



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs SAFETY WORKING GROUP

February 14, 2018

Teleconference

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

MEETING NOTES

Participating

- AGFTC – Jack Mance
- BMTS – Cyndi Paddick
- CDTC – Sandy Misiewicz
- DCTC – Emily Dozier
- ECTC – Nicolette Wagoner
- ECTC – Mike Perry
- GBNRTC – Hector Boggio
- GTC – Alex Kone
- NYMTC – Sherry Southe
- OCTC – Ashlee Long
- SMTC – Mike Alexander
- UCTC – David Staas
- WJCTC – Justin Wood
- NYSDOT – Regina Doyle
- NYSDOT – Geoffrey Wood
- NYSDMV – Chuck DeWeese
- FHWA – Emmett McDevitt
- NHTSA – Shannon Trice
- CLRP – David Orr
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember

1. Introductions

Sandy Misiewicz opened the meeting and the participants introduced themselves.

2. Meeting Notes

The January 17, 2018 meeting notes were accepted with no changes.

3. Metropolitan Planning Requirements

Alex Kone: Most of the MPOs have agreed to advance performance targets set by NYSDOT regionally. As the safety targets are in effect, we will have to document, as part of any TIP amendment, how the amendments advance the performance targets in a written narrative. We will need to figure out what will be acceptable for the written narrative and work with DOT on the documentation. There is nothing quantitative required right now. Hopefully we can come together on a shared procedure and understanding. Sandy Misiewicz: We will keep this item on the agenda. The NYSAMPO Directors also have it on their radar screen. The safety performance measures are happening first. We will keep everyone informed if there is a role for the Safety Working Group on this topic. The Metropolitan Planning Agreement template is being updated/discussed with the Directors and DOT to conform to the federal requirements.

4. Work Plan Discussion Items

a. NYS Strategic Highway Safety Plan Fact Sheet.

Sandy Misiewicz: The Draft Safety Fact Sheet on the SHSP was sent by email. We wanted to get some feedback from the SWG. This Fact Sheet is targeted to elected officials and decision makers to get engaged in traffic safety and the intent is for this Fact Sheet to be more of an impact piece.

- Geoffrey Wood: I like it and it is very impressive. I like layout and the message.
- Chuck DeWeese: This looks great. Please add the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration under Federal Safety Partners. There is a 1-pager on economic cause of crashes on each community and New York State on the Department of Health. Chuck will send the link that can be added as a resource.
- Nicolette Wagoner: I like how it reads and it is helpful to know the audience. On the 3rd page – there are less specific solutions on Behavioral Solutions – maybe flip it or beef that up.
- Sandy Misiewicz: Let us know by the end of the week if you have additional comments. And then the subcommittee will make some adjustments and send it back out for review in a few weeks. Thanks to the subcommittee which included Sandy, Emily, Alex, Kathy, and Nicole and the graphics design Cambridge Systematics team.

b. SMTC Bike Safety PSA Project Update

Mike Alexander: We had a discussion with the Directors on the PSA proposal. The proposal is to acquire editing rights to the videos and to make edits with Spectrum to be used by any MPO across the state. GTSC is partnering with us to broadcast the PSA for Bike Month in May. The Directors approved the proposal. The NYSAMPO logo will not be included. We will need a user agreement from the League of American Bicyclists and a new contract with Spectrum. We are hoping that edits will be done in March. We will give GTSC and NYSAMPO the edits for review and then the hope is by early/mid-April the videos will be ready for posting. We have a call this afternoon to discuss this effort further. Sandy Misiewicz: Thanks to Mike for coordinating all of this – this is a good example of coordinating and sharing resources. Mike Alexander: Thanks to GTSC for partnering on this effort.

c. Traffic Records Coordinating Council Update

Sandy Misiewicz: The TRCC met in early February to go over the status of the major data systems in New York State. The Accident Information System (AIS) at DMV will be at the end of its useful life. They will be updating a new application to manage crash records (part of a multi-year effort). There may be some opportunity for input later.

d. NYS DOT Safety Data Integration Project.

Sandy Misiewicz: We will hold this item on our agenda. This project will replace the ALIS software system. Regina Doyle: We have received OSC [Office of the New York State Comptroller] approval to move forward with the project. The Kick-off Meeting with the vendor is on February 22nd. We do think we will be breaking off into teams or working groups to define the requirements in the system. There will probably be an opportunity for the MPOs to be a part of this in terms of feedback for what is needed in the application particularly with the local safety requirements.

e. 2018 Work Plan Update

Kathy Ember: The Executive Committee has the SWG Work Plan (and the other Work Plans). The Work Plans will go to the Directors for review in March. We will pass along any feedback we receive.

