



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs SAFETY WORKING GROUP

February 27, 2019

Webinar

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

MEETING NOTES

Participating

- CDTC – Sandy Misiewicz
- DCTC – Emily Dozier
- DCTC – Dylan Tuttle
- ECTC – Mike Perry
- GBNRTC – Hector Boggio
- GTC – Alex Kone
- OCTC – Ashlee Long
- SMTC – Mike Alexander
- UCTC – David Staas
- WJCTC – Justin Wood
- NYSDOT – Geoffrey Wood
- NYSDOT – Robert Zitowsky
- NYSDMV – Chuck DeWeese
- FHWA – Emmett McDevitt
- CLRP – David Orr
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember

1. Introductions

Sandy Misiewicz opened the meeting and participants introduced themselves.

2. Meeting Notes

The January 16, 2019 meeting notes were accepted with no changes.

3. Presentation on High-Ending Speeding Analysis for Dutchess County (2014-2018)

Dylan Tuttle presented on the High-Ending Speeding Analysis project. Dutchess County started collecting speed data in 2008 and we have 3,300 speed counts recorded and have been trying to figure out how to use this data. The High-Ending Speeding Reports are developed for county and local jurisdictions and we are checking speed limit data with municipal partners. Each table has an accompanying GIS map. Dylan Tuttle added that the analysis looks at the speed-related crash rate for each road segment and we are seeing where enforcement or education would be beneficial. Emily Dozier noted that they filter for speed-related crashes (using ALIS data). Dylan Tuttle noted that they looked at segments in 27 of 30 municipalities (half of these are located in 5 municipalities and the Town of Poughkeepsie has a uniform 30 mph speed limit). There has been good feedback from member municipalities and some police agencies are using this data for Police Traffic Services grants and as a reference. Emily Dozier noted that this study was also sent to the County Traffic Safety Board and may present to the Police Chief Association. Dylan Tuttle concluded with some challenges and limitations, for example, that the low number of crashes or low AADT can swing the crash rate.

Dylan Tuttle and Emily Dozier asked if anyone had any suggestions for the next study. Sandy Misiewicz asked if there was an option to correlate the design elements of these roadways with speeding as the context might be more meaningful for police departments. Emmett McDevitt asked if this will evidentially lead toward a project that build in geometrics consistent with the desired speed limits. Dylan Tuttle agreed that would be ideal, but the immediate goal is to identify locations with speeding and focus on those with safety issues. Sandy Misiewicz suggested adding a column to the table to add information on design speed. Emily Dozier noted that we could work with County DPW and look at safety assessment work, geometry, striping, etc. Chuck DeWeese is pleased to see that police departments are using the data to apply for grants – have you also considered looking at the types of crashes i.e. fatal, serious injuries, and property damage? Chuck DeWeese suggested that there might be an opportunity to present at the Chief of Police Conference and the Fall Highway Safety Conference. Emily Dozier asked if other MPOs collect counts and how you address speed data? Sandy Misiewicz said that CDTC is doing a safety action plan although we don't collect traffic data in the same way, but we use model volume data. Mike Perry noted that ECTC doesn't do any traffic counts but NYSDOT does counts. Mike noted that all county roads are 55 mph unless posted and our challenge is getting good traffic count data. David Orr asked if this data will be published somewhere else? He can suggest some places to post the data in a research database. David Orr also noted that changing the speed limit artificially doesn't change things without geometry changes.

4. Pedestrian Road Safety Audit Solicitation

Emmett McDevitt noted that four pedestrian road safety audits can be done in a small timeframe through an FHWA consultant contract. Sandy Misiewicz noted we drafted a letter for the 14 MPOs to send out to urban areas (with a focus on the 20 focus communities). Each MPO would have a designee plus Sandy Misiewicz and there is no formal application process. Interested applicants would have to plan for an April on-site workshop with report created in May. The information was forwarded to the Safety Working Group. The Directors are acting on this soon. Once approved, each MPO can send out a solicitation letter to communities of interest. There is a March 15th deadline for community responses. If there are more communities than funding available, the state-wide committee will select the communities to receive funding. Emmett McDevitt noted that very little community effort is needed - nothing more than a conference room for a meeting and identifying the location to study. Emily Dozier asked does this have to be for a new location that hasn't received money previously? Sandy Misiewicz said that this opportunity is intended for a study for a new area. Sandy Misiewicz will be in touch about more details.

5. Safety Performance Measures Discussion

Sandy Misiewicz thanked those of you who provided information on the methods for documenting performance measures. The takeaway from the information provided is that some MPOs are doing full-blown reports (GTC), CDTC is using a data dashboard approach, and many others have adopted targets from the state and are using that in everyday programming and planning activities. The state will be working on the next round of performance measures by June. Emily Dozier asked if a summary of the three techniques could be made available. Sandy Misiewicz said a summary can be done.

6. Local Road Safety Peer Exchange

a. Review of Draft NYSDOT County Fact Sheets

Robert Zitowsky noted there is nothing new to report. We are reviewing the numbers again on the Fact Sheet and when a new Draft is ready, then a small working group will meet to discuss them. Emily Dozier asked for clarification on the data concerns. Sandy Misiewicz noted that there was a concern about the amount of time for reviewing the data and going back to a paper-based report. The intent of the Fact Sheets was to provide location based beyond the big-picture ITSMR data. There will be a subsequent update.

7. Partner Updates

- a. NYSDOT: No additional report.
- b. ITSMR: No report.
- c. GTSC: No report.
- d. Cornell Local Roads Program: David Orr let everyone know that traffic classes are scheduled for this spring and CLRP is scheduling educational low cost safety or ADA engineering training – look for those. Let us know how we can help.
- e. NHTSA: No report.
- f. FHWA: No report.
- g. NYSATSB: Sandy Misiewicz noted that NYSATSB was cancelled due to snow and the next meeting is in a few months.

8. Training/Conferences

Sandy Misiewicz noted that there is a planning committee working on the upcoming NYSAMPO conference in Syracuse. There is a placeholder for a working group on Monday and we will have more information going forward.

Action Items

The following items were noted for follow-up:

- Sandy Misiewicz will provide further information on the FHWA pedestrian road safety audit solicitation.
- A summary of safety performance measure techniques will be distributed at a later date.