborate with NYBC as a resource)

- Track State legislative and regulatory initiatives related to biking and walking.
 - Support efforts to legalize [e-bike](#) use in public roadways through New York State Senate bill 1357 (<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2011/s1357>) that defines the term electric assisted bicycle.
- Track federal transportation rulemaking and performance measures related to walking and bicycling, and provide input to the NYSAMPO Directors as appropriate.
- * Discuss the bicycle and pedestrian elements of the FAST Act and approaches being used toward execution of the legislation.

2016-17 Meeting Schedule

(Specific dates are subject to change.)

- Teleconference: Thursday, June 9, 10AM – 12PM
- In-person Meeting: September (**Meet during Walk-Bike NY 2016 [Sept. 13 or 14] in Syracuse**)
- Teleconference: Thursday, December 8, 10AM – 12PM
- In-person Meeting: Thursday, March 9, 2017 10AM – 4PM at CDTC in Albany

2015-2016 Accomplishments

- Meetings:
 - In-person: March 12 (Syracuse-SMTC) & September 10 (Kingston-UCTC)
 - Teleconference: June 11 & December 10
- Special presentations were given at the in-person meetings:
 - March 12:
 - Sidewalk Portion of Onondaga County Sustainable Streets Project (Aaron McKeon, SMTC)
 - September 10:
 - The Economic Impact of the Erie Canalway Trail. (Jamie Meerdink, Parks & Trails NY)
 - NYBC Update and Action Plans (Paul Winkeller, NYBC Executive Director)
 - Bike Depots/Protected Bike Parking (Justin Smith, NYBC)
- Participated in the planning of Walk-Bike NY 2016, which will take place on September 13-14 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Syracuse, NY.
- Promoted, and some MPO and NYSDOT staff attended the New York Highway Safety Annual Fall Symposium, which took place in Binghamton, NY on October 18-21.
- MPOs and NYSDOT Regions produced written updates on local activities. These updates were made available to the Working Group before the in-person meetings to allow members to review and choose items to discuss at the meetings. The updates are archived on the NYSAMPO website.
- Working Group Collaboration:
- Developed and completed a **fact sheet on bicycle and pedestrian laws** for the general public, in collaboration with the Safety Working Group. An electronic version of the fact sheet is posted on the NYSAMPO and NYSDOT websites and is available for MPOs and any others interested to post on their respective websites. Printed copies were made for distribution to the public. During the last quarter of 2015, a second printing was initiated.
- Provided comments to NYSDOT for relevant EIs and policies
- Provided comments on the Complete Streets Checklist.
- Provided comments to NYSDOT regarding its Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP). Working Group and MPO representatives participated in the PSAP Workshop at CDTC in Albany on January 21-22.
- Decided not to pursue adding bike and pedestrian questions to the DMV Drivers Manual and pool of test questions. Alternatively, the Working Group is investigating how to add state of the practice pavement markings, including education on shared lane markings, bike lane coloring, the safe passing law, and other information to the driver manual and website.
- During September 2015, the Working Group closed out the internet-based survey for past recipients of funds from federal pedestrian-bicycle programs (TEP, SRTS, TAP, etc.). The survey results will highlight the quantitative and qualitative impact of the funding on local communities. MPOs received and took the survey on a voluntary basis. The results are being tabulated and should be complete by the Working Group's March 2016 meeting.
- MPOs and NYSDOT Regions are continuing to share information on their respective automated and manual bike and pedestrian counting methods. It was determined that NYSDOT Counting contracts do have an option to request pedestrian and bicycle counts.

