



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs SAFETY WORKING GROUP

November 15, 2017

Teleconference

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

MEETING NOTES

Participating

- CDTC – Sandy Misiewicz
- DCTC – Emily Dozier
- ECTC – Nicolette Wagoner
- GTC – Alex Kone
- OCTC – Ashlee Long
- UCTC – David Staas
- NYSDOT – Mike Flynn
- NYSDOT – Andrew Sattinger
- NYSDOT – Regina Doyle
- NYSDMV – Chuck DeWeese
- NHTSA – Richard Simon
- FHWA – Emmett McDevitt
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember

1. Introductions

Sandy Misiewicz opened the meeting and the participants introduced themselves.

2. Meeting Notes

The October 18, 2017 meeting notes were accepted with no changes.

3. Vulnerable Road Users Safety Assessment Presentation - GTC

Alex Kone: GTC is doing a systematic safety data analysis of vulnerable road users per the Strategic Highway Safety Plan – including bicyclists, pedestrians, motorcyclists, and horse and buggy users (a growing population using those modes in the rural counties). They will be identifying crash types by users, looking at top contributing factors, where those locations have been, and see where the contributing factors are present (design features in the roadway, environmental factors, schools, etc.). GTC will be undertaking ten road safety audit case studies looking at different rural and urban areas and functional types. It will be a 1 ½ year project and GTC has hired a consultant for this work. The system data analysis is underway right now. There is a multidisciplinary committee including public health officials and they will be using emergency department admittance data, so we have that data as well.

- Sandy Misiewicz: Can you tell us more about the data analysis (ALIS), vulnerable users and the contributing factors – what have you learned so far?
- Alex Kone: The key points are that we are not screening for high crash sites. Statistically there are not enough bike/ped crashes. Instead we are looking systematically at “sites with promise” (cross-sampling region wide). An example of

this is in the PSAP – looking at where the contributing factors are most present. Hoping to provide insight on bicycling and motorcycling injuries.

- Sandy Misiewicz: What are potential outcomes? Engineering solutions or broader than engineering solutions?
- Alex Kone: We will be developing a counter-measure toolkit like in PSAP Appendix F and developing projects from there.
- Sandy Misiewicz: Is this for any roadway in the region?
- Alex Kone: All public roads are included.
- Emily Dozier: What is the timeframe and when can you share visuals or other documents?
- Alex Kone: I can send out the scope of work to folks who are interested. Crash data analysis is underway through the winter, safety audits in the spring/summer, and the final report will be completed by the end of 2018.
- Sandy Misiewicz: We would like to have you report back in 6 months to hear more about the project and at the end of the project.

4. Draft DOT Strategic Plan for FY 2018-2022 Comments

Sandy Misiewicz: The Working Groups and the NYSAMPO submitted comments on the Strategic Plan. The primary comment is that safety needs to be more prominent particularly for vulnerable roadway users (especially regarding pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities going forward). Also submitted comments related to speed management and other minor items. Please let Sandy know if you want to see the specific comments. Thank you to those that looked at the document.

5. SMTC Bike Safety PSA Project Update

Sandy Misiewicz: Mike Alexander wanted to convey that we are working with the Bike League and AAA on the use agreement for the state-wide PSA campaign. We almost have agreement with AAA and are working with the League. It sounds like it will be moving forward. The concept will be presented to the Directors and a proposal will be submitted to GTSC – the idea is to plan for Bike Month in May if possible. Chuck DeWeese: Will the PSA have logos (AAA and Bike League) – or will it just be the PSA? Sandy Misiewicz: We are still working that out. Chuck DeWeese noted that we can air it without the logos as long as it is approved by the Governor's office.

6. NHI Training (Speed Management Course)

Kathy Ember: The training is scheduled for December 1st, CDTC will be hosting and providing lunch. We are approaching our 20 minimum seats – there are 3 seats reserved for FHWA. Feel free to share the Eventbrite link or provide me with contact information and I can send out an individual invitation. Sandy Misiewicz: We have 12 seats or so remaining so please do not wait to register as we are opening up registration to others next week.

7. Work Plan Discussion Items

a. PSAP Update Local Project Solicitation Status

Regina Doyle: The webinar was held yesterday with over 100 call-ins and the recording will be up on the website in a few days. Applications are due to the MPOS/regions by March 9, 2018. Funding decisions will be made by late Spring 2018. All construction will need to be completed for PSAP elements by the end of 2021. The types of projects that will be funded include systematic implementation of PSAP engineering elements at

uncontrolled crosswalks and signalized intersections. The guidance is available on the PSAP local call website.

- Sandy Misiewicz: There were several questions asked and clarifications provided during the webinar - will there be an updated guidance document?
- Regina Doyle: Two things have changed recently – local touring routes are now eligible for funding. One of the counter-measures - rectangular rapid flashing beacons - has a potential patent issue. Because of that we most likely won't be able to use that counter-measure so NYSDOT will need to figure out a replacement. We also received questions yesterday and a Q&A document will be available in a week or so. The guidance will be updated as well.
- Sandy Misiewicz: Could you elaborate on the patent issue?
- Emmett McDevitt: NY had an interim approval and it will be rescinded – since there is a patent infringement, if it is already installed it can stay until its useful life is up. NYSDOT will be looking at alternatives. Once the interim approval is rescinded, it won't be in compliance with the MUTCD.
- Sandy Misiewicz: Are there are other products in the market available for use?
- Emmett McDevitt: The alternatives will be other products currently being used.
- Emily Dozier: Can you clarify the question regarding curb extensions at uncontrolled crosswalks (only listed as an enhanced treatment for roadways with 3 or more lanes) – is there much flexibility there?
- Regina Doyle: NYSDOT wants to be flexible. If it is slightly different then what is in the PSAP then the recommendation is to talk to regional office and get their feedback before you submit the application to avoid having applications rejected. If they are not sure they will get in touch with main office.
- Regina Doyle: There is also some flexibility based upon the "other" category.

b. PSAP Evaluation Subcommittee

Sandy Misiewicz: We have had a short conversation about approaches and we will meet again for next steps now that the webinar has been conducted. The idea is to create a simple tool to help screen the projects. The biggest challenge will be if there are many different sites even if it is systematic in nature. We will have more for you on the next call. We will be attempting to find some kind of state-wide consistency with the proposed evaluation tool.

c. NYSDOT Safety Data Integration Project.

