



## **NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs SAFETY WORKING GROUP**

**April 22, 2020**

**Webinar**

**1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

### **MEETING NOTES**

#### **Participating**

- AGFTC - Jack Mance
- BMTS - Cyndi Paddick
- CDTC - Sandy Misiewicz
- DCTC - Emily Dozier
- ECTC - Mike Perry
- GBNRTC - Hector Boggio
- GTC - Alex Kone
- HOCTS - Alexander Turner
- NYMTC - Sherry Southe
- OCTC - Ashlee Long
- OCTC – Lauren Burns
- SMTC - Mike Alexander
- UCTC - David Staas
- NYSDOT – Karen Lorf
- NYSDOT – Geoffrey Wood
- NYSDOT - Robert Zitowsky
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember

#### **1. Introductions**

Sandy Misiewicz opened the meeting and participants introduced themselves.

#### **2. Meeting Notes**

The February 26, 2020 meeting notes were accepted with the one change from Sherry Southe changing evening to afternoon regarding the most popular session for the NYMTC Safety Issues and Micromobility Workshop. Emily Dozier asked if the MUTCD been amended? Sandy Misiewicz said that it is still in progress.

#### **3. Presentation on Ulster County Road Safety Plan**

Cory Hopwood, Cambridge Systematics, presented on the Ulster County Road Safety Plan being developed for UCTC. The project will assist with understanding factors that are contributing to crashes throughout Ulster County such as behaviors of drivers and roadway characteristics. The Consultant Team is wrapping up data analysis and working on network screening including crash severity and crash frequency. Part of the analysis is looking for overrepresentations in the data and adjusting them to normalize the data by traffic volumes. The analysis is looking at 5-year rolling averages. Fatalities are trending down slightly, and serious injuries went down during that period but went back up in 2018. The project is looking at crash types to consider emphasis areas (similar to the SHSP emphasis areas). Roadway departure and head on crashes are the most prevalent crashes. Systemic treatments will be needed to address this issue. The data analysis also looked at Ulster

County compared to New York State data. Ulster County is higher in roadway departure crashes compared to the state. The analysis is also looking at overlapping emphasis areas. The Technical Advisory Committee is interested in delving into further detail regarding roadway departures and non-motorists.

Key takeaways from the data analysis include a decline in serious injuries and fatalities. The communities of Lloyd and Denning had notably high serious injuries. Roadway departure is a key emphasis area with almost 40% of fatalities. Arterial roads have the highest rates of fatalities and serious injuries. A heatmap of serious injuries and fatalities per mile (2010-2018) shows that these crashes may be more prevalent on urban higher volume roads but when the data is normalized by AADT, they are actually more prevalent on local or rural areas. That is why it is important to check for overrepresentation in the data. This is also true for equivalent property damage.

Next steps for the project include reviewing the methodology for network screening. The Technical Advisory Committee will be reviewing locations at their next meeting in June and with stakeholders in late July. Then they will be selecting appropriate countermeasures and discussing strategies for addressing the 4 "E's". After this step, they will finalize the crash analysis and network screening and develop countermeasures for the top ten locations. Sandy Misiewicz asked how they did the network screening analysis – was there information on local roads, is it GIS based, or is it using the DOT linear referencing system? Cory Hopwood noted that they have all the roadway data from the County and if there was missing data on AADT, they used the average AADT for that functional class in that jurisdiction if the information is unavailable. This was a GIS exercise primarily. Emily Dozier asked if the presentation will be available and David Staas noted it will be sent out when it is ready to be posted on the project website.

#### **4. Roadway Departure Action Plan Update**

Robert Zitowsky stated that they have a draft document which was discussed by the stakeholders on March 9, 2020. The document is now being finalized. Next steps include data analysis and a systemic initiative. There will be a local call for projects and HSIP money set aside. Please reach out to Robert to get involved the project. The countermeasure workshop was going to be in person, but it may not be done in person due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Emily Dozier asked if the program will be like the PSAP program? Robert Zitowsky noted that there is discussion about creating a local call for projects for the HSIP program similar to the PSAP program. We will provide an update when that information is available.

#### **5. Shared Mobility Resource Page Update**

Sandy Misiewicz stated that there has been a small working group (made up of the Co-Chairs from Safety, Bike/Ped, and Transit) to develop the shared mobility webpage. It is currently hidden on the NYSAMPO website. The webpage describes shared mobility, provides a New York State legislation summary, links to 511NY and 511NYRideshare, and direct links to resources. It is intended to be an educational tool. This draft will be shared with the Working Groups at a later date. Sandy Misiewicz asked the Safety Working Group if in your local areas micromobility providers have pulled their fleets? She noted that CDPHP Cycle in Albany is not putting bike share bikes out for now. Alex Kone said that the Pace bike share provider pulled out of their whole contract and will no longer be participating in Rochester.

## **6. May and June Safety Campaigns**

Sandy Misiewicz discussed that they are trying to keep interest going on biking. The Bike-to-Work event will be shifted to the fall. In the meantime, there will be a joint MPO social media campaign on bicycling. Sandy showed sample posts for the month of May (there will be 5). Emily Dozier noted that Dutchess County will not be doing an event. She suggested it would be important for the public to learn basic safety skills even if only riding a trail. There are other Smart Cycling videos on "sharing the trail" and it would be good to reference that video or the series of smart cycling videos. Sandy and Emily will talk off-line to develop this further. Sandy Misiewicz asked Robert if the state will be doing the June pedestrian safety campaigns? Robert Zitowsky did not know, and Sandy will follow-up with Regina Doyle on this topic and the Safety Working Group will follow-up about this topic on our next call. Sandy will work with Emily and others on pedestrian materials for the month of June.

## **7. Partner Updates**

- a. NYS DOT: Robert Zitowsky stated that NYSDOT is continuing to meet regarding CLEAR and they have a prototype CLEAR data viewer.
- b. ITSMR: No report.
- c. GTSC: No report.
- d. Cornell Local Roads Program: No report. Sandy Misiewicz noted that CLRP has a lot of resources coming out on a weekly basis and they have shifted training to webinars.
- e. NHTSA: No report.
- f. FHWA: No report.
- g. NYSATSB: Sandy Misiewicz noted that NYSATSB has not met since February.

## **8. Training/Conferences**

As of this meeting, the Highway Safety Symposium is still happening in Lake Placid. There are links to bicycle safety webinars on the SWG agenda which are free of charge. There are also a lot of resources provided by FHWA as well including on road departures.

## **9. Meeting Schedule/Other Topics**

Sandy Misiewicz noted the next scheduled meetings are listed on the agenda. Next month we will look at the Work Plan items.

## **Action Items**

The following items were noted for follow-up:

- All: Please let Robert Zitowsky know if you are interested in getting involved with the NYSDOT Roadway Departure Plan.