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

Goals

- Provide a forum for sharing best practices among the MPOs and with state, federal, and other planning partners regarding climate change mitigation, adaptation, and sustainability.
- Identify and showcase potential transportation initiatives, programs, and strategies that MPOs can use to address climate change or sustainability. Give special attention to items with statewide applicability, and/or concepts in which the scope and scale can be adapted to apply to various MPOs. Further identify which of these measures provide co-benefits such as reducing criteria pollutants or congestion or improving livability.
- Provide NYSAMPO input to potential regional, state, or federal planning processes or legislation that address climate change and sustainability in New York State.
- Collaborate with NYSDOT, the Transportation Systems Management and Operations Working Group, and the Modeling Working Group in reviewing methods for estimating and forecasting transportation GHG emissions for TIP and LRTP performance measures.
- Engage with partners and stakeholders, including NYSDOT, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to stay informed about ongoing statewide climate change and sustainability efforts.
 - Explore ways to strengthen ties with NYSDEC to further communication and cooperation regarding implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act (CRRA) and other efforts.
 - Explore feasibility of a roundtable/in-person meeting to foster discussion of sustainability among state partners.

2016-2017 Emerging Issues/Discussion Topics

- Infrastructure resilience in the face of climate change. Include adaptation techniques and network analyses for resilience planning. [Note that resilience is a new planning factor in the FAST Act]
- Connected and autonomous vehicle technology
- Shifting trends in VMT
- Operations and management strategies, such as signal timing, that improve travel efficiency and have the potential to reduce GHG emissions and energy consumptions
- The potential use of ridesharing and other Active Travel Demand techniques to reduce GHG emissions
- Sustainable land use strategies, such as Transit-Oriented Development, which have a positive impact on GHG emissions

2016-2017 Tasks

- Schedule quarterly phone or web conferences for 1:30 p.m. on the third Wednesdays in May, August, November, and February.

- Provide 2 to 3 web/phone presentations per year during Working Group meetings, depending on availability. (Potential topics include GTC Finger Lakes Critical Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessment; other topics TBA)
- Post relevant resources to Working Group website on an ongoing basis
- Target the development of 1 to 2 White Papers or Fact Sheets.(Potential topics for joint fact sheet: CV/AV technology
- Conference presentations
- Provide comment letters on behalf of the Working Group/NYSAMPO as needed.

2015-16 Accomplishments

- Finalized White Paper on MPO initiatives regarding Planning for Sustainable Transportation and Sustainable Communities
- Provided presentations of emerging topics and projects of note:
 - NEPA Guidance for GHG emissions
 - New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYSEFC): Green Infrastructure Grant Program
 - Coordinated NYSAMPO conference presentation (Transportation Sustainability: Three Perspectives)

FREIGHT WORKING GROUP

Goals

- Knowledge Transfer: Provide a forum for improving freight planning by MPOs through training and capacity building
- Integration: Assist in integrating freight into MPO planning practice
- Coordination: Support communication among the MPOs, NYSDOT, and other partners to share practice
- Public Outreach: Assist in communicating freight policy and practice to the public audience
- New York State Freight Transportation Plan: Provide input on behalf of the state's MPOs

2016-2017 Tasks

- Knowledge Transfer
 - Distribute monthly Freight Working Group E-Newsletter (News on logistics industry, legislation, FAST Act, etc.)
 - Quarterly FWG conference call/web meetings
 - Participate at the FHWA Peer to Peer Program (if offered)
 - Attending advanced Transearch training if/when offered
 - Include a freight facility site visit as part of the meeting schedule; in the spring (possibly Norfolk Southern RR Mechanicville intermodal terminal; or Port of Oswego)
- Integration
 - Continue to attend FHWA presentations on Freight Analysis Framework (FAF) and the development of National Freight Model
 - Participate in the FHWA Talking Freight series of webinars
 - Monitoring Federal Freight Performance Measures rulemaking
 - Discuss FAST Act Freight provisions and guidance
- Coordination
 - Update the in-person meeting schedule as needed
 - Improve NYSAMPO Freight WG webpage
 - Review and provide comments on the draft documents and final report from the NY State Freight Transportation Plan
- Public Outreach
 - Improving information on NYSAMPO Freight WG webpage including information on freight and logistics, urban goods movement, and emerging trends
 - Provide a link to NYSDOT freight network web atlas
- NYS Freight Transportation Plan
 - Act as a key stakeholder group to share the MPO perspective with NYSDOT and the plan developers (RSG)
 - Receive briefings on plan activities and status via NYSDOT participation in calls
 - Providing additional regional freight stakeholder contacts if requested
 - Provide input on designation of Critical Urban Freight Network segments

