

Meeting Minutes: Statewide Work Zone Safety Committee

Date: October 3, 2018, 9:00 – 3:00
Minutes prepared by: Ken E. Johnson, MnDOT OTE
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
- **Committee Website**
 - Minutes, Presentations and Handouts for the Committee meetings may be found at the Committee website
 - <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficeng/workzone/wzcommittee.html>

Agenda and Meeting Notes

Welcome/Introductions

- **Tom Ravn – MnDOT Office of Construction and Innovative Contracting**
 - Introductions
 - There was, unfortunately, a work zone fatality on October 2, 2018. This is why we're here – to work on solutions to reduce these tragic events.

Committee Reports

- **Executive Committee**
 - Tom Ravn, OCIC and Ken Johnson, OTE
 - PE Signature on TTC plans - still needs to be considered by MnDOT Senior Leadership

- Need to determine how this interacts with construction changes
- Amr expects that a guideline will be published by the end of the year
- Reed mentioned that there have been no traffic control plans in about 50% of construction plans. This is one of the base problems - Traffic Control Contractors have been developing plans because in many cases plans are not included
- **Action: finalize guidance. Amr Jabr hopes this will be completed by the end of 2018.**
- WZ Training
 - SRF is under contract with MnDOT to develop an overall training plan
 - See handout for status
 - Need names submitted for the listening sessions.
 - **Action: Submit names or organizations to invite to Jon Jackels or Mark Vizecky.**
- **Presentation: CAV – X Work Zone Related Elements**
 - Jay Hietpas – CAV-X
 - Jay gave a presentation about the CAV-X office and "CAV-101" summary. See presentation on the SWWZSC website.
 - Pavement markings are going to be challenging in work zones. We may need to fully re-evaluate how pavement markings are obscured in work zones.
 - Federal Work Zone Data Initiative effort started and ongoing. MnDOT will likely join this effort.
 - Jay mentioned that there is a solicitation available for CAV research. Contact the CAV-X office with ideas.
- **Traffic Engineering Organizations Temporary Traffic Control (TEO TTC) Committee**
 - Co-chairs: Jeff Morey & Ken Johnson, both of OTE
- **MASH (Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware) & Crashworthy Discussion**
 - Ethan Peterson, OTE
 - Category 1 devices can be self-certified by the vendor to be crashworthy
 - Category 4 devices - MnDOT will be authoring a letter related to TTC devices and there will be a discussion about these devices
 - MnDOT has decided to not crash test the non-proprietary portable sign supports that were developed by MnDOT in the past
 - Texas has a non-proprietary portable sign support
 - In service performance may be a way to allow some things to be state approved
 - There are proprietary portable sign supports that are available - but do they accommodate MnDOT signs
 - Some dates are getting pushed out. If there aren't devices, AASHTO has pushed out some dates.
- **Resident Engineers Work Zone Safety Advisory Committee**
 - Troy Strassburg, District 2 Construction

- His first meeting. Looking forward to seeing how the TTC Training and the PE signature plays out
- **Time and Traffic Special Provisions Update Committee**
 - Chair: Ted Ulven, OCIC
 - 1404/2563 is getting changed up. The existing time and traffic special provision is unweildy and in non-active voice. There will be a new 2562 Temporary Traffic Management. It will be in the standard format of the MnDOT Spec Book. A goal is to take the elements that don't change and put them in the spec book. The options will then just be the sections in the Special Provisions.
- **CO Maintenance Update**
 - *Bob Vasek, OM*
 - *Autonomous TMA Pooled Fund. Bob is a member and they are looking closely at functionality. Doesn't do offset, will only follow directly behind.*
 - *There are subgroups looking at elements of the Autonomous TMA*
 - *Trying to develop an overall template of use*
 - *Extraordinary enforcement has been implemented on some MnDOT maintenance projects - pilot.*
 - *6 deployments*
 - *D1, D2 and 4 in Metro*
 - *Many for bridge inspections and a couple for pavement work*
 - *Leaving it up to districts on when to deploy*
 - *Been getting positive comments related to speed reduction*
 - *Each district contributed \$10,000*
 - *Towards spring there will be an evaluation though it seems to be going well*
 - *Safety culture efforts ramping up*
 - *Red Book initiative - pilot project.*
 - *OMG has come forward with what theyre working on for safety - some WZ. Enhance flagger station*
 - *Metro has been doing some work with the Dynamic Speed Display. Michigan has been reaching out to MnDOT about how that's been working.*
 - *Steve Blaufuss will be speaking at the How-To related to Work Zone Equipment*
 - *Sue Lodahl - OMG*
 - *The sign shop will be reconstructed so they will be relocated for a period of time*
 - *Bruce Daniel has retired.*
 - *D4 is using bike lights on some of their flagging paddles and OTE is checking into the issue*
 - *Reed had a question about digital sign printing. Research is going on.*
- **SWWZSC Industry Liaison Group**
 - *Reed Liedle, NLCATSSA*
 - *Group created to talk about contracting issues - the big three follow:*
 - *Statewide Comprehensive Training Effort*
 - *PE Signature Issue*
 - *MASH*
 - *Should we try a big effort for safety innovations again on a big project - like was done on I94 a few years ago?*
 - *Some legislative efforts have been done*
 - *Temporary wet reflective pavement markings were encouraged by this committee*

- **Presentation - MnDOT Construction Project Review**
 - Ted Ulven, OCIC
 - See presentation on SWWZSC website

