



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs SAFETY WORKING GROUP

May 26, 2021

Webinar

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

MEETING NOTES

Participating

- AGFTC - Jack Mance
- BMTS – Cyndi Paddick
- CDTC – Sandy Misiewicz
- DCTC – Emily Dozier
- GTC - Alex Kone
- HOCTC – Alexander Turner
- OCTC – Ashlee Long
- OCTC – Lauren Burns
- SMTC - Mike Alexander
- UCTC - David Staas
- NYSDOT – Harriet Lewis
- NYSDOT - Karen Lorf
- NYSDOT – Geoffrey Wood
- NYSDOT - Robert Zitowsky
- NYSDMV – Chuck DeWeese
- FHWA - Emmett McDevitt
- NYSDOH – Jennifer Hogan
- FHWA – Guan Xu
- Toxcel – Bryan Katz
- Toxcel – Jennifer Symoun
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember
- Cambridge Systematics – Danena Gaines

1. Introductions

Sandy Misiewicz opened the meeting and participants introduced themselves.

2. Meeting Notes

The April 28, 2021 meeting notes were accepted as written.

3. Presentation: USLIMITS2

Guan Xu provided an introduction to USLIMITS2 and noted that USLIMITS3 is under development. She discussed the use of the Safe System approach and methods and practices for setting speed limits. The Methods and Practices for Setting Speed Limits: An Information Report can be found at: https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/speedmgt/ref_mats/ Bryan Katz discussed USLIMITS2 which is a free web-based tool. It considers pedestrian/bicycle activity, crash history, roadside hazards, and access density. There were also some recent updates to USLIMITS2. Input variables include operating speed (50th and 85th percentiles), section length (miles), annual average daily traffic, statutory speed limit,

terrain, and transition zone, interchanges/driveways, unsignalized access points, signals, roadside hazards, number of through lanes, area type, presence of on-street parking, and bike/ped activity. Input variables depend on the area type (limited access freeway, undeveloped area, or developed area). Bryan Katz reviewed the decision rules to make crash level determinations (the calculations for crash rates and injury rates) and speed limit recommendations. Jennifer Symoun demonstrated a hypothetical example and inputs needed for each field and referenced the user guide. If you do not have crash data, it will still calculate the recommended speed limit. If you do not have data to compare, it will use national crash data as a comparison. The output will explain how the speed limit recommendation was calculated. There was a discussion on how the recommended speed limit was calculated.

Sandy Misiewicz asked about urban streets and speed limitations. Jennifer Symoun stated that the USLIMITS2 may note a speed limit that is lower than the statutory speed limit. Bryan Katz noted that due to the bike/ped activity considerations, the system might suggest lower speeds than statutory speed limits. Emily Dozier asked about the timeframe for updates. Jennifer Symoun reported that it will be the later part of 2022 for updates. Alex Kone asked about the types of crashes that is used in the calculations. Jennifer Symoun stated that it uses all fatal and injury crashes, matching the ALIS fields (and does not categorize serious injuries and other injuries, as per the KABCO scale). This is under discussion in terms of looking at serious and non-serious injuries) as a possible update.

4. HSIP Flow Chart Development Discussion

This agenda item was tabled until the next meeting.

5. NYS Traffic Records Strategic Plan

Sandy Misiewicz noted that the Traffic Records Strategic Plan is up for adoption this week. Funding will be provided for the Accident Information System (through DMV).

6. Partner Updates

- a. NYSDOT: Robert Zitowsky noted that the Roadway Departure Plan is under review. CLEAR Phase I will be released in early summer. More information will be available on the next call regarding Phase II of CLEAR which will be used by the MPOs.
- b. ITSMR: No report.
- c. GTSC: No report.
- d. Cornell Local Roads Program: No report.
- e. NHSTA: No report. Sandy Misiewicz noted that NHTSTA is looking to create a pilot program related to pedestrian safety and underserved communities in particular. We will hear more from Allison Beas in June.
- f. FHWA: No report. Sandy Misiewicz noted that the PSAP partners (DOT, GTSC, and DOH) are looking at creating a PSAP 2 program. Some resources will be available from FHWA and we will be hearing more about that in the coming months.
- g. NYSATSB: No report.

7. Training/Conferences and Other Topics

Sandy Misiewicz noted that conference and training are listed on the agenda.

Action Items

- None at this time.