2015-2016 Accomplishments

- Conducted two multi-day multi-MPO freight conferences that included field observations and MPO discussions on respective activities, projects and regional developments.
- Conducted quarterly teleconferences covering a wide variety of topics including freight data, State height and weight policies, federal freight resources, federal freight policies and MPO freight activities.
- Continued to enhance the NYSAMPO freight webpage.
- Added freight planning resources to members' planning tool box.
- Shared training opportunities and articles of interest among FWG members - a worthwhile benefit that has stemmed from the Working Group.
- Participated in FHWA Talking Freight on line presentations.
- RSG emailed relevant articles and informational updates.

GIS WORKING GROUP

Goals

- Knowledge Transfer: Utilize in-person meetings as the primary means.
- Data Collection and Analysis: Share techniques for successful data collection and analytics.
- Coordination: Utilize the group as a forum for coordination with partners.
- Software: Ensure software consistency in GIS applications.
- Training: Identify training opportunities.

2016-2017 Work Plan

- Knowledge Transfer: Meet in person twice a year (historically this has been in late spring and the fall)
 - Incorporate discussions about best practices for using GIS software packages and algorithms
 - Consider additional conference calls and other communications as appropriate
- Data Collection and Analysis: Share techniques for successful data collection and analytics.
 - Data sources may include traffic counts, pavement condition reporting, crash records, and travel demand surveys.
 - As performance based planning is being rolled out by FHWA as a result of MAP-21 requirements, GIS technology is poised to actively assist in the data analysis effort. Sharing methods and ideas on how to spatially manage and measure various elements of system performance over time will be an ongoing effort of this group.
- Coordination: Utilize the group as a forum for coordination with partners.
 - Other NYSAMPO Working Groups including Safety, Bicycle/Pedestrian, and others on GIS-related efforts, as needed.
 - Ensure data flow from NYSDOT is as efficient and complete as possible by monitoring changes to NYSDOT's data procedures and working with NYSDOT staff to understand data availability and archiving
- Software: Ensure software consistency that results from NYSDOT continuing to provide all MPOs with ArcInfo and ArcView licenses and extensions. These add functionality to our GIS software. Consider ArcGIS Online licensing.
- Training: Regularly poll members and identify training needs. If a need is identified, send a proposal to the Directors for a potential shared cost initiative. This may include vendor-based training on significant changes to ESRI Arc software.

MODELING WORKING GROUP

Goals

- Facilitate a network of colleagues to encourage sharing of ideas and questions about modeling on an informal basis throughout the year.
- Hold at least four meetings per year. At least one meeting will be an in-person meeting, other meetings will be teleconference or web conference meetings. Substitute teleconference meetings with an in person meeting when agendas warrant. Invite partners from NYSDOT and other agencies to meetings to present and discuss data and modeling applications.
- Evaluate data needs for the Integrated Planning effort for the NYSAMPO Directors. Facilitate data coordination among the MPOs and with NYSDOT.
- Share several interesting modeling application presentations at each in person meeting to spur creative thinking throughout the modeling community towards the broader use of our modeling tools. MPO models are being used in a variety of ways beyond basic conformity/LRTP modeling.
- Share best practices related to air quality and greenhouse gas emission modeling/estimation.

