

NYSMPO Safety Working Group – Meeting Notes
Teleconference – July 30, 2009
1:30PM

Participants:

Emily Dozier, PDCTC
Sandy Misiewicz, CDTC
Bob Torzynski, GTC
Mike Perry, ECTC
Matt VanSlyke, HOCTS
Sweta Basnet, UCTC

Todd Cohen, OCTC
Chuck DeWeese, GTSC
Jackie Berlant, NYSDOT
Marty Neveu, NYSDOT
James Levy, Wilbur Smith Associates

1. Introductions

2. Meeting Notes

No revisions requested.

3. 2009-2010 Draft SWG

Ms. Misiewicz reviewed the draft SWG Goals document. FHWA staff has suggested that the goals be linked to the Strategic Highway Safety Plan Emphasis Areas. The MPO Association currently has weak links to EMS and motorcycle safety work so these are areas to work on in the future. Since there are so many goals/goal areas, they should be prioritized to assist with implementation. The top three areas of focus that were generally agreed-to by staff on the call include the following:

- 1) Peer Exchange – this should be an ongoing activity, not just a single meeting
- 2) Data Issues – focus on data issues and support current activities underway between the MPOs and NYSDOT
- 3) Human Behaviors – create a sub-committee to actively follow relevant topics, attend meetings/conferences

Mr. VanSlyke stated that an additional area of focus should be implementation of the Safety Assessment SCI. Ms. Misiewicz agreed that the SWG needs to continue to promote the document and benefits that can be accomplished from undertaking an SA and work to implement safety assessments throughout NYS.

Ms. Dozier would like to combine TraCS with the Data (ALIS) goals. Human Behaviors is also similar in scope to the outreach goal so these could possibly be combined.

Mr. VanSlyke discussed the purpose of the Human Behaviors (sub-committee) which is to build relationships with the local TSB's and others. Public health issues should probably be moved out of this (sub-committee) so that the role can be more focused on coordination/outreach.

SWG members volunteered to head follow-up on the following goal areas:

- 1) ALIS – Hector Boggio (GBNRTC is currently undertaking a significant amount of work related to ALIS.
- 2) Human Behaviors – Matt VanSlyke

- 3) Training – Chris Hardej, with assistance from Jim Levy (NYSMPO Staff Consultant)
- 4) Safety Assessment – Sandy Misiewicz
- 5) Peer Exchange Sub-Committee – Emily Dozier, Marty Neveu (for HSIP)

Ms. Misiewicz will revise the goals document to reflect the changes and additions discussed today and email it out to the SWG for the next meeting.

4. **GTSC Update**

Mr. DeWeese discussed the pedestrian action plan item and let the SWG know that Jen Hogan attended a meeting in Washington D.C. recently regarding this topic. The important information to note is that this is only a recommended action, it is not mandated.

Mr. DeWeese also advised the group that he met with Congressman Bishop to discuss concerns related to reauthorization. The main concerns discussed centered around the apparent mandate of micro-managing programs and funds that are already managed/delivered.

Mr. Perry stated that in their efforts to update the LRTP, they no longer receive county crash data so they requested data from GTSC and found a significant discrepancy in the data between the GTSC information and past County internal statistics. Mr. DeWeese offered to discuss this with ITSMR since they do the data collection/analysis for GTSC, and get back to the SWG with any information on what may be causing this inconsistency.

5. **NYSDOT Update**

Nothing to report.

6. **SWG Goal Area Updates**

- a. **Human Behaviors Subcommittee** – As previously discussed, this will become a more formal subcommittee to the SWG. Each MPO/SWG member should provide Mr. VanSlyke with a point of contact. Mr. VanSlyke will send out an email discussing the role of this subcommittee.
- b. **ALIS & Data Update** – QRA rollout is still planned for fall 2009
- c. **Safety Assessment** – Complete. If anyone needs copies of the material, please contact Ms. Misiewicz
- d. **Website/Outreach** – Nothing to report
- e. **Training** - Mr. Levy will look into the option to provide the FHWA Low-cost Safety Improvements training to MPO staff.

Next Teleconference: August 27, 2009 @ 1:30PM