



## **NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs SAFETY WORKING GROUP**

**June 19, 2019**

**Webinar**

**1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

### **MEETING NOTES**

#### **Participating**

- AGFTC – Jack Mance
- BMTS – Cyndi Paddock
- CDTC – Sandy Misiewicz
- ECTC – Mike Perry
- GTC – Alex Kone
- GBNRTC – Hector Boggio
- NYMTC – Sherry Southe
- SMTC – Mike Alexander
- NHTSA – Shannon Trice
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember

#### **1. Introductions**

Sandy Misiewicz opened the meeting and participants introduced themselves.

#### **2. Meeting Notes**

The May 22, 2019 meeting notes were accepted with no changes.

#### **3. NYSAMPO Conference Working Group Meeting**

Sandy Misiewicz discussed the NYSAMPO Conference joint Working Group agenda which includes a presentation from NYSDOT on PSAP accomplishments to date, a presentation from GTC on vulnerable road users, a discussion on e-scooters, bike share, and resources available and training on the Traffic Safety Statistical Repository (TSSR) from Hilda Hardy at ITSMR. Kathy Ember noted that if you are interested in participating in the Gotcha Bike Share Mobile Workshop at the conference, please sign up.

#### **4. Presentation on CDTC Local Road Safety Plan**

Sandy Misiewicz provided a presentation on CDTC's Local Road Safety Plan. There are 77 municipalities in the CDTC region and more than 50% of crashes are occurring on local roads. CDTC held a regional safety summit with Capital District stakeholders and also held focus group meetings with the safety stakeholders, the NY State Police, and traffic engineering consultants. Public surveys, both online and in-person, were available at farmers markets, local traffic safety events, and community events. There was also a municipal survey. The biggest challenges noted in the municipal surveys included the lack of funding, lack of staff time and awareness. The biggest concern noted by the public was distracted driving (cell phones), followed by lack of pedestrian and bicycle accommodations, and general pedestrian safety. Sandy Misiewicz noted that at the start of the project, she cleaned the data for a few weeks over before giving it to consultants. This clean-up included omitting property damage-only crashes because of inconsistency in reporting in TracS. A recent change to the crash report will improve the accounting of PDO crashes which might be better to use in the future as the data becomes more reliable. That left 30,405 KABC

crashes. Parking lot crashes, state owned road crashes and crashes in Saratoga County outside of CDTC's planning area were then extracted. In addition, they extracted state owned roads and two communities not in the CDTC region. This resulted in data for 15,996 local road KABC crashes. Please note, do not rely on reference marker and the road system fields in ALIS. In those fields, some roads are coded as state roads when they are actually City-owned roads. Following the clean-up, they reviewed 1,810 K & A crashes. The study also looked at intersection related crashes. In total, a review of local road statistics from 2011-2016 indicates that 300 people per year, 25 people per month are killed or seriously injured in crashes on local roads. The consultant looked at those 1,800 crashes in more detail. A higher percentage of crashes are on dark roads and curves. More than half were single vehicle crashes.

CDTC looked at the SHSP six emphasis areas – there were instances of motorcyclists being over-represented (above the statewide average) in the data. CDTC looked at the emphasis areas by year. Intersections, road user behavior, and vulnerable users were key factors for crashes. Looking by county, Albany County had a higher number of serious injury and fatal crashes. In Saratoga County, age-related, lane departure, and speed related crashes were more prevalent. It is hard to do traditional network screening at CDTC as we lack local roadway characteristics data. Instead, CDTC identified communities over-represented in each emphasis area (based on the crash type being over-represented when compared to population by at least 1%). In terms of findings – a systematic approach is the best approach. Recommendations include creating a systemic lane departure safety program, as well as recommendations for engineering, education, and enforcement. Please visit the CDTC website to review the Draft Report currently in the public comment period. If anyone has any comments, please let Sandy know. The next step is a further review of crash locations and an engineering analysis at a high-level.

## **5. Pedestrian Road Safety Audit Status**

Sandy Misiewicz noted FHWA notified awardees – City of Watervliet, Onondaga County, Tarrytown and Beacon for Pedestrian Road Safety Audits. These audits will be completed by the end of August. Those municipalities who were not awarded were notified. If you have any questions, please contact Emmett McDevitt, Regina Doyle, or Sandy Misiewicz.

## **6. May Bike Month Activities**

Sandy Misiewicz noted that GTSC reached 1,000 hits with their social media posts. Thank you for everyone who was able to participate.

## **7. June Pedestrian Safety Activities**

Sandy Misiewicz noted a safety blitz going on as well – check out that material and please share it via social media. The new PSA is on mid-block crossings.

## **8. Local Road Safety Peer Exchange**

### **a. TIP Updates and HSIP**

Sandy Misiewicz is compiling information from MPOs on TIP Updates and HSIP.

## **9. Partner Updates**

- a. NYSDOT: No report.
- b. ITSMR: No report.
- c. GTSC: No report.

- d. Cornell Local Roads Program: No report.
- e. NHTSA: Shannon Trice noted that Highway Safety Plans are due from the states on July 1<sup>st</sup> for Federal Fiscal 2020 which will help determine where monies will be allocated. Sandy Misiewicz noted that distracted driving is a major issue, but this is not reflected in the crash data unless if cell phone records are needed for a serious crash. Police officers have noted that tickets are not typically given out for cell phone use.
- f. FHWA: No report.
- g. NYSATSB: No report.

### **Action Items**

The following items were noted for follow-up:

- Sandy Misiewicz' presentation will be sent to the Safety Working Group.
- Please sign-up for the Bike Share Mobile Workshop at the NYSAMPO conference.