

NYSMPO Safety Working Group – Meeting Notes
Teleconference - June 27, 2008
10:00AM

Participants:

Sweta Basnet, UCTC
Cyndi Paddick - BMTS
Jay Schissell - ECTC
Todd Cohen - OCTC
Chris Hardej - NYMTC
Marty Neveu - NYSDOT
Barbara O'Rourke – NYSDOT

Natalia Grigoryants - NYSDOT
Jackie Berlant - NYSDOT
Christine Thorkildsen, FHWA
Mike Perry, ECTC
Robert Torczynski, GTC
Jim Allen, GTSC
Jim Levy, Wilbur Smith Associates

1) Meeting Notes

No changes requested for May 2008 notes.

Reviewed the Safety Roundtable Goals related to each section below as part of that topic discussion:

2) Safety Assessment SCI Project

The Assessment held in NYC went well. The final report is due by July 25. Each of the three Assessments conducted for this study should be reviewed and “approved” by each region. A timetable for “approval” should be considered. Do MPO member agencies generally agree with the SA process?

Some MPO staff expressed a desire to do more Assessments. The idea of a term agreement to provide Assessment assistance was discussed. A process for conducting a night-time Assessment was discussed and is part of the SA and included in the document. It is estimated that each SA will cost between \$8,000 and \$10,000 – this is why a term agreement may help to entice communities to conduct Assessments.

For training, there is an FHWA course that is very good. It could likely be used as training for this process since the two are very similar. It was suggested that Assessments be conducted within MPO regions interested in conducting them and not force it on any that may not be willing to conduct the Assessments. Is it intended that the NYSMPO SWG be the SWG Team or should there be local/regional teams? It was generally agreed that there should be regional teams.

3) TraCS

Goal #1 is ok. The MPOs know who uses TraCS. Mr. Daily will provide a report of which agencies are using TraCS in his next report.

Goal #2 should be removed.

Goal #3 is ok. Information should be added to the website. Mr. Allen will work to match-up State Police and other agencies with the appropriate MPO region. GTSC will assist in identifying the police agencies.

4) **GTSC & Human Behaviors**

Goal #1 has been met. The GTSC believes that the TSB's are a good outreach opportunity for the MPOs. For goal #2, the TSBs have been able to get media coverage for safety ads and campaigns in most markets within NYS.

Goals #6 & #8 could be combined. These should also discuss including the health sector. Mr. Allen offered to get the health sector involved.

Goal #7 - The SWG requested that Mr. Levy ask the NYSMPO Directors for approval to join the NYSATSB. Mr. Levy will bring the request to the NYSMPO Exe. Directors.

5) **ALIS & Data Efforts**

ALIS will not be online until the programming/testing stage is complete. The system needs to clear SIMS and PIES (Post Implementation Evaluation System).

These goals look good, however goal #2 is unnecessary. Any accident after 2002 can be pulled from the system. Mr. Hardej will request the directions for accessing this information from Don Terry. Any accident before 2002 will need to come from the paper files.

6) **NYS Safety Plan Goal**

There will be kickoff meetings in the fall to discuss the next steps. Bicycles are not included in the plan because they don't make the cuts statistically and are not a focus area for this plan. If the MPOs would like to see another category included in the plan, there needs to be FHWA support for it (based on crash data).

7) **NYSMPO Website/SWG webpage**

The website needs to be updated. The SWG should consider developing a logo. A brochure could also be developed – GTSC programs could fund the development/printing of a brochure. The SWG should put together any newsletter submissions for GTSC ahead of time. There are many potential topics. Mr. Allen was asked to let Mr. Levy know when a "request for articles" is issued so that he can alert the SWG. Dates and locations of training opportunities should be posted on the website.

8) **NYSDOT Update**

Nothing to report since the NYSMPO Safety Roundtable.

9) **Training**

Combine goals #3 and #4. Specific training needs should be established. Interesting safety-related work should be discussed at the safety roundtable(s).

A goal to coordinate with Cornell should be added to this section.

10) **Other**

Establish a date for a safety roundtable in the Albany region for late 2008. Marty requested that the roundtable meeting notes, SWG goals, 2008 Roundtable list be sent to the larger SWG mailing list.