



## NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs SAFETY WORKING GROUP

January 17, 2018

Teleconference

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

### MEETING NOTES

#### **Participating**

- AGFTC – Jack Mance
- BMTS – Cyndi Paddick
- CDTC – Sandy Misiewicz
- DCTC – Emily Dozier
- ECTC – Mike Perry
- GBNRTC – Hector Boggio
- GTC – Alex Kone
- NYMTC – Sherry Southe
- UCTC – David Staas
- NYSDOT – Mike Flynn
- NYSDOT – Regina Doyle
- NYSDOT – Geoffrey Wood
- NYSDMV – Chuck DeWeese
- FHWA – Emmett McDevitt
- ITSMR – Renee Varone
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember

#### **1. Introductions**

Sandy Misiewicz opened the meeting and the participants introduced themselves.

#### **2. Meeting Notes**

The December 20, 2017 meeting notes were accepted with no changes.

#### **3. TRB Annual Meeting Debrief**

Sandy Misiewicz: Sandy and Alex Kone attended last week in Washington. There were two sessions to note. The first session was on performance-based planning and programming. There was a discussion on two measures: safety and transit asset management, regarding the next steps related to the metropolitan planning rule (discussed further in the agenda). The expectation in the initial reporting year is to provide a qualitative assessment on how a project or program would benefit/support performance measures for safety. The second session of interest was on managing speed on low-speed urban streets. Sandy will send the SWG the relevant PPT information, when available, about the update for the HSM (Chapter 12) and updates to IHSDM regarding new economic analysis tools ([www.ihsdm.org](http://www.ihsdm.org)). Also, the State of the Union will include discussion of the infrastructure bill. It seems like it will be a \$200-billion-dollar program restricted in scope – perhaps requiring more matching funds and encouraging P3 partnerships.

#### 4. Metropolitan Planning Requirements

Sandy Misiewicz: The final rule was enacted in May 2016. The MPO agreements with NYSDOT and transit agencies for performance measures and data sharing agreements need to be worked out. As of May 2018, all safety performance measures items will be in effect. If you make a change to the TIP (and STIP), you will have to have a qualitative statement on how the project relates to the safety performance measures. Similar requirements for transit asset performance measures will take effect as of October 1, 2018. Alex will be doing research on what this means for the MPOs and TIP development in 2018-2019. He wanted to bring it to the group's attention and it will continue to be an agenda item. We will reach out to state and FHWA partners regarding this issue. Sandy will forward some information from AMPO via email. The link to the federal register document is:

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-05-27/pdf/2016-11964.pdf>

#### 5. Work Plan Discussion Items

##### a. 2018 Work Plan Update

Sandy Misiewicz: The Work Plan includes the same goals as last year and the following task categories for the 2018-2019 year: Work Group Meetings, Participate in Statewide Safety Planning Initiatives, Collaborate with Safety Partners, Training, Data, and Education and Outreach. Kathy Ember: We received one set of comments so far and will be adding a potential FHWA training opportunity to the Work Plan. Please send any comments by Friday.

##### b. PSAP Update Local Project Solicitation Status

- Geoffrey Wood: The FHWA Memo from December 21<sup>st</sup> revoked the interim approval for Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs). The MUTCD does not allow patented devices and there is a patent issue. RRFBs are no longer MUTCD-compliant and can no longer be installed. NYSDOT is working on next steps related to this issue. RRFBs under existing construction projects are permitted, provided the materials were ordered before the December memo was released. We are currently trying to figure out options. LED perimeter signs don't have NYSDOT specifications yet, but they are available in the marketplace. The likely replacement, which is MUTCD-compliant, is conventional flashing beacons on the same pole where the RRFB would have gone. That's where things stand now. Will have more details in the next several weeks.
- Sandy Misiewicz: Regarding a funded project without a contract, does this mean they can no longer use an RRFB even if it was included in the project proposal? Geoffrey Wood: Yes, that is correct. Sandy Misiewicz: Regarding the local solicitation, what should be in the application? Geoffrey Wood: I believe Regina sent out a follow-up regarding this issue. The message indicated that the RRFBs are not allowed and the options are LED perimeter signs or conventional flashing beacons. You can check the RRFB box and the appropriate substitute will be fundable. Sandy Misiewicz: How do the cost estimates compare? Geoffrey Wood: There would be 4 12-inch LED flashing beacons instead of 2 RRFB units but they are hoping the cost will be comparable. Sandy Misiewicz: Should there be a cushion to their cost estimates to account for the unknowns? Geoffrey Wood: It wouldn't hurt. Everyone is disappointed about this, but it is out of NYSDOT's control. Sandy Misiewicz: I can forward questions to Geoff as they come up.