Andrew Sattinger: We are working on contracting with the selected consultant. Will get started in February and the first phase will be a review of our safety program. We will have a meeting set up with the MPO, police, and all the users. On a related note – we will be using a web portal system of engagement to access databases. Right now, access is through Directory Services to get to ALIS - it will be similar where you can pick which app you want to use from the website based on your role (could build a small app instead of one giant application). We will need input when that time comes.

Sandy Misiewicz: We will make sure it is on our work plan for 2018.

d. NYS Strategic Highway Safety Plan Fact Sheet.

Sandy Misiewicz: Kathy and I spoke about the Fact Sheet and we have a template, and this will be filled in with content based upon the SHSP. References to DOT documents will be included and there will be an area that can be tailored to local area efforts related to SHSP initiative. So, in Alex case' that is a spot where GTC can discuss their vulnerable users project. The Fact Sheet will allow us to share information on why the

SHSP is important, what we are focusing on, and why to our elected officials. We will share a draft with the group.

8. Partner Updates

- a. NYS DOT: No additional report.
- b. ITSMR: We will invite Renee to give a demonstration on TSSR in early 2018 – there are a number of upgrades.
- c. GTSC: Chuck DeWeese: There is a Federal register notice on the traffic records program assessment. GTSC has to have a traffic records assessment every 5 years (now it is on the computer). Chuck can send a link if you would like to comment yourself. Comments are due on December 26th. They are also looking at automated enforcement – red light cameras or speed enforcement. GTSC sent out a 1-page survey to municipalities. Congress is preparing some data on the use of automated enforcement. GTSC is also writing the NHTSA annual report and it will be available on the website in 2018. GTSC was directed to hold listening sessions to study the Textalyzer technology by Cellebrite. The technology can tell if you swiped or pushed buttons on your phone while driving following a crash. There a lot of pros for this technology, however, there are legal and privacy concerns. They have held three listening sessions throughout the state and a summary report will be available by the end of December. Chuck will send link for the traffic records assessment to Sandy.
- d. Cornell Local Roads Program: No report.
- e. NHTSA: Richard Simon: Let us know when trainings are happening on the TSSR. If there is a role with this group regarding automated vehicles let us know. Sandy Misiewicz: We will include this as a part of our work plan – either through SWG or NYSAMPO as a whole. She thinks there is a role for this group on automated vehicles.
- f. FHWA: Emmett McDevitt: We were provided some feedback from some surveys and heard that FHWA keeps changing the rules on HSIP eligibility – we were surprised by that feedback. To clarify, just because your project doesn't get chosen for any program doesn't mean the rules have changed – it is possible that the project wasn't eligible. Regina and Jeff can answer specific questions on eligibility or if urgent Emmett could answer them. If there is some confusion regarding the rules, I assure you the rules haven't changed. Sandy Misiewicz will follow-up with Emmett to discuss these comments further.
- g. NYSATSB: Sandy Misiewicz: NYSATB is meeting soon so there is nothing new to report – there are Board elections now.

9. 2018 Meeting Schedule and SWG Co-Chair

Sandy Misiewicz: On our next call we will pull together a meeting schedule – if this date still works we will keep it as scheduled. We will establish a preliminary list of meeting times. There has been an increase in the level of effort and there are 3 subcommittees now – we all need to pitch in to assist. There has been no co-chair volunteer so far. If no one can help, we will have to talk about what is reasonable from a Work Plan perspective. Please contact Sandy if you are interested in helping with the SWG. We will work on an agenda and scheduling for 2018.

10. Other Topics

- A couple of MPOs in addition to GTC are working on Safety Planning initiatives – CDTC just selected a consultant for a regional safety action plan. We will schedule

milestone presentations on those initiatives so that everyone can learn from each other's efforts.

- Emily Dozier: Has anyone used the ESRI crash analysis toolkit? Sandy Misiewicz: We haven't used it at CDTC. Emily Dozier: It is listed on the ArcGIS website under ArcGIS for state government. She will send the link to Sandy and Andrew.
 - Andrew Sattinger: ESRI is building a system for us as part of the system for engagement and they are working on a new tool for crash safety analysis. We will keep the SWG updated on this tool.
 - David Staas: It looks like a networking screening tool and it will perform rate calculations.

11. Training/Conferences

- a. December 1, 2017: NHI Speed Management Course (Albany, NY)
- b. March 28-29, 2018: Walk-Bike NY 2018 (Schenectady, NY)

Action Items

The following were noted for follow-up:

- All: Contact Sandy Misiewicz if you are interested in serving as Co-Chair of the Safety Working Group.
- Kathy Ember: The SHSP Fact Sheet Draft will be sent around once drafted.
- All: We will be looking for some presentations on the agenda for the next few months.
- All: Please register for the NHI Speed Management Course.
- All: Please contact Sandy Misiewicz if you would like a copy of the DOT Strategic Plan for FY 2018-2022 comments.