f. PSAP Update Local Project Solicitation Status

- Regina Doyle: The applications are due on March 9th. There is a 7-8-week selection process and the list of selected projects is due to Main Office DOT on May 8th. Regarding the RRFB issue – There were two options being considered: the LED perimeter signs and the standard flashing beacons. We are no longer (for the PSAP) pursuing the LED perimeter sign – the alternative is the pedestrian activated flashing beacons. This is based on research done on the two options.
- Geoffrey Wood: Another reason for going with the conventional flashing beacon replacement is due to the possibility of mimicking the RRFB application. Washington State is going in the same direction that New York is going. They have a MUTCD-compliant flash pattern that mimics the RRFB. So, we are working on the specifications and details (for a circular pedestrian flashing beacon assembly). There should be guidance issued by the end of this month.
- Sandy Misiewicz: Will there be an engineering instruction? Geoffrey Wood: We will be pulling it together and including an engineering bulletin, details, with an engineering instruction and specifications.
- Sherry Southe: What is the MPOs role if there is no scoring – will it be just done by NYSDOT for eligibility?
- Regina Doyle: The DOT will look at the applications received related to the guidance and eligibility. If the region has received enough planning target, then the role that the MPOs will be somewhat small; however, if there are more projects than funding, then the regions and MPOs will need to work together to decide which projects would be moved forward.
- Sandy Misiewicz: This discussion ties into the next item on the agenda.

g. PSAP Evaluation Subcommittee

Sandy Misiewicz: We have provided an Evaluation Tool with 10 criteria and a qualitative approach in a checklist format. We shared the Draft Tool with the Directors on February 9th. It is an optional tool that can be used, and it has been approved for distribution by the Directors. Please coordinate with your regional DOT staff on the use of this tool during the project selection process in March and April. Kathy Ember: Please also share this with other MPO staff involved in the application process. Mike Perry: Can we share this with sponsor applicants? Sandy Misiewicz: If the DOT region wants to share it, then that is okay. Alex Kone: This is guidance – your group could use it as needed. Sandy Misiewicz: Thanks to Alex, Emily, Jack, and Kathy for working on this Tool. Hopefully it will be useful during the evaluations.

5. Partner Updates

a. NYSDOT: No additional report.

b. ITSMR: No report.

c. GTSC: Chuck DeWeese: We are looking for a mini-contract to help to write the RFP for the AIS replacement project. Once we hire someone, we will have focus group meetings

with partners (and we will talk to the NYSAMPO) on input on the data. We are holding police trainings throughout the state including Drug Recognition Expert classes. We have 250 DREs state-wide and we train 40 officers a year. We also completed a commercial vehicle and motorcycle training in NYC. Please ask our office for information on police training. There will be two billboards in NYS for distracted and impaired driving. We are happy to partner on the PSAs and will air it. We are working on the call letter for GTSC grants – applications are due by May 1st – available the first week of March. The Highway Safety Plan annual report is underway and that is due July 1st.

- d. Cornell Local Roads Program: David Orr: We are working on our engineering workshop schedule – hoping for a low-cost safety improvement class in the summer. Let me know if we can offer anything else. There will be a Tribal Safety Summit in Salamanca on May 15-17.
- e. NHTSA: Shannon Trice: Shannon introduced himself – he is the regional program manager taking over for Rich.
- FHWA: Emmett McDevitt: FHWA issued a letter to NYS about non-compliant signs. The state has until the end of September to remove 544 signs. Once removed, the federal funding being withheld by FHWA can be returned to the state. It is a reminder that there are national standards. Fatalities have dropped below 1,000 – good news and a testament to everything being done in the state, at the MPO-level, and with Vision Zero. The Walk-Bike NY Symposium is coming up - registration is available on the ITSMR website. The Accelerating Safety Activities Program (ASAP) funding is available - \$200,000 nation-wide. Emmett will send the letter out to Sandy to distribute – there may be an opportunity to look at reproduction costs related to PSAs. Sandy Misiewicz: What funding was withheld from NY? Emmett McDevitt: The STP and National Highway Performance Money – 1% of funding in those categories. Further funding will be withheld if signs don't come down by September 30th. Sherry Southe: Will the money be returned if signs are down by September 30th? Emmett McDevitt: Yes, and we are working with New York State on developing an experimental work plan.

6. Other Topics

Sandy Misiewicz: We are holding a joint meeting with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Working group at Walk-Bike NY at 3:30 PM in Schenectady. We are working with Emily to develop the agenda for the meeting and we will be discussing bike/ped safety items.

7. Training/Conferences

- a. March 28-29, 2018: Walk-Bike NY 2018 (Schenectady, NY)

Action Items

The following item was noted for follow-up:

- All: Comments on the Draft Fact Sheet are due by February 16th.
 - Subcommittee/Kathy Ember: Once the subcommittee makes edits, the Fact Sheet will be redistributed to the SWG.