2016-2017 Tasks

- Integrated Planning: Facilitate data coordination among MPOs and with NYSDOT and other data partners (e.g. TMCs) to improve modeling, planning, and the development and tracking of performance measures.
 - Travel Data - NYSDOT's UTRC Initiative: This initiative will provide an archive and web based tool to access the National Performance Management Research Data Set (NPMRDS) data with UTRC assistance. The University at Albany AVAIL (Albany Visualization and Informatics Lab) has been under contract with NYSDOT for this task. The Modeling Working Group (MWG) is serving as an advisory committee to NYSDOT as this task progresses. The MWG will work with NYSDOT to develop integrated planning applications based on speed and performance data for MPO planning.
 - Freight Data: The MWG will discuss and evaluate emerging opportunities for freight modeling. The MWG will continue to coordinate with the Freight Working Group with respect to freight data for integrated planning.
 - VMT Growth Trends: Through research and dialogue, the MWG will develop an understanding of current trends in VMT growth and implications for MPO modeling and forecasting of travel. Reversing long term previous trends, VMT per capita had been declining nationally, while absolute VMT growth has been slowing in New York State MPOs. This trend reversed in 2015 with national VMT growing at record levels.
 - Traffic Counts: The MWG will work with NYSDOT and the GIS Working Group to develop a format for traffic counts that can be readily integrated into MPO databases.
- Collaborate with Other Working Groups. The MWG will collaborate with NYSDOT, the Transportation Systems Management and Operations Working Group, and the Climate Change Working Group in estimating and forecasting transportation GHG emissions for TIP and RTP performance measures. Explore emerging trends and data sources, including:
 - Connected and autonomous vehicle technology
 - Declining per capita trends in VMT
 - Operations and management strategies, such as signal timing
- Web Page. The MWG will provide a web page restricted to NYSAMPO staff to share modeling practice presentations.

- Training. The MWG will identify training needs and opportunities in modeling and air quality, for example training in use and applications of EPA’s new MOVES model. The MWG will explore opportunities for RSG to help provide training and tools through in-person trainings at meetings, a clearinghouse on the website, etc.

2015-16 Accomplishments:

- Travel Data- NYSDOT’s UTRC Initiative: The MWG held seven teleconference meetings and one in-person meeting in 2015 to review and discuss the development of the NPMRDS Web Tool being developed by the AVAIL team. The MWG serves as an advisory committee for this effort. The NPMRDS Web Tool is nearing completion. This effort represents a significant collaboration between NYSDOT and the MWG on using this important data set for integrated planning.
- National Household Travel Survey: The MWG was asked by NYSDOT to review proposed questions for inclusion in the 2015 NHTS. MWG members submitted comments. This was a follow-up to significant involvement of the MWG in the NYSDOT development of a sampling plan for the NHTS in 2014.
- Freight Data: Colin Smith of RSG presented recent and ongoing work on freight data as part of the development of CDTC Freight Plan and the New York State Freight Plan. This included discussion of commodity flow data such as the FHWA’s FAF data and the Transearch data base that NYSDOT purchased for the NYS Freight Transportation Plan. The presentation included an example set of maps and charts produced from the Transearch data for the Plan.
- Changing Per Capita Trends in VMT: Chris O’Neill gave a presentation showing the latest VMT time series data that showed a recent upturn in the trend after several years of decreases in total and per capita VMT. The Working Group discussed this in relation to recent changes in the economy and gas prices, and also discussed incorporating scenario testing into the planning process, as CDTC has done.
- Sharing of Innovative Practices and Best Practices among Peers: Colin Smith of RSG made available a recent study published by TRB, *Strategic Issues Facing Transportation, Volume 6: The Effects of Socio-Demographics on Future Travel Demand*, published as [NCHRP Report 750](#), which included the development of a scenario planning tool called Impacts 2050. The sharing of practices and experiences with data, modeling and related planning applications is an ongoing accomplishment of the working group. The promotion of good communication and collaboration with NYSDOT offices, especially with respect to a variety of data sources and integrated planning, has been an especially noteworthy accomplishment.

