



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs SAFETY WORKING GROUP

January 26, 2022

Webinar

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

MEETING NOTES

Participating

- AGFTC - Jack Mance
- BMTS - Cyndi Paddick
- BMTS – Ashley Seyfried
- CDTC – Carrie Ward
- DCTC – Emily Dozier
- ECTC - Courtney Taylor
- ECTC – Mike Perry
- GBNRTC – Hector Boggio
- GTC - Alex Kone
- HOCTC - Alexander Turner
- ITCTC – Jay Lambrix
- NYMTC – Sherry Southe
- OCTC – Lauren Bennett
- SMTC – Mike Alexander
- UCTC – Brian Slack
- UCTC – David Staas
- WJCTC - Barbara Cadwell
- NYSDOT – Karen Lorf
- NYSDOT - Robert Zitowsky
- NYSDOT-2 – Christina Graveling
- FHWA – Maria Hayford
- FHWA – Daniel Wood
- ITSMR – Renee Varone
- NHTSA – Allison Beas
- NYSDOH – Jennifer Hogan
- Cambridge Systematics – Danena Gaines
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember

1. Introductions & Updates

Alex Kone opened the meeting and participants introduced themselves. Daniel Wood introduced himself as filling in for FHWA due to Emmett McDevitt's retirement until his replacement is hired.

2. Meeting Notes

The December 22, 2021, meeting notes were accepted.

3. NYSAMPO Safety Working Group 2022-2023 Work Program

Alex Kone reviewed the goals of the Safety Working Group's Work Program. Jay Lambrix suggested adding international partners to Goal 1. Karen Lorf noted that it would be important to get the word out with locals about work zone traffic control issues related to bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. Emily Dozier noted that discussion could be a joint discussion with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group. Karen Lorf agreed that bringing up the fact that it is required to accommodate bicycle and pedestrians during work zone construction is important.

Kathy Ember noted that, regarding the meeting schedule, an in-person conference is being discussed for 2023. Karen Lorf noted that Walk-Bike NY is happening in May 2022. Emily Dozier reported that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group is talking about either meeting or having dinner together. There is an opportunity to have a joint meeting with Safety Working Group members. Alex Kone is happy to book a place to meet for dinner.

Sherry Southe noted that NYMTC will be hosting a pedestrian safety workshop in March and a deep dive in April. NYMTC will be sending out more information soon. Daniel Wood noted that FHWA is discussing with NYSDOT assessing treatments before including them in the 2nd PSAP round particularly looking at treatments post-construction. Alex Kone noted that the Safety Working Group will be looking at other emphasis area plans as they come up. "Evaluation" was added to 2.A.

Karen Lorf reported that she is going to be speaking to legal related to the role of NYSDOT and e-bikes. Emily Dozier reported that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group has a fact sheet on e-bikes on the [NYSAMPO website](#). Daniel Wood asked if the fact sheet includes discussion of e-scooters? Emily Dozier noted that the fact sheet covers just e-bikes. If there is interest, it might be good to create a second fact sheet on e-scooters. Daniel Wood noted that he tends to see kids on more e-scooters than e-bikes. Emily Dozier and Alex Kone will coordinate with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group to see if this can be added to the coming year's Work Program.

Carrie Ward asked about the status of the statewide Emphasis Area plans. Robert Zitowsky reported that NYSDOT is continuing to work on the Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan this year and anticipates it will be completed later this year. Daniel Wood noted that there have been discussions with Geoff Wood at NYSDOT regarding treatment assessments prior to working on the second Pedestrian Safety Action Plan.

Jay Lambrix said addressing the connection between safety priorities and available funding would be important in the draft Work Program. Alex Kone noted that the Work Program has added Safe Streets and Roads for All which should answer Jay Lambrix's question regarding funding. Maria Hayford noted that BIL/IIJA will be an increase in 24 million for New York State. In addition, there is going to be guidance coming out related to HSIP including some new information about eligibility for HSIP. Alex Kone noted that this item is discussed in the Work Program, 2H.

