

NYSMPO Safety Working Group – Meeting Notes
Teleconference – March 4, 2010 (*February Meeting*)
1:30 PM

Participants:

Mario Colone, SMTC
Sandy Misiewicz, CDTC
Mike Perry, ECTC
Todd Cohen, OCTC
Cyndi Paddick, BMTS
Jay Schissell, ECTC
Sarah Gebbie-Measeck, AGFTC

Emily Dozier, PDCTC
Chuck DeWeese, GTSC
Barbara O'Rourke, NYSDOT
Marty Neveu, NYSDOT
Jackie Berlant, NYSDOT
Christine Thorkildsen, FHWA
James Levy, Wilbur Smith Associates

1. Introductions

2. Meeting Notes

1 revision requested.

3. SWG Goal Area Updates

a) MPO Peer Exchange

Comprehensive Safety Task: The first step will be to identify priority investigation locations based on location data. NYSDOT has the location data. The MPOs would like to talk with ITSMR about undertaking a collaborative initiative to analyze high-crash locations. Ms. Misiewicz stated that everyone is aware that the data exists, it is just a matter of finding the time to undertake the analysis that is the issue.

The group discussed the PIL list. Ms. O'Rourke stated that the PIL list is a conglomeration of both TraCS and paper data. The PIL list is kept up-to-date and a PIL database run can be provided whenever it is needed. Mr. Schissell stated that there is no way to get PIL lists for the off-state system. Ms. Paddick stated that Monroe County has implemented a system that does similar data collection for the off-state system. Ms. Misiewicz stated that CDTC is essentially looking to hire a consultant to analyze data for the off-state system to identify high-crash locations.

2010 NYSMPO Conference Session(s): The draft agenda for the "State/MPO Safety Planning Peer Exchange Workshop" was sent to the SWG prior to this meeting. Time has been reserved for the 2nd day of the conference (June 15th) to hold this workshop. It is planned to be a 3 hour event, though that could change as the conference schedule is revised and the agenda for this session is finalized. FHWA can assist the NYSMPO to bring in Staff from outside the state. If a roundtable is programmed, it will likely be held on a third day – June 16th. Ms. Misiewicz stated that it may be useful to consider a 1.5 hour roundtable instead of a 3-hour session.

Ms. Dozier summarized the findings detailed in the peer review document sent to the SWG prior to this meeting.

b) ALIS & Data

At the Traffic Records Recording Council meeting, Don Terry discussed the final efforts to get the QRA module online. NYSDOT expects to undertake an incremental roll-out of the QRA module over the next 6 to 8 weeks. When it has been uploaded to an individual MPO user account, it will automatically appear in the browser. Mr. Perry said that he is using QRA already.

Training on the QRA module will be needed for MPO staff. Ms. O'Rourke just needs potential dates and times to work with Mr. Terry to schedule training opportunities. Ms. Misiewicz asked if it would be possible to hold the training at the conference. Mr. Levy suggested that the NYSDOT training center in downtown Syracuse be considered if workstations are needed. Mr. Colone confirmed that the training center is just a few blocks from the conference location. The best date to hold the training will likely be June 16th.

Ms. Misiewicz reported that there have been reports of issues with location coding in TraCS (less than 60% accuracy).

c) Human Behaviors Subcommittee

Teen Driving Questionnaire: The DOH, DMV and GTSC joint teen driving questionnaire was distributed with the meeting materials. If an individual MPO plans to submit a questionnaire please let Ms. Misiewicz know. Ms. Misiewicz plans to submit a questionnaire on behalf of the SWG.

d) Legislation Watch

A summary of the safety-related 2010-2011 Executive Budget proposed changes was distributed with the meeting materials. One item listed is a proposal to implement speed enforcement cameras in designated work zones and dangerous highway segments.

The second item is a proposed change to streamline the accident reporting requirement from a reportable threshold minimum of \$1000 to \$3000. This will put anything less than a \$3000 accident into the non-reportable category. The concern with this change is that it may result in a significant loss of crash data. Ms. O'Rourke stated that the only other state at the \$3,000 level is Hawaii. She also stated that NYSDOT has offered to take over the reporting management role from DMV but they were not interested. This is being proposed as an Article VII change so the DMV does not need to allow for input on the decision. Mr. Schissell stated that the SWG could draft a letter through the NYSMPO Association to be signed by Steve Gayle. Mr. Schissell will discuss this issue during the Director's call tomorrow.

4. Other Updates

Ms. Misiewicz will develop the GTSC conference proposal to hold the Safety Roundtable. Upcoming training opportunities were discussed. Mr. DeWeese recommended that if the group plans to submit a session idea, it should be submitted as soon as possible.

The GTSC grant call letter will be released in 1-2 weeks - the deadline is May 15th.