

NYSMPO Safety Working Group – Meeting Notes
Teleconference – February 24, 2011
1:30 PM

Participants:

Mike Perry, ECTC
Emily Dozier, PDCTC
Sarah Gebbie-Measeck, A/GFTC
Jay Schissell, ECTC
Cyndi Paddick, BMTS
Chris Hardej, NYMTC
Sandy Misiewicz, CDTC
Hector Boggio, GBNRTC

Matt VanSlyke, HOCTS
Chuck DeWeese, GTSC
Marty Neveu, NYSDOT
Natalia Grigoryants, NYSDOT
Rob Limoges, NYSDOT
Emmett McDevitt, FHWA
James Levy, Wilbur Smith Associates

1. Introductions

2. Meeting Notes

1 edit requested.

3. SWG Goal Area Updates

a) MPO Safety Planning Peer Exchange Subcommittee

Mr. Schissell discussed safety efforts currently underway and recently completed in the Elmira region. A Powerpoint file was distributed to SWG members prior to the meeting and used to highlight discussion items. Mr. McDevitt stated that he has seen the use of automatic speed signs throughout the state and cautioned that these should be placed in consultant with an engineer to ensure they are located properly. Mr. Schissell stated that their policy generally has been to use them where they are deemed to make the most impact – the region has been careful not to use them to the point that people get used to seeing them and avoid them.

Mr. Perry discussed the use of county-derived safety data and stated that the older system was easier to use and that confidence in the numbers was higher. Generally ECTC staff is not as comfortable using ALIS and not as confident in the data. ECTC hasn't provided mapping for the STEP program for years. Rather than using the ALIS database ECTC goes to the local agencies to get copies of MV 104 documents because ALIS doesn't seem to always capture all of the data/crash reports. Mr. Limoges stated that this is a serious

concern and issue that he would like to discuss in more detail. If there is a difference in the data provided by local agencies and ALIS there needs to be troubleshooting done on the system to identify the cause.

b) Data/HSIP Subcommittee

Ms. Misiewicz told the group she has been participating in the TRCC with Group 1 – the crash and ticket systems group. She provided highlights of the most recent group discussion which included the following:

- The crash sample is eroding because of less reporting and agencies not reporting crashes at all.
- There is discussion of merging ALIS and CIMS into one database with multiple interfaces.

Emmett asked if there has been any additional discussion surrounding the dropping of non-reportables. Mr. DeWeese stated that the DMV has proposed this to the legislature several times but it has not moved forward. Mr. Limoges stated that customers have stated over the years that they want non-reportables. Mr. DeWeese stated that he sees this as an opportunity to develop “mini-reports” to encourage more reporting and will look into this – though it may be difficult to implement.

Mr. Schissell stated that the MPO Directors approved the purchase of an HSIP CD for the Association. Mr. Schissell would like others to review the network screening section and discuss any issues/concerns/questions with Mr. Perry. The MPO Directors also approved the results of the SWG survey. The document will now be forwarded to the NYSDOT Regions for their review.

In the 2011-2012 NYSMPO Association Staff Support contract the Safety Working Group is a high priority and will continue to function as it currently does.

A SWG/GIS Joint Workshop is being discussed and will likely take place in June 2011. Ms. Misiewicz will email details to the SWG to begin planning workshop activities.

c) Human Behaviors Subcommittee

The NYSATSB January meeting was rescheduled for March 4 because of a weather cancellation. The location has been moved from the Crossings in the Town of Colonie to the Best Western hotel on Western Avenue.

The Cornell Local Roads program is trying to establish a stronger connection to the SWG and is looking to the group to provide a short article for their newsletter.

d) Federal/State Legislation Watch

The Complete Streets legislation was reintroduced in the State Senate in January. Generally this is the same bill as was introduced in the last session. This is an important piece of legislation to watch and updates will be provided as new events unfold.

Mr. Hardej stated that New York City has been passing a significant number of laws related to bicycle and pedestrian safety recently.

e) Training

The NYS Highway Safety Conference session submission deadline is March 4, 2011. Ideas for a session are needed and welcome. One potential topic is how data is being used at MPOs. Additional discussion will take place offline. The Northeast Transportation Safety Conference and FHWA Local Roads Safety Resource CD information is FYI only.

4) Other Updates

a) GTSC Update: Ken Clark is the new project manager for the NYPD and Datamax. There are approximately 1135 out of 2100 cars outfitted and the database is being constructed – testing will begin once the system is built. A vendor contract has been used to build the system and testing may be ready in a little as a few months.

Suffolk County is not transmitting a significant amount of data.

b) NYSDOT Update: Instead of re-creating a video NYSDOT has decided to try and pursue a front-end piece that could be attached to the Ohio DVD. This revised approach should remove a number of the obstacles that were holding-up development of the DVD. The Department needs to ensure better data quality. NYSDOT will focus the DVD on the needs of NYS and will create a package of the Ohio video with a NYS introduction for distribution to NYS Police Departments.

The NYS Association of Chiefs of Police provides members with online Podcasts.

QRA ALIS Training was held in Region 8 on February 15th. LISQR and QRA training is scheduled for February 28th at NYMTC. NYSDOT staff will talk with Ms. Misiewicz about scheduling additional training opportunities and possibly tying-in training with the GIS/SWG Joint Workshop.

- c) Mr. VanSlyke will provide a summary of activities in the Herkimer-Oneida Counties region during the March teleconference call.

The next call will take place on March 31, 2011 at 1:30PM.