Alex Kone noted that 2I was added related to developing a local and/or regional safety plan scope of work to the Work Program. Alex believes this would be important to be added to the Work Program. Emily Dozier asked if local municipalities are eligible for Safe Streets and

Roads for All funding? Alex Kone said yes. Emily Dozier asked if there would be different templates for the MPO scope of work or for local municipalities. We will need to keep in mind the local capacity for these types of plans. Alex Kone noted that the Local Road Safety Plans would likely be a scaled-down version whereas MPOs might be broader and have more emphasis areas applicable to them. Alex noted that there could be a joint procurement opportunity with multiple MPOs to have a common product.

Alex Kone reported that Chuck DeWeese could not attend today's meeting, but he noted that GTSC will be looking at equity more in its work this year. Emily Dozier asked whether best practices can be shared on equity analysis of programs and funding. Allison Beas reported that NHTSA is working with Chuck DeWeese at GTSC in terms of equity and could share those efforts with the Safety Working Group and related to community engagement efforts (considering Title VI). There is new census data available as well. Allison Beas noted that in BIL some programs may have no match requirement for projects in underserved areas. She noted that there are pilot projects at discretion of the Secretary of Transportation. Daniel Wood will look into further details about these programs.

Emily Dozier noted there was an AMPO summary regarding new BIL programs and the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program requires no match for disadvantaged communities. Alex Kone noted that the Safety Education Toolkit will be reviewed (it will be reviewed annually for a refresh). Emily Dozier noted that the [NHTSA communications calendar](#) would be useful to reference to piggyback on those strategies and campaigns.

Kathy Ember asked for comments back from the Working Group by Friday, January 28th. Kathy Ember will incorporate the revisions to the Work Program and send to Alex Kone for review and then send back out to the Safety Working Group for a quick review.

4. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Update

Alex Kone presented slides on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and shared some information on changes to the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) and the Safe Streets and Roads for All program. For HSIP, states are required to complete vulnerable road user (VRU) safety assessments considering a Safe System approach. And there is a new special rule for states with total annual VRU fatalities of greater than 15% of the total annual crash fatalities in the state. The Safe Streets and Roads for All program is discretionary. MPOs are eligible recipients. There is a set aside of not less than 40% of total funding for each year for planning grants. Applications are expected to open in March 2022 and the Fact Sheet on the BIL can be found [here](#) and the information on the HSIP program [here](#). Daniel Wood reported that there are a series of fact sheets coming out.

5. Partner Updates

- a. [NYS DOT](#): Robert Zitowsky stated that the CLEAR Data Viewer is tentatively scheduled to go live in February 2022. It is possible that CLEAR Safety will be released at the same time. No additional training is scheduled yet. There is a link to the Crash Analysis Toolbox. Emily Dozier asked if we would need new passwords (different from ALIS). Robert Zitowsky will check on the password details.

- b. ITSMR: Renee Varone reported that fact sheets with final 2022 information are on the ITSMR website, and research notes will be uploaded soon, crash updates will be loaded monthly, and the quarterly update will be uploaded in the next few weeks. Regarding e-bikes and e-scooters, the data is difficult to collect as they are listed as a bicycle (for e-bikes) and listed as a pedestrian (for e-scooters) in AIS. New York City is looking to adjust that reporting with NYPD. The new system will allow for that data collection.
- c. GTSC: No report.
- d. Cornell Local Roads Program: Alex Kone noted that the Cornell website has a list of training opportunities [here](#).
- e. NHSTA: Allison Beas noted that NHSTA is reviewing the NY annual report. The Secretary is talking about the national roadway safety strategy, and Allison will have more information on the next call.
- f. FHWA: Daniel Wood noted that Emmett McDevitt retired, and he is filling in. Please feel free to reach out to Daniel for safety questions. FHWA is looking to fill that position. We do not have detailed information yet on the discretionary grant programs, but we will share when the information is available. There will be additional money available.
- g. NYSATSB: No report.

6. Training/Conferences and Other Topics

Alex Kone noted there is a potential for a get together for NYSAMPO folks at Walk-Bike NY in Rochester (May 3-4, 2022). The Annual New York Highway Safety Symposium will be in Albany October 26-28, 2022. Additional webinars are found on the agenda.

Action Items

- Please send comments on the Draft Work Plan to Kathy Ember and Alex Kone by Friday, January 28, 2022.