- Regina Doyle: RRFB is the only new thing and as a reminder, applications are due on March 9<sup>th</sup>. I will note that on the application form there was a list of municipalities missing and this form has been fixed and it will be updated in the next few days on the website. One other item regarding the check-in call – we will be on the agenda for the MPO Directors call for February 9<sup>th</sup>, the RPPM call on January 24<sup>th</sup> and the RLPO call at NYSDOT.
  - Sandy Misiewicz: What flexibility do the NYSDOT regions have with altering the PSAP guidance? What if a region views this program differently than what is in the guidance document? Sandy to follow-up with Geoff Wood.
- c. PSAP Evaluation Subcommittee  
Sandy Misiewicz: We have a small subcommittee to develop a tool (a checklist to help review projects). We presented the outline to the Directors who concurred with it, if it was an optional tool. It was sent out yesterday. The criteria include the following: pedestrian crash history, pedestrian exposure, cost estimate, appropriateness of countermeasures, safety benefits of proposed countermeasures. Other considerations include inter-municipal projects and whether the location/community has received complaints. It is set up as a Yes/No checklist to guide the review process. Please send comments by Friday so that we can get it on the agenda for the Directors call for February 9<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Alex, Emily, Jack, and Kathy for their help putting the tool together.
- d. NYSDOT Safety Data Integration Project.  
Sandy Misiewicz: Any new information today? Regina Doyle: There is no update. NYSDOT is waiting for OSC approval for the budget – it is anticipated that the project will have a February start.
- e. NYS Strategic Highway Safety Plan Fact Sheet.  
Kathy Ember: We met as a subcommittee and are developing content and the look of the fact sheet which follows the Freight Fact Sheet design. We will have another subcommittee meeting and provide a draft for the Working Group to review during the next meeting.
- f. SMTC Bike Safety PSA Project Update  
Sandy Misiewicz: We are aiming to have the PSA run during Bike Month in May through GTSC's media buy. We plan to request to present at the MPO Directors meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup> and seek approval for an as yet-to-be-determined amount of funding for editing and adding logos to the PSA.

## 6. Partner Updates

- a. NYSDOT: No additional report.
- b. ITSMR: Renee Varone: The TSSR continues to be updated. The preliminary crash data will be entered starting in March. ITSMR has a new off-site database system and a particular port needs to be assigned by your office IT staff in order to access the system. Information on getting access to the site can be found on the FAQ page. Have the MPOs noticed a difference since the move? Sandy Misiewicz: It is running quicker than before. Emily Dozier: What is the fix? Renee Varone: Sometimes an IT administrator blocks certain ports. Ask them to open to port 8343. Emily Dozier: Should

we use a particular browser? Renee Varone: Chrome works and all other browsers work as well. Please contact me if you have any trouble.

GTSC: Chuck DeWeese: Renee sent fatality numbers for 2017. They are down 9.8% in 2016 and a reduction of 2-3% in 2017 (preliminary numbers) – a continued downward trend. This is probably due to pedestrian safety action plan and work with Vision Zero in New York City. There are a few summits in 2018: Walk-Bike Summit, March 28-29; traffic safety summit for Native American reservations; and a motorcycle safety summit in August. Let GTSC know if you are interested in safety planning related to horse and buggies. The next Traffic Records Coordinating Council meeting is next Friday.

- c. Cornell Local Roads Program: No report.
- d. NHTSA: No report.
- e. FHWA: No report.
- f. NYSATSB: Sandy Misiewicz: We received the meeting notes. Our dues are due. The next meeting is February 1<sup>st</sup>. There are changes in regional reps throughout the state so there is a new board and it is a good time to reach out to regional reps. Sandy is staying as chair of the Engineering Committee. See website for more information.

## **7. Other Topics**

Sandy Misiewicz: Regarding the SHSP – are there plans to track emphasis area data annually or will it only be every 5 years? Regina Doyle: We will look into developing progress results and crash data trends for each of the areas annually.

## **8. Training/Conferences**

- a. March 28-29, 2018: Walk-Bike NY 2018 (Schenectady, NY)

## **9. 2018 Meeting Schedule**

Sandy Misiewicz: We will reschedule the February meeting to avoid Presidents Week and it will be held on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Also, we are looking to meet with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Working group at Walk-Bike NY. Please let us know if you are interested in attending.

## **Action Items**

The following were noted for follow-up:

- All: Comments on the Draft Work Plan and Draft PSAP evaluation tool are due by January 19<sup>th</sup>.
- All: Please let us know if you can make the potential in-person meeting with the Bike and Pedestrian Working Group on March 28<sup>th</sup> at Walk-Bike NY.