



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

**March 12, 2019
Conference Call
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

MEETING NOTES

Participating

- GTC – Joe Bovenzi (Chair)
- BMC – Eileen Singleton
- BMTS – John Sterbentz
- CDTC – Chris O’Neill
- CS – Rich Denbow
- DCTC – Mark Debald
- ECTC – Mike Perry
- FHWA – Tim Crothers
- GBNRTC – Hal Morse
- NYMTC – Jan Khan
- NYMTC – Leslie Fordjour
- NYSDOT – Jim Davis
- NYSDOT – Paul Krekeler
- OCTC – Ashlee Long

1. Introductions

Joe Bovenzi opened the meeting and welcomed Working Group (WG) members.

2. Overview of Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Activities of the Baltimore MPO

Eileen Singleton is a Principal Transportation Engineer with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC), the MPO for the Baltimore, MD region. Her work focuses on planning projects and programs related to ITS, TSMO, and transportation emergency preparedness. Eileen provided an overview of TIM activities in the Baltimore region and discussed BMC’s role.

BMC established the TIMBR (Traffic Incident Management for the Baltimore Region) Committee in 2000 to provide a forum for response agencies to share information and lessons learned, identify issues and opportunities, and initiate projects to enhance coordination. TIMBR meets quarterly, with membership comprised of agencies from multiple disciplines. One of the key activities is an annual TIM self-assessment.

TIMBR has developed several useful TIM resources, including field guides and standardized forms police can fill out while waiting for a medical examiner to arrive. TIMBR works on TIM

training and awareness, a contingency transportation emergency management plan, a traffic incident response coordination plan, topic-specific task forces, and agreements, including a memorandum of regional cooperation. Current Committee activities include outreach to local jurisdictions to raise awareness of regional TIM efforts, identifying local TIM issues and concerns, and soliciting participation in the TIMBR Committee. The Committee recently added a schools representative. The schools are interested in response issues because of potential impacts incidents may have on bus operations, and when school buses are involved in an incident.

In response to a question, Eileen said that Committee members often view the MPO as a neutral party when addressing response issues and challenges, which can help when there are turf issues between responding agencies. A WG member asked if TIMBR incorporates data issues and considerations into their discussions. Eileen said that the Committee does not generally get into data issues or analysis; the focus is more on operational issues and agency response.

Joe asked how BMC addresses TIM in the MPO's LRTP and planning process. Eileen said that TIM is discussed in the LRTP as part of the MPO's TSMO approach, and funding is identified.

Joe said WG members may be interested in seeing TIMBR meeting agendas and asked if they are available. Eileen will send recent agendas to Joe.

3. Roundtable

MPO Updates:

- Joe reported that the final GTC TSMO Strategic Plan is available on the GTC website. He is considering submitting a proposal to present the plan at the 2019 NYSAMPO conference.
- Joe mentioned that GTC will soon begin work on an ICM project for the I-490 corridor in the Rochester region.
- Hal reported that GBNRTC is finishing their ICM planning work.
- Chris reported that there has been discussion about holding a reliability training workshop and dialogue in conjunction with a FHWA course.
- Jan reported that NYMTC is beginning work on a new LRTP, which will incorporate TSMO as well as the federal transportation performance measures. He also reported that NYC completed an ITS architecture and held a meeting to discuss planning-related aspects.
- Mark reported that DCTC is working closely with neighboring MPOs to develop a new CMP. They are using the NPMRDS tool developed by the AVAIL Lab at University at Albany, SUNY. Mark suggested this work would be a good topic for a future WG meeting.
- Ashley reported that OCTC is updating its LRTP this year. The new plan will incorporate the federal transportation performance measures.

NYS DOT Update:

- Jim reported that NYS DOT is working on a TSMO strategic plan. Stakeholder engagement will be part of this effort.

- NYSDOT is developing an ICM training event. A key focus will be how to engage stakeholders in ICM planning. They are aiming for a workshop in May.
- NYSDOT is also working on purchase of NPMRDS expansion data that will cover more of the local and regional network.

FHWA Update:

- Tim reported that FHWA recently published a set of TSMO fact sheets to explain how TSMO relates to nine other planning topics. The factsheets are available at: https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/plan4ops/focus_areas/integrating/tsmo_factsheets.htm.
- Tim reported that FHWA has received requests for ITS architecture training. FHWA is looking at training needs and Tim asked the WG for their thoughts. Several WG members expressed an interest in this training.
- Tim mentioned a new FHWA monthly Talking TIM Webinar Series. The first webinar takes place on March 19, 2019. Information is available at: <https://transportationops.org/event/talking-tim-traffic-incident-management-webinar-series>
- Joe mentioned a new FHWA report titled "Transportation Systems Management and Operations in Smart Connected Communities." The report is available at: <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop19004/>.

4. Next Meeting/Adjourn

The next meeting is currently scheduled for June 11, 2019. However, the attendees expressed an interest in meeting in person at the July NYSAMPO conference jointly with other working groups. Joe will work with CS and the NYSAMPO conference planning committee and provide details to the WG members as soon as they are available.

Joe noted that the Intelligent Transportation Society of New York (ITS-NY) Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 13-14 at the Gideon Putnam Hotel in Saratoga Springs. More information is available here: <http://www.its-ny.org/>