External Partner Reports

- **Law Enforcement**
 - Major Cheri Frandrup (State Patrol) - no update at this time.
- **Engineering Consultants**
 - Jon Jackels, SRF; Jeff Hilden, TKDA; John Crawford, Kimley Horn
 - Nothing in general from the consultants
- **Report – Next Steps for Work Zone Challenges Project (IWZ related)**
 - Jon Jackels, SRF and Rashmi Brewer, CAV-X
 - See handout for status of the project
 - Cost estimates have been modified in the Scoping Decision Tree document
 - Biggest challenge with IWZ is to put together a sustainable process. Bring issues to Rashmi and Jon.
 - Pilot projects:
 - 2 in district 6 that they are monitoring and will be including in the evaluation report
 - Stopped Traffic Ahead systems could perhaps be added within the work area of projects as queues develop in those areas as well. This is reflected in studies.
 - Will be reaching out to the districts and working with the project stakeholders to understand what systems were deployed
 - Ron Rauchle says that they will be using the data from the IWZ systems and checking against the initial modeling to see if the modeling was correct. This knowledge will be used for future projects.
 - Tom Ravn mentioned that the corridors of commerce projects on I94 will likely have an overall IWZ system.
 - Duane Hill is wondering if these IWZ systems are included in scoping worksheets
 - Scoping documents needs to reflect both IWZ and TMPs
- **Northland Chapter of ATSSA**
 - Reed Leidle, Jay Blanchard, Ken Russell
 - National Mid-year meeting.
 - The Automotive Safety Council gave a presentation for the first time. Working on V2V and V2I. It wasn't that long ago when only the rich had bag phones. Now everyone has a phone.
 - A lot of talk about MASH
 - ATSSA is working on updating their website
 - Automotive Safety Council is asking for wider pavement markings
 - Expo - Circle of Innovation will look at past challenges and the solutions offered
 - TTC Training is very important. They are making MN specific classes. Traffic Control Technician and Traffic Control Supervisor training is MN specific

- How-To Update:
 - The How-To will have a pre-conference workshop on TMAs
 - March 18-20
 - Sessions include: Barrier in WZs, Liability in WZs, everything wet-reflective
- **Contractors**
 - Doug Swenson, AGC; Woody Bear, Shafer; Brad Drews, Egan
 - Doug gave a presentation about an update on CHASE program - see presentation on SWWZSC website
 - 37 contractors under CHASE on all levels
 - Level 3 - 18 overall, 3 highway heavy
- **TTC Providers**
 - Mike Granger, Street Smart Rental; Eric Johnson, Salander Tech; Reed Leidle, Safety Signs; Tim Lewis, Warning Lites of MN
 - Tim Lewis mentioned from a field perspective - trying to minimize speeding and distracted driving. Using more speed trailers and they are effective. Enforcement has been very helpful.
- **FHWA**
 - Will Stein, FHWA
 - Nothing at this time
- **Counties**
 - Wayne Sandberg, Washington County; Adam Bruening, Washington County; Vic Lund, St. Louis County
 - Nothing to add
- **Municipal**
 - James Koslucher, Fridley
 - Nothing to add
- **Local Agency Education**
 - Kathy Shaefer, LTAP
 - Nothing to add
- **Utilities**
 - Dale Anderson, Center Point Energy; David Haedtke, Century Link
 - Nothing to add

MnDOT Internal Partner Reports

- **Management Teams**
 - PCMG & CMG – Mark Panek
 - OMG – Sue Lodahl
 - Bob Vasek gave the update earlier in the meeting.

- **Maintenance**
 - OM – Bob Vasek
 - Bob Vasek gave the update earlier in the meeting.
 - Training – Kathy Schaefer
 - Districts – Sheila Johnson
 - Dave Tody brought up the Smart Arrow Board test
 - Iowa - In January 2022 all of the arrow boards in Iowa will have a Smart Arrow board and will report to the TMC
- **Traffic Engineering**
 - OTE – Ray Starr, Peter Buchen, Rashmi Brewer, Ken Johnson
 - October 10 - ITS Fall Forum at 3M. Encourage those interested to attend.
 - Districts – Ron Rauchle, Morris Luke, Jeff Rieder, Scott Meier
 - Looking forward to the Temporary Barrier Guidance
 - Speed control in work zones - our experience is that signing doesn't slow traffic down
- **Construction**
 - OCIC – Tom Ravn
 - Training/WZSAP – Leigh Kriewall
 - Districts – Trudy Kordosky
 - Ted - 3 Traffic Control Supervisor courses, 2 recerts, 1 Traffic Control Overview, Various Flagger Train the Trainers
 - NHI - WZ Inspection Class
 - WZ Safety Awards are open for nomination
 - **Action: Submit nominations for WZ Safety Awards to Ted Ulven or Leigh Kriewall**
- **Communications**
 - Statewide – Sue Roe
 - MnDOT Communications overall goal is to tell the MnDOT story. All the good and great things that MnDOT does statewide - innovation, research, maintenance, etc. Duty to educate the public through all the channels - interviews, social media, etc. Most of the time when MnDOT is involved in a story, they will try to make sure that a work zone safety message is included. Pay attention, don't drive distracted, etc.
 - Metro – Chris Krueger
 - Nothing at this time
- **Worker Safety**
 - Statewide – Keith Juliar
 - District – Rebecca Albrecht
 - Nothing to add
- **State Aid**
 - SALT – Tara Olds
 - Districts – Kelvin Howieson
 - Nothing to add