

Statewide Work Zone Safety Committee - Fall 2019

Tuesday, November 26, 2019 8:06 AM

Meeting Date: 11/26/2019 10:30 AM

Location: MnDOT Shoreview Training and Conference Center, 1900 County Road I West, Shoreview, MN 55126

Link to Outlook Item: [click here](#)

Invitation Message

Participants

Notes

Statewide Work Zone Safety Committee

Date: November 26, 2019 10:30-4:00

Chair: Tom Ravn, MnDOT Office of Construction and Innovative Contracting

Location: MnDOT Shoreview Training and Conference Center, Shoreview, MN

Mission, Purpose, & Meeting Methods

- **Mission** – The SWWZSC will influence the actions of those involved with work zones through the information that is shared through the innovations and best practices that are identified so that we achieve safer work zones and fewer fatal and life changing crashes.
- **Purpose** to provide a forum for
 - Identifying work zone safety problems, safety areas, and help set priorities
 - Brainstorming ideas
 - Recommending direction to our functional offices and committees
- **Meeting Methods**
 - Committee, partner, and group reports with discussion. Representatives will give
 - Status report on Action Items (from previous meeting if assigned)
 - Update report on work zone safety issues

Welcome/Introductions (10:30-10:40)

- **Tom Ravn – MnDOT Office of Construction and Innovative Contracting**
 - Introductions
 - Get all the stakeholders together and discuss what's going on. Where do we want to go?
 - Come up with things to make things safer.

Discussion

- **Use of ITS/IWZ in Minnesota (~15 minutes)**
 - Jon Jackels, SRF and Matt Krengel/Adam Berg, Street Smart Rental
 - Jon showed a presentation. See presentation *IWZ Options - Fall 2019.pdf* on the SWWZSC website
 - Discussing some new systems available
 - Left Turn Queue Warning and Detection
 - Trucks Entering System
 - Emergency Pulloff Detection
 - IWZ Toolbox is coming out in the next couple of months
 - Matt Krengel - Tom asked what they are doing in other states
 - Working in many states. MN is pretty proactive. Nebraska did their first EQWS this year. After implementation, many states discover that they want to do more. Open to trying more ideas to share across boundaries.

Committee Reports (10:55-11:30)

- **Executive Committee**
 - Tom Ravn, OCIC or Ken Johnson, OTE
 - Topics discussed recently include:
 - Crashworthy requirements and ramifications

- Design and Construction
 - Maintenance
 - Permits
- Requirements for TTC plans submitted to MnDOT
 - Time and Traffic Special Provision modifications
- Work zone training
- Many of these topics were also discussed at the full SWWZSC meeting
- **Traffic Engineering Organization Temporary Traffic Control (TEO TTC) Committee**
 - Co-chairs: Jeff Morey & Ken Johnson, both of OTE
 - Jeff shared a handout of the major issues that have been discussed at the TEO TTC Committee. See handout ***Big Issues of 2019 - TEO TTC - Fall 2019.pdf*** on the SWWZSC Website
 - It was suggested that portable rumble strips should be included in projects.
 - **Action: Possibly add a pay item and special provision, this will be discussed with the TEO TTC Committee.**
 - Hard for contractors to compete with others if the items are not included
- **Crashworthiness of TTC Devices and OTE Work Zone Resources Summary**
 - Ken Johnson, MnDOT OTE
 - Ken gave an update about the upcoming changes to the OTE WZ Website resources and progress made with MASH-16 requirements and resources.
- **Resident Engineers Work Zone Safety Advisory Committee**
 - Troy Strassburg, District 2 Construction
 - Tom Ravn - MAPA was concerned about safety of their workers and had a proposed bill to require flagger hours on all projects. OCIC had suggested that we define how many flaggers are needed so they didn't have to guess. Allows contractors to better bid projects.
 - Troy said that worked well. The boilerplate special provision may want to list out all the side streets coming in.
 - Important to make sure that layouts in TTC plans are identified so the contractors know what traffic control should be included and what's expected of them.
- **Time and Traffic Special Provisions Committee**
 - Chair: Ted Ulven, OCIC
 - New time and traffic primary special provision is 2563 Temporary Traffic Management. Substantial rewrite - 1404 and 1710 are going away. Online for about a year, all new projects should be using it. Latest update was published a couple of weeks ago.
 - Revisions:
 - Reorganized
 - Upgraded the crashworthy standard to MASH - referred to the Tech Memo for the sunset dates
 - The standard spec book is being updated for 2020, the traffic control language that was needed to be continued was added into 2563 with the expectation that the 1404 and 1710 will not be used in the spec book.
 - Vehicle lighting requirement for amber lights only
- **Statewide Maintenance Work Zone Safety Committee**
 - Steve Blaufuss, OM
 - TMA Flagger - there is a company that Steve has been in contact with that is looking at manufacturing a turnkey unit. Estimated cost 50K. Missouri DOT is putting in an order for 43 TMA Flaggers.
 - Ken Wood of the FHWA deemed the Missouri DOT version to be MUTCD compliant.
 - Additional issues need to be looked at.
 - Recycling of Traffic Devices - PVC cones are not recyclable. Looking at a polyurethane based system that is recyclable.
- **SWWZSC Industry Liaison Group**
 - Reed Liedle, NLCATSSA
 - Demo on I-94 looked at 6" tape on drums. Perhaps an upcoming project could look at further innovations.
 - Signature requirements is ongoing.
 - Crashworthy discussion is ongoing.
 - WZ Training is important.

