



# NATIONAL LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ASSOCIATION

## Safety Work Group Minutes - Draft

Monday, February 13, 2012

1:00 PM EST

### JOINT MEETING

#### NLTAPA Safety Work Group and APWA Road Safety Subcommittee

- **Welcome and Roll Call – Joint Meeting with APWA Road Safety Subcommittee**

**APWA:** Carla Anderson, Dave Bergner, Scott Nodes, Rick Pain, Greg Parker, Doug Paulus, Arturo Serna

**LTAP/TTAP:** Michele Beck, MT LTAP; Kevin Burke, IL LTAP; Bruce Drewes, ID LTAP; Bart Evans, WY LTAP; Mike Fitch, OH LTAP; Joni Graves, WI LTAP; Lisa Harris, KS LTAP; Martha Horseman, KY LTAP; Dina Johnson, KY LTAP; Janet Leli, NJ LTAP; Tom McDonald, IA LTAP; Todd Morrison, KY LTAP; Cliff Reuer, SD LTAP; Laura Slusher, IN LTAP; Dennis Trusty, ND TTAP; Papacostas, HI LTAP; Grisel Villarrubia, PR LTAP; Marie Walsh, LA LTAP

**PARTNERS:** Rosemarie Anderson, FHWA; David Brand, NACE; John Dewar, FHWA; Tony Furst, FHWA; Tony Giancola, Consultant; Kelly Hardy, AASHTO; Cameron Ishaq, FHWA; Susan Monahan, ARTBA; Jeff Zaharewicz, FHWA

- **John Dewar introduced Tony Furst, the new administrator for the FHWA Office of Safety:**

Mr. Furst thanked everyone for the opportunity to express his appreciation for the collaboration LTAP/TTAPs have provided for initiatives such as Safety 365, local domestic scans, and manuals for local rural road safety. He believed communication with all who are involved with local safety is of utmost importance. Mr. Furst reaffirmed their commitment to save lives through safer