NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs
MODELING WORKING GROUP
January 5, 2018
Conference Call
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

MEETING NOTES

Participating

- Chris O'Neill, CDTC
- Lauren Burns, OCTC
- Angel Canales, NYSDOT
- Jim Davis, NYSDOT
- Rich Denbow, CS
- Jason Deshaies, SMTC
- Emily Dozier, DCTC
- Erik Krans, AVAIL
- Catherine Lawson, AVAIL
- Alex Muro, AVAIL
- David Staas, UCTC
- Alan Warde, NYSDOT

1. Introductions

Eric Krans (AVAIL) opened the meeting and welcomed participants. The Working Group (WG) members introduced themselves.

2. Working Group Work Plan

Chris O'Neill gave an update on the Modeling WG work program for 2018 – 2019. He circulated the draft work program and asked WG members to get back to him if they have any additional focus areas or comments, and with specific ideas for presentations at future WG meetings.

Angel Canales suggested adding information about the National Household Travel Survey (NHTS). NYSDOT purchased about 17,000 household survey responses and will receive the data in early 2018. They will share the data with the MPOs. Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) is under a five year contract with NYSDOT to analyze and report on the survey data for each MPO. The data is available in SAS and another format. NYSDOT may be able to translate into another format if needed. NYSDOT will hold a workshop on the data in the February timeframe, and can discuss data format issues at that time.

Chris asked if the MPOs will get access to the national summaries before they are able to get MPO-specific information. Angel said he thinks this can be provided, but we will know more after the February workshop.

Angel was asked if ORNL is going to do sub-county analysis. Angel said it will be tough to do this because the sample size may be very small for some counties. Data will be available, but using it should be done at your own risk. Chris asked if the MPOs will be able to look at results for cities versus suburbs. Angel said this can be done.

Chris will update the work program with this information and send a revised draft to the WG for comment.

Emily Dozier suggested the work program include CAV topics. Her MPO has received a lot of questions about how other MPOs are addressing CAV in their long range forecasts.

3. Tool Updates

The AVAIL team reviewed recent updates to the NPMRDS Congestion and Reliability Performance Analytics tool.

The tool now allows a full state view of the PM3 reliability performance measures, and monthly measure information is now available in one view. Information for the Annual Hours of Peak Hour Excessive Delay (PHED) measure is now available on a per capita basis, whereas previously only total hours were available in the tool. Target setting and performance reporting for the PHED measure is required only in the NY-NJ-CT urbanized area for this first performance period (January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2021). However, the tool provides this information for the whole state. Maps show delay information by link.

For bottlenecks, the tool will display the worst locations by MPO area. Bottlenecks are based on AADT. The tool allows scoring for the Level of Travel Time Reliability (LOTTR) and Truck Travel Time Reliability (TTTR) measures, and the route comparison tool can create custom reports.

Users will be able to create a shapefile with relevant data for planning purposes. For example, the tool will be useful for updating an MPO's CMP. In addition, MPOs may want to create performance measures that are different than the federal measures.

Looking ahead, the team will switch to INRIX data soon; it currently uses HERE data. The team will add multi-state functionality for the PHED measure and will add bottlenecks to the handbook.

Chris O'Neill asked NYSDOT about the latest developments for establishing statewide targets. NYSDOT will begin briefing leadership soon. Their current thinking at the staff level is to aim for targets set at trend levels for the first performance period. NYSDOT is looking for input on how to engage others in the target setting discussion, including the MPO directors.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2016.