SAFETY WORKING GROUP

Goals

- Work Group Meetings
 - Conduct monthly teleconferences and at least one in-person meeting to exchange information and ideas related to multi-modal safety planning on all public roads in New York State.
 - Work with RSG to identify best practice presentations from practitioners both within and outside New York. Presentations on topics of interest will be arranged during Safety Working Group teleconference calls and in-person meetings.
- Safety Partnerships/Coordination
 - Continue to work with NYSDOT on the Pedestrian, Intersection, and Lane Departure Safety Action Plans and the update of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan.
 - Collaborate with NYSDOT on implementing safety performance measures (federal Final Rule tentatively scheduled for release in February 2016) and supporting data systems subsequent to promulgation of the Final Rule. Coordinate with MAP-21/FAST Working Group.
 - Continue coordination with the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee on development and implementation of plans and programs for public education in the area of human factors, driver behavior, and pedestrian and cyclist behavior.
 - Work with safety partners on the four E's of safety (engineering, enforcement, education, and emergency services) by communicating and coordinating with the NYS Association of Traffic Safety Boards, local TSB's, Cornell Local Roads Program, and others.
 - Coordinate with other NYSAMPO working groups on overlapping safety related topics.
- Legislation
 - Review the new federal surface transportation authorization bill (FAST Act) and FHWA/FTA guidance related to safety topics.
 - Continue to monitor State transportation related safety law proposals and enactments.
- Training
 - Identify training needs and opportunities for both MPO staff and MPO members on safety related topics. New Training requested by SWG include:
 - Accident Location Information System (ALIS): NYSDOT will deliver training in early 2016.
 - Speed Management Workshop – National Highway Instituted (NHI): FHWA is working with NHI to develop materials for a one-day speed management training course consisting of four modules: Module 1—speed management overview (2-hour); Module 2 – Speed management for roadway departure safety (1.5-hour); Module 3 – speed management for Intersection safety (1.5-hour); and Module 4 – speed management for pedestrian and bicyclist safety (1.5-hour). New York State would be a pilot state for the training.
 - Low Cost Safety Improvements (FHWA): FHWA resource center may be able to provide training on this topic at no cost and focused on New York State. The course helps to equip the target audience with the knowledge and skills needed to analyze crash data, identify crash patterns, and select appropriate “low cost” countermeasures. ECTC is particularly interested.
- Data
 - Crash Data: Participate on behalf of NYSAMPO in the NYS Traffic Records Coordinating Council and provide input on the development and refinement of crash databases including the Accident Location Information System (ALIS) and the Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research (ITSMR)'s Public Crash Database.

- Speed Data Collaboration: Coordinate among the MPOs to identify or develop a methodology to be used for system level screening to discover corridors with high end speeders. NYSDOT may have a model for MPO use. There is also the potential to collaborate with the GIS WG.
- Strategic Highway Safety Plan Implementation Inventory: Develop a best practice or post implementation inventory related to the state’s Strategic Highway Safety Plan emphasis areas (particularly pedestrian, intersection and lane departure crash locations). The inventory would be modeled after NYC’s approach of evaluating projects post implementation to highlight strategies or projects with successful outcomes.
- Education/Outreach
 - Website: Update the NYSAMPO Safety Working Group webpage and provide resource materials and links to important safety related information.
 - MPO Safety Education Peer Exchange and Toolkit: Most, if not all, of the MPOs have or are developing their own safety education materials. CDTC has [Capital Coexist](#), PDCTC is working on a ‘Be Street Smart’ marketing/education campaign targeting safe driving, walking & bicycling behaviors (roll out planned in 2016). The SWG, working with the Bike/PedWG, project would catalog all of the MPO campaigns (as well as those of our partner agencies), review them for what was effective and not effective and possibly lead to the development of a toolkit of images/slogans/materials that all the MPOs could use or adapt for their use. The project would coordinate and be consistent with NYSDOT’s upcoming Public Education and Pedestrian Safety campaign.
 - White Paper on Future Technology and Safety: History has shown that some of the largest gains in traffic safety have been through improvements in motor vehicle technology. Will connected and automated vehicles do the same? What should MPOs be aware of with respect to public investment in infrastructure? What about technologies like coordinated signals and variable speed limit signs? SWG would coordinate with the Climate Change, TSMO and Modeling Working Groups.
- New Fact Sheet Ideas
 - Speed Management Tools and Techniques (general audience): Using the FHWA Speed Management Toolkit, the information shared in the Speed Management Training Course and other reference materials, create a factsheet that highlights countermeasures that influence travel speeds. Topics could include road design and traffic calming countermeasures, pavement treatments, markings, and signs, traffic speed management and operations measures and enforcement and publicity measures.
 - Targeted Factsheets on Innovative Transportation Designs and How to Use Them: With many innovative design techniques being implemented on NYS roadways, drivers can be confused about what to do and how to use them, leading to poor or no compliance. Examples include navigating roundabouts, how to drive through an intersection with red light cameras, how to react to a hybrid pedestrian beacon, etc. This factsheet would educate drivers and other roadways users on how to use new transportation infrastructure with direct references to existing educational materials.

