

**CDTC Regional Operations and Safety Advisory Committee (ROSAC) Meeting
Tuesday, January 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

In Attendance:

Chris O'Neill	CDTC
Sandy Misiewicz	CDTC
Andrew Tracy	CDTC
Christopher Wallin	City of Schenectady
Mark Kennedy	VHB
Mark Castiglione	CDRPC
Valerie Deane	NYS DOT Region 1 Planning
Jeff Pangburn	Creighton Manning
Wendy Holsberger	VHB
Alanna Moran	VHB

1. Introductions

The meeting began at approximately 1:05 pm. Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

2. Presentation by VHB - Field investigations

Alanna Moran of VHB presented background on the Local Safety Action Plan. ALIS crash data was used to select sites to investigate based on the frequency of fatal and severe injury crashes. Eleven sites were selected for more detailed assessment. A mix of intersections and roadway segments were chosen. VHB presented the results of field investigations at five of these sites:

- Washington Ave/Brevator St, Albany
- Stillwater Bridge Rd, Schaghticoke
- Geyser Road, Town of Milton
- McClellan St, Schenectady
- Rapp Road, Crossgates Mall

For each site, a review of the crash history was presented, along with observations from the field investigations and recommendations for improvements. Alanna noted that there were common themes among the contributing factors to crashes: visibility issues, maintenance issues, confusion, and driver error. Among the lessons learned from the effort include: that crash data is limited and may not indicate trends; that coordination with local agencies is crucial, as enforcement agencies have the greatest knowledge of local crashes, and that in-person field reviews are necessary.

Mark Castiglione of CDRPC asked if the lower speed limit will impact the intersection of Washington and Brevator. Sandy Misiewicz of CDTC stated that speeds may still be high, and that this intersection was in the study area for the Patroon Creek Linkage Study, which studied options for reconfiguring the roadway to function at a lower intended speed.

Sandy also stated that approximately half of all fatal crashes occur off the state highway system, thus the need for the Local Safety Action Plan. The new state crash report form may help reduce minor unreported crashes. Sandy stressed that taking a systemic approach to safety is important, especially on the local system. In the coming year, there will be further analysis and partnership with local agencies on safety. VHB will reach out to roadway owners with the completed site reviews.

Chris Wallin of the City of Schenectady asked why the McClellan segment ended at Becker and did not extend to State Street. Alanna reported that the block that was studied had over 200 crashes, and that the recommendations are applicable to other blocks with the same roadway configuration.

VHB staff also stated that crash data reviews are becoming more common as part of regular site development reviews.

Mark Kennedy of VHB stated that the State has more resources than local agencies to devote to safety evaluation, and it is important for the DOT to produce tools to assist locals with safety planning. Local agencies may not have the skillset nor the time to conduct detailed safety analysis. Sandy stated that the upcoming CLEAR system for crash data analysis may be such a tool, when it is ready.

3. Review of the draft Safety and Security white paper for the New Visions 2050 Plan update.

Sandy Misiewicz of CDTC presented the Security section of the draft Safety and Security white paper. Security is one of the ten FHWA Planning Factors that MPOs are required to consider during the metropolitan planning process. Sandy stated that the role of MPOs in transportation security is unclear, but from discussions with local agencies, cybersecurity is among the biggest concerns.

Mark Kennedy of VHB stated that past hurricanes, including Irene and Sandy, may have helped remove barriers to communication between emergency response agencies. Jeff Pangburn of Creighton Manning mentioned that local staff may not be able to keep up with cybersecurity advances. Mark Castiglione of CDRPC added that CDRPC is hosting an upcoming workshop that will include cybersecurity training.

4. Overview the New Visions 2050 Plan update process.

Chris O'Neill of CDTC gave an overview of the ongoing New Visions process. Chris stated that the next meeting of the ROSAC may be in April. Sandy added that in the upcoming UPWP, there is a technical assistance task that local agencies may be able to take advantage of for assistance with crash screening and safety analysis, and that CDTC will be soliciting for technical assistance requests. Andrew Tracy of CDTC gave an update on his efforts to compile a traffic signal inventory for the region, and a process for planning future traffic signal improvements. There was general discussion about unwarranted signals in the region, and the importance of considering their removal.