Lunch (11:30-12:45)

On your own. There are restaurants nearby and the locations will be shared at the meeting.

External Partner Reports (12:45 – 2:30)

- **Law Enforcement**
 - Major Sean Meagher (State Patrol)
 - Appreciate the partnership and if we need anything, just contact them.
- **Engineering Consultants**
 - Jon Jackels, SRF; Jeff Hilden, TKDA
 - Jeff is providing an observation. Quite a bit of weather, rain, and shortages of materials. More projects went into winter suspension that weren't intended to. Is there guidance for winter suspension for devices that had to stay out in the field? Should something be developed or should it be case by case?
 - Tom Ravn mentioned that MnDOT generally treats it case by case as each project could be very different.

Presentation & Discussion

- **Proposed Minnesota Work Zone Training Plan (~20 minutes)**
 - Jon Jackels, SRF
 - See presentation **WZ Traffic Control and Safety Training – Phase 1 Summary - Fall 2019.pdf** on the SWWZSC website.
 - This was brought up as an issue over the past years. In 2017, it was determined that some investigation was needed into training needs for work zones.
 - What training is needed at all levels and agencies for work zone traffic control and safety.
 - Reed suggests that many of the classes are already there. Could a rollout of required/recommended training start now? Rollout is currently envisioned as a Phase III.
 - Jeff suggested that the participants of the listening session be contacted to let them know that there is a result of the input.
 - Mark Vizicky agreed and will work to do so.

External Partner Reports (continued)

- **Northland Chapter of ATSSA**
 - Reed Leidle, Jay Blanchard, Ken Russell
 - March 16-18,2020 is the ATSSA How-To. The pre-conference workshop will be on Pavement Markings. Thank MnDOT for 27 years of support.
 - Includes a sign truck show and tell.
 - Pavement Marking Inspection
 - County and local agency roundtable
 - Cable barrier maintenance tips
 - Striping roundabouts
 - MASH update from national standpoint
 - Northland chapter was involved in TZD
 - NCITE Transportation Symposium - TTC Plan Development Summit
 - ATSSA Expo in New Orleans
 - ATSSA Midyear meeting will be in Minneapolis
 - Automated Speed Enforcement
 - Citizens for Safe Work Zones is a stakeholder group to improve work zone safety. One key area that they are working on is for speed compliance in work zones. They want drivers to go an appropriate speed. Even with active enforcement, often driver compliance is not there.
 - Working on education related to ASE systems. Meeting held at the Transportation building with systems from a couple of different states.
 - Vendor Expo on December 5th.
 - Minnesota Safety Council and MnDOT will put together an interactive display about what it's like to work in a work zone related to Work Zone Safety Awareness week - April 20-24
- **Contractors**
 - Doug Swenson, AGC; Woody Bear, Shafer; Brad Drews, Egan
 - Doug Swenson gave a presentation about an update on the CHASE program. See presentation **CHASE Program - AGC - Fall 2019.pdf** on the SWWZSC website.
 - CHASE is about worker safety inside the work zone. Internal to the work zone safety environment.
 - Picked up 11 more companies in the CHASE program over the past year.

