

# INTEGRATING SAFETY INTO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

JUNE 9-10, 2005  
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY

A STATEWIDE FORUM CO-SPONSORED BY  
THE NEW YORK STATE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS  
and the  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

Transportation agencies, whether they are involved in the planning, design, or operation of transportation facilities and services, share a common goal: that the public must be able to travel safely by whatever mode they choose. Achieving that goal is reflected by specific efforts to reduce the number and severity of crashes and crash outcomes.

The purpose of the forum is to provide an opportunity for transportation planners from across New York State to learn how they can contribute to improved safety outcomes by integrating a safety perspective into their transportation plans and programs. Planners will be able to engage in a dialogue with others in the safety business: engineers and operators; those addressing driver behavior; and those in the enforcement and emergency response business. Resource people from within and outside New York and representatives of Federal agencies will also participate and share current practice.

## PROGRAM

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

- 11:30 – 12:30 Registration
- 12:30 – 2:00 Opening Session [*TERRACE ROOM*]  
**Keynote: Dr. Michael Meyer, Georgia Institute of Technology**  
**Panel: Three Perspectives on Enhancing Safety**  
Improving the Infrastructure: The Engineering Approach  
R. Emmett McDevitt, Safety Engineering, FHWA NY Division  
Addressing Human Behavior  
Thomas Granda, FHWA Office of Safety R&D  
Emergency Response: Mitigating the Consequences  
Kevin McGinnis, Program Advisor, National Association of State EMS Directors
- 2:15 – 3:30 **Panel: Building the Linkages to Planning: Sharing Good Practice**  
Traffic Engineering: Addressing Dangerous Locations  
Jay Schissell, Elmira Chemung Transportation Council  
Human Behavior: Working with NHTSA Programs  
Rich Perrin, Genesee Transportation Council  
Proactive Planning: Getting Ahead of the Problem  
Steven Gayle, Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study
- 3:45 – 5:30 **Breakout Sessions: Learning from One Another**  
Attendees will choose one of the three tracks identified above. Each breakout will have a number of resource people who will make brief presentations on their work, to seed the discussion.
- 6:30 Dinner

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

8:00 Continental breakfast  
8:30 – 10:30 Breakout sessions continue  
10:30 – 12:00 Reconvene and report: What have we learned that can improve the integration of safety into the MPO planning process? What are the next steps?

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SPEAKERS and RESOURCE PEOPLE

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**Dr. Michael Meyer** is a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and former Chair of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He has served as Director of Transportation Planning for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He is the Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board. He is the author of "Guidebook for Integrating Safety into Transportation Planning and Decision Making" .

**R. Emmett McDevitt** is a Transportation Safety Engineer with the Federal Highway Administration, New York Division. He is responsible for all highway safety programs on Federal-aid highways across New York State. His primary emphasis areas and experience are in the areas of roadside design, geometric design, pedestrians and work zone safety. Mr. McDevitt was part of the team that developed the new Highway Design Manual for Older Drivers and Pedestrians. He has worked with New York City DOT and New York State DOT to reduce pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries in the standards used for pedestrians in the rebuilding of Lower Manhattan.

**Thomas Granda** is currently the Leader for the Human Centered Systems Team in the Federal Highway Administration's Office of Safety Research and Development at the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center. He has over 30 years of human factors experience. His multidisciplinary background includes the areas of roadway safety and operations, decision-making, human-in-the-loop laboratory research, human information processing, and human-computer interface.

**Kevin McGinnis** has for the past five years been a Program Advisor for the National Association of State EMS Directors. He specializes in communications technology, data systems and rural EMS. He has been a regional EMS coordinator, a hospital emergency department director, and Maine's state EMS director. He has represented national EMS associations on national communications technology issues.

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**Andy Avery** is the Senior Engineer for the City of Elmira.

**Ken Carpenter** is the Executive Director of the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. He has worked for Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research at the SUNY at Albany and has taught within the University system as an adjunct instructor for nearly twenty years. In his current position, Ken is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the GTSC staff of twenty. The staff's primary functions include the highway safety grant program and traffic safety education outreach.

**Tim Chelius** is the Executive Director of the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization.

**Capt. Henry de Vries** serves as the Operations Program Coordinator for the I-95 Corridor Coalition. The Coalition involves transportation agencies from sixteen states and the District of Columbia, seeking to coordinate efforts. He previously served as project manager of the Hudson Valley Transportation Center, and has substantial background and involvement in ITS efforts.

**Lois Goldman** is the Manager for the Corridor Studies and Project Planning group at the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority. She was the project manager for the recently concluded NJTPA "Development of Regional Safety Priorities" study, which will become part of the Regional Transportation Plan. She also coordinates safety programs for the agency, including a new, federally funded Local Safety Program that supports low cost, high impact safety improvements on local roads.

**Sami Richie**, Regional Program Manager in the NHTSA Region II office with primary responsibility for the New York Highway Safety Program. He serves as the lead contact/expert in several program areas for the Region II States including data, impaired driving, police traffic services, and FARS Contracting Officer's Technical Representative.

**Chris Smith**, is a traffic engineer with Fisher Associates. He has experience in both highway and traffic engineering including capacity & safety analyses, planning, access management, and traffic calming.

**Brian Temperine, Division Administrator** is the Division Administrator for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's New York Division.

**Theresa Thomas** has been Program Manager for the South Jersey Traffic Safety Alliance since 1999. She secures and manages grants, ensuring that South Jersey is recognized and represented in Trenton. I purchase safety items, schedule training, run quarterly meetings, produce the quarterly newsletter and maintain the website, [www.sjtsa.org](http://www.sjtsa.org).

**Jackson T. Wandres** is an Associate at The RBA Group. Mr. Wandres is Director of Planning and Landscape Architecture for the company's New York City office, and a former employee of both the New York City Department's of City Planning and Parks and Recreation. He has 20 years of professional experience designing public open space projects and has focused in recent years on the planning and design of non-motorized transportation facilities and the retrofitting of urban streets and parks to better meet the needs of both pedestrians and cyclists.

**Kevin Wolford** is the Staff Director of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council's Nassau-Suffolk TCC. He was employed by the New York State Department of Transportation for 20 years as a civil engineer, working on construction and planning. His work with NYMTC involves the Sustainable East End Development Strategies, and the Long Island Accessibility to Transportation Study.

#### STEERING COMMITTEE

Steven Gayle, Executive Director, Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study

Aaron Frankenfeld, Transportation Planning Director, Adirondack-Glens Falls

Transportation Council

Rich Perrin, Executive Director, Genesee Transportation Council

Jay Schissell, Director, Elmira Chemung Transportation Council

Eoin Wrafter, Senior Planner, Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council

Stan Darwak, New York State DOT

Richard Beers, Planning Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, NY Division

Richard Backlund, Federal Highway Administration, NYC Metro Office

The Steering Committee and New York State MPOs are grateful for the support of the Federal Highway Administration:

Gloria Shepherd, Director, FHWA Office of Planning

Susan Herbel, The TSS Group

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