2015-16 Accomplishments

- Held eight conference calls to share updates on current safety planning activities and best practices. Calls included representatives from NYSDOT, GTSC, NHTSA, FHWA, Cornell Local Roads and ITSMR, as well as the MPOs. Presentations included:
 - NYSDOT Intersection Safety Plan (January)
 - NYCDOT Vision Zero Safety Initiatives (March)
 - GBNRTC Safety Performance Measures and Systemic Planning (June)

- Participated in the NYSAMPO Conference by organizing a safety session focused on the [NYS Safety Action Plans](#) and presented on Safety Performance Measures as part of the Performance Based Planning Session.
- Coordinated with the Bicycle/Pedestrian Working Group on the development of a Pedestrian and Bicycle Laws Factsheet.
- Continued to review products and offer comments to NYSDOT on materials for the Intersection and Pedestrian Safety Action Plans.
- Hosted FHWA trainings at two MPOs for Designing Pedestrian Safe Streets (in coordination with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group) and a workshop on Intersection and Interchange Geometrics (IIG).
- Participated on a small working group that provided feedback on the development of the Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research's web-based Public Crash Database.
- Participated on the NYS Traffic Records Coordinating Council which updated the FFY 2016 Traffic Safety Information Systems Strategic Plan.
- Provided feedback to NYSDOT on the development of intersection attribute data and intersection related crash data queries within the Accident Location Information System as part of NYSDOT's effort to develop crash rates and identify intersection high crash locations.
- Coordinated with NYSDOT on the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) statewide solicitation for FFY 2016-2020.
- Continued as a member of the NYS Association of Traffic Safety Boards, serving as Engineering Committee Chair.

TRANSIT WORKING GROUP

Goal

- Review proposed state and federal legislation, regulations, and rulemakings and provide input to the NYSAMPO Directors for their knowledge and potential action
- Promote coordination of transit planning and programming activities among MPOs, New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), Transit Providers, and FTA staff
- Promote knowledge transfer among the MPOs on transit planning activities

2016-2017 Tasks

- Conduct teleconferences at least four times per year with in-person meetings if and when needed.
- Work with NYSDOT to facilitate rollout of next round of the FTA Section 5310 Program.
- Review and comment on the Transit Performance Measures and statewide targets set by NYSDOT (if any) and potential approaches to integrate statewide measures and targets with MPO planning activities and MPO-adopted plans.
- Review and comment on proposed/enacted Transit-related changes to MAP-21 in the FAST Act transportation authorization bill.
- Share experience/information on Medicaid non-emergency transportation issues with respect to trip assignment and fiscal impacts on transit systems and services.
- Discuss the potential application of the FTA “Ladders of Opportunity” planning emphasis area to the updating of existing Coordinated Plans, Transportation Plans, and other Transit Planning activities (e.g., the development of analytical approaches to identify connectivity gaps, measures of accessibility, and underserved areas).
- Identify and discuss data sources that support the integration of transit planning activities and the overall transportation planning process such as the EPA Smart Location Database, Open Data NY, and the Census ACS 5-Year data sets.
- Develop fact sheet(s) on Transit (general overview for communities) and/or corridor-specific transit and land use integration strategies (e.g., BRT, BRT-Light, LRT) for areas that might be considering implementation.
- Discuss the implications of ride-hailing applications such as Uber on transit services, and their potential use in mobility management.
- Discuss ongoing and transit-related enhancements to the NY511 System.
- Share and discuss current and developing practice on:
 - Mobility Management including development of Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plans.
 - Transit Planning in MPO Long Range Transportation Plans.
 - Transit operator involvement in scoping and planning improved pedestrian access to transit stops and stations (including Americans with Disability Act Transition Plan considerations for local municipalities).
 - Coordination between MPO and Transit Providers in setting performance targets for capital assets for including in LRTPs when required.

2015-16 Accomplishments

- Conducted teleconferences during August, and December 2015.
- Reviewed and provided Directors with comments on FTA State of Good Repair/Safety Improvement Notice of Proposed Rule Making.

