NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs
SAFETY WORKING GROUP
September 22, 2021
Webinar
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

MEETING NOTES

Participating
- AGFTC - Jack Mance
- CDTC – Carrie Ward
- DCTC – Emily Dozier
- ECTC – Mike Perry
- GBNRTC – Hector Boggio
- GTC - Alex Kone
- HOCTC – Alexander Turner
- NYMTC – Sherry Southe
- SMTC – Mike Alexander
- UCTC – Brian Slack
- NYSDOT – Jonathan Hill
- NYSDOT – Harriet Lewis
- NYSDOT - Karen Lorf
- NYSDOT – Andrew Sattinger
- NYSDOT - Geoff Wood
- NYSDOT - Robert Zitowsky
- NYSDMV – Chuck DeWeese
- NHTSA – Allison Beas
- NYSDOH – Jennifer Hogan
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember

1. **Introductions & Updates**
   Alex Kone opened the meeting and participants introduced themselves.

2. **Meeting Notes**
   The August 25, 2021 meeting notes were accepted as written.

3. **Discussion on Traffic Counts**
   Alex Kone noted that the CLEAR Safety App will use traffic counts maintained by the Highway Data Service Bureau for 2 of 3 Network Screening methodologies. Average frequency will be available for roads without counts but crash rates and Safety Performance Functions (per the AASHTO Highway Safety Manual) will need traffic count data. Counts can be added to support CLEAR screening through submission to the Highway Data Service Bureau or can be added to the CLEAR Safety App for project-by-project analyses. Counting standards follow EB 20-041: Traffic Monitoring Standards for Short County Data Collection of Motorized Vehicles and EB 20-044: Traffic Monitoring Standards for Short Count Data Collection of Non-Motorized Vehicles.

Alex reviewed information provided from some of the MPOs about their traffic count program (DCTC, GTC, BMTS, A/GFTC). There is a range of coverages and contracting practices for the MPOs that do traffic counts. Some MPOs use PL funds, some include bike/ped counts as part of the count programs, and some do those separately. Some of the local municipalities also do some of their own counts. In terms of next steps, as you are looking at UPWP for next year, look at what counts are missing – the Roadway Inventory System data table can be queried to select locations that do not have joined or updated counts. It might be an opportunity to add to this data. Consider network screening locations – filter potential locations by factors including Federal Aid eligibility, facility ownership, and /or average frequency of crashes. Procurement is an opportunity to add to traffic count data in addition. While the CLEAR Safety App can be used without traffic counts, it would be good to have additional counts to add to the data.

This Working Group can share information about procurement information and standards and exchanging information. Jack Mance stated anything we can do to share information will be helpful in terms of count programs. Alex Kone noted that GTC has used counts for pavement management and travel model calibration, but the number of count locations may grow as a part of the network screening process. Andrew Sattinger noted that the systemic screening is also available in the CLEAR Safety App. It works like a crash tree diagram (as you pick risk factors, the data separates out, and that analysis can select the sites that meet that criteria in your MPO or region). When the AADT is missing, you can use the available data to look at risk factors and pick spot locations. Emily Dozier noted that Ulster County also has a count program similar to Dutchess County. Emily would be happy to share their scope and is available to discuss DCTC's program. DCTC coordinates with NYSDOT closely to not duplicate efforts. Karen Lorf noted that the Highway Data Services Bureau has additional information on the website for traffic count standards (this information was updated in the past year).

4. **HSIP Flow Chart Development**

   Alex Kone shared the current chart prepared by Sandy Misiewicz – Alex is reformatting the chart and will share when it is complete. Geoff Wood offered to review the flow chart (in addition to Andrew Sattinger).

5. **Future Meeting Presentations/Discussion of Work Plan Progress**

   Alex Kone asked for presentation topics from the Safety Working Group. Future presentations will be on the NYSDOT CLEAR App and perhaps local initiatives.

   Alex asked NYSDOT about the HSIP implementation plan. Andrew Sattinger reported that NYSDOT sent a letter and they have not yet heard back from FHWA. Andrew reported that New York State is likely to miss the targets next year too which will mean that NYSDOT will have to obligate all the funds and they will need some new projects. Alex Kone also noted that statewide safety planning initiatives include the upcoming PSAP 2.0 Program, and the Working Group will discuss performance targets.

   Alex Kone noted that Sandy Misiewicz had been compiling HSIP projects, Alex will reach out to everyone about their HSIP projects so we can keep compiling about how MPOs are programming HSIP funds. Please ask Alex if you want to be a part of CLEAR Safety App training. Andrew Sattinger stated that NYSDOT will have another session on "train the

trainer" for the Safety App. NYSDOT hopes that MPO staff can help assist with support on learning the CLEAR Safety App.

Alex Kone also noted that data support for CLEAR, coordination with the Bike/Ped Working Group and other Working Groups, and Safety Education Toolkit updates are a part of the Work Plan.

6. **Partner Updates**
   a. <u>NYSDOT</u>: Andrew Sattinger reported that he will share when they have a date for launch of CLEAR.

   b. <u>ITSMR</u>: Renee Varone could not be on the call today but passed along some information. ITSMR has not yet finalized the 2020 crash data. Monthly preliminary updates will continue to be uploaded to the TSSR in the meantime. The 2020 ticket data have been finalized and will be placed on the TSSR at the same time as the finalized crash data uploaded (along with an update to the preliminary 2021 ticket data). Updates to the demographic data used for establishing rates will also be completed for the 2020 data (population, registration, and license) and placed on the TSSR.

   c. <u>GTSC</u>: Chuck DeWeese reported that fatalities and serious injuries are up in New York State and throughout the country. NHTSA recently released their report. Chuck just returned from the national conference and New York is having a virtual conference. New York's online webinars and sessions are available on the ITMR website under "Events." Sessions include marijuana legislation, COVID effects and post-COVID, equity and traffic safety, motorcycle safety, and on slow moving vehicles (horse and buggy crashes). They are going to look to schedule the fall conference elsewhere than Lake Placid in 2023. The Cannabis Control Board is not yet set up and the state agency also needs to be get set up.

   d. <u>Cornell Local Roads Program</u>: No report.

   e. <u>NHSTA</u>: Allison Beas reported that the pilot project discussion led to elements being incorporated into a larger plan. Allison appreciated everyone's time. This will part of a nation-wide effort. A new tool is going to be promoted. There is an equity training and that can be shared. Alex Kone expressed interest in the equity evaluation. Emily Dozier asked about the tool Allison mentioned. Allison Beas shared in the chat the link to the website about the Fatality and Injury Reporting System Tool (FIRST): https://cdan.nhtsa.gov/

   f. <u>FHWA</u>: No report.

   g. <u>NYSATSB</u>: No report.

7. **Training/Conferences and Other Topics**

Alex Kone noted that conference and training opportunities from the NY Highway Safety Symposium (September 27th, September 28th, and October 1st) and the FHWA Every Day Counts Safety Summit Series on September 29th.

Action Items

- Please reach out to Alex Kone about ideas of presentation topics and if you are interested in the CLEAR Safety App training.
- Alex Kone will send the HSIP flow chart to the Safety Working Group and Emily Dozier will also share the traffic count program scope.