



**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs  
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM MANAGEMENT &  
OPERATIONS WORKING GROUP**

**March 30, 2022  
Virtual Meeting  
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

**MEETING NOTES**

**Participating**

- GTC – Joe Bovenzi (Chair)
- CDTC – Andrew Tracy (Co-Chair)
- CS – Adam Danczyk
- CS – Rich Denbow
- ECTC – Mike Perry
- MI DOT – Steve Cook
- SMTC – Mario Colone
- SMTC – Michael Alexander
- FHWA – Tim Crothers

**1. Michigan DOT’s Real-Time Warning (RTW) and Variable Speed Limit (VSL) Program and Concept of Operations, Steven Cook, P.E., Michigan DOT**

Steve Cook from Michigan DOT presented on Michigan’s Real-Time Warning (RTW) and Variable Speed Limit (VSL) Concept of Operations efforts. He is also Chair of AASHTO’s Community of Practice on Road Weather Management that falls under the AASHTO Committee on Transportation Systems Operations (CTSO).

The benefits of weather responsive management strategies include safer roads, better travel reliability, and environmental sustainability (through better allocation of chlorides and other chemicals). Michigan DOT set out to develop its abbreviated Concept of Operations (ConOps) for RTW/VSL. The purpose was to develop a template for RWM investment, define common RWM issues and stakeholders, outline a concept of a proposed system. This will help planners/engineers/policymakers make the case for RTW/VSL, articulate the purpose and need to decisionmakers, and inventory and consider all requirements for successful implementation. The process of development include stakeholder work sessions, listening sessions, and research into peer states.

The ConOps has been published, as well as circulated with various groups, including the National Operations Center of Excellence and FHWA. It is a public-facing document on [Michigan DOT’s TSMO website](#) for other agencies to use.

Looking forward, Michigan DOT is looking at how they can continue an education campaign and spread knowledge on next-generation applications, and identifying topics for potential listening sessions for future work beyond RTW and VSL.

## **2. Roundtable**

FHWA: Tim Crothers discussed a Presidential executive order related to promoting access to voting and an accompanying fact sheet. As stated in the fact sheet, USDOT will “communicate guidance to transit systems — including more than 1,150 rural public transit systems and more than 1,000 urban public transit systems — to consider providing free and reduced fare service on election days and consider placing voter registration materials in high-transit stations. The Department will also work with state and local entities seeking to mitigate traffic and construction impacts on routes to the polls, particularly in underserved communities.”

- [Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting](#)
- [Fact sheet on promoting voter participation with new agency steps](#)

FHWA also compiled and posted a list of [TSMO resources to help local and regional agencies](#) identify and access relevant transportation operations materials. This is available

## **3. Next Meeting/Adjourn**

The next meeting is scheduled for June 14, 2022 from 2:00 to 3:00 pm.