- Provided comments and suggestions to assist NYSDOT with the design of, and the review of content incorporated into, the FTA Section 5310 Solicitation Application Site.
- Assisted NYSDOT in conducting site assurance testing for the FTA Section 5310 Solicitation Application Site (usability testing of the SharePoint platform).
- Provided a forum for discovery, discussion, and understanding of transit funding apportionment and allocation (from federal to state to transit providers and MPOs).
- Developed materials for presentation at, and organized, Ladders of Opportunity and Transit and Mobility Management sessions at June 2015 NYSAMPO Conference.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS WORKING GROUP

Goals

The Transportation Systems Management & Operations Working Group’s Vision Statement is: “To serve as a forum for statewide coordination and collaboration on Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) strategies and initiatives.”

Specific goals include:

- TSMO Knowledge Transfer
- TSMO Policy Coordination
- TSMO Planning Coordination
- Long Range Transportation Plans
- Congestion Management Process

2016-2017 Tasks

- TSMO Knowledge Transfer: Provide a venue for transferring Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) knowledge, experiences, and best practices among members and partners. Working Group meetings will be held via conference calls. In addition to regularly scheduled conference calls, distribute pertinent information (TSMO-related publications, training opportunities, etc.) to members via e-mail.
 - Action: Hold regularly scheduled WG conference calls.
 - Products: Conference call materials, including agendas, minutes, and handouts.
 - Action: Periodically distribute TSMO informational resources, including websites, publications, and training opportunities, to members.
 - Action: Member agencies will host training sessions for MPO staff and other interested stakeholders on technical topics related to TSMO programs and activities.
 - Products: Workshops, seminars, and other technical training sessions with associated training materials.
- TSMO Policy Coordination: Provide commentary on Federal and New York State TSMO and congestion management-related policies, initiatives, and legislation to NYSAMPO Directors.
 - Action: Prepare comment letters on behalf of the Working Group for consideration by the NYSAMPO Directors on an as-needed basis.
 - Product: Comment letters addressing the anticipated impacts of Federal and New York State TSMO and congestion management-related policies, initiatives, and legislation on MPO TSMO planning programs and activities.
- TSMO Planning Coordination: Facilitate a uniform approach to planning for operations among member agencies by coordinating TSMO-related planning initiatives across regions, promoting a uniform approach where feasible and practical. As part of this effort, support member agency efforts to implement TSMO-related projects, especially those of statewide and/or inter-regional significance.
 - Action: Develop White Papers/Fact Sheets on key TSMO-related topics that MPOs, NYSDOT, NYSTA, and other stakeholders can use when developing their strategic planning documents.

- Products: White Paper on the integration of Connected/Autonomous Vehicles planning considerations into MPO policy and strategic planning documents. This White Paper would be developed in collaboration with several other NYSAMPO Working Groups (Modeling, Safety, Freight) due to the broad applicability of Connected/Autonomous Vehicle technology on the state's transportation system.
- Long Range Transportation Plans: Support member MPO efforts to integrate TSMO-supportive commentary and recommendations into their Long Range Transportation Plans. Potential considerations include commentary on the benefits of TSMO initiatives, the importance of interagency coordination and collaboration, the identification of the capabilities that regional TSMO partners want to develop and the associated ITS field instrumentation deployments needed to support those capabilities.
 - Action: Provide TSMO resources for member agencies to use when revising/updating their LRTPs.
 - Product: Fact Sheet listing key TSMO-supportive concepts for MPOs to consider integrating into their LRTP.
 - Action: Review and comment on member agency draft TSMO-related materials on an as-needed basis.
- Congestion Management Process (CMP): Support member agency efforts to integrate TSMO-oriented congestion management strategies into their CMP, including the use of performance measures to monitor congestion and inform those strategies.
 - Action: Provide TSMO resources for member agencies to use when revising/updating their CMPs.
 - Product: Fact Sheet discussing key TSMO-oriented congestion management strategies for MPOs to consider integrating into their CMP.
 - Action: Review and comment on member agency draft CMP-related materials on an as-needed basis.