- **TTC Providers**
 - Mike Granger, Street Smart Rental; Eric Johnson, Salander Tech; Reed Leidle, Safety Signs; Tim Lewis, Warning Lites of MN
 - Issues already discussed

- **FHWA**
 - Will Stein for Jason Spilak, FHWA
 - See hyperlink [FHWA Proprietary Products Final Rule Rollout Questions and Answers](#) for some FAQs and responses related to the modification to the Code of Federal Regulations related to the use of proprietary products.

- **Counties**
 - Wayne Sandberg, Washington County; Adam Bruening, Washington County; Vic Lund, St. Louis County
 - Washington County has ordered four TL-3 trailer attenuators and one truck mounted attenuator. They continue to work on making the work zones safer for contractors working and road users using Washington County work zones. Thanks all for the continued work towards making all of the roads and families safer.

- **Municipal**
 - James Koslucher, City of Fridley
 - No update at this time

- **Minnesota Local Technical Assistance Program**
 - Kathy Shaefer, LTAP
 - Have been working with the partners in the Work Zone training effort. Concerned when local agencies say that they aren't aware of training. Jon clarified that the workers themselves weren't aware of the training. It's probably an opportunity to discover ways to notify workers.

- **Utilities**
 - Dale Anderson, Center Point Energy; David Haedtke, Century Link
 - Nothing at this time.

Stretch Break (2:30-2:45)

Presentation

- **Work Zone Data Initiative and Autonomous Truck Mounted Attenuator (~20 minutes)**
 - Rashmi Brewer, CAV-X
 - Rashmi gave a presentation about the Autonomous Truck Mounted Attenuator (ATMA) and the Work Zone Data Initiative (WZDI). See presentation ***WZ Data Initiative and Autonomous TMA - CAV-X update - Fall 2019.pdf*** at the SWWZSC website.
 - Jay mentioned that there is an engagement piece to educate possible users of the ATMA.
 - Rashmi would like to train external staff as well.
 - Doug Swenson suggested that the study covers real world conditions. If there is dried mud or smoke in the cab, will the system be able to handle external conditions.

MnDOT Internal Partners (3:05-4:00)

- **Management Teams**
 - PCMG & CMG – Mark Panek
 - OMG – Sue Lodahl
 - No updates at this time

- **Construction**
 - OCIC – Tom Ravn
 - Training/WZSAP – Jackie Brown
 - Districts – Troy Strassburg
 - Jackie notified the group that D3 and D8 are still active with the Work Zone Safety Awareness Program. Given about 8 sessions.

- **Maintenance**
 - OM – Steve Blaufuss for Bob Vasek
 - Training – Kathy Schaefer
 - Districts – Sheila Johnson
 - Steve showed a presentation that included updates on what the Office of Maintenance is working on related to WZ Safety. See presentation

OM Update - Fall 2019.pdf on the SWWZSC website.

- **Communications**
 - Statewide – JP Gillach
 - Metro – Chris Krueger
 - No update at this time

- **State Aid for Local Transportation**
 - Statewide – Tara Olds
 - Districts – Kelvin Howieson
 - No update at this time

- **Worker Safety**
 - Statewide – Todd Haglin and Keith Juliar
 - District – Rebecca Albrecht
 - The work zone intrusion database is ready to be used. Next step is to develop a phone app to document the intrusion to be added into the database.
 - Duane Hill mentioned that they have been filling out quite a few intrusion reports, at least their version.
 - Rebecca is conveying that employees are concerned about setting up and taking down work zones. Metro has a cone setting truck that has been pretty successful. They are having 3 more built.

- **CAV-X**
 - Rashmi Brewer
 - Nothing additional.

- **Traffic Engineering**
 - OTE – Brian Sorenson, Ken Johnson
 - Districts – Ron Rauchle, Morris Luke, Jeff Rieder, Scott Meier
 - Ron Rauchle notified the group that metro is trying to use the probe data (ClearView and Here) to assist with routing projects. It allows staff to watch speeds and backups with their existing construction projects.
 - Jeff Rieder talked a little about the project through Chatfield that included a pedestrian traffic control plan with pay items for TPAR devices. It was a learning experience, but it went better than if there wasn't a pedestrian TTC plan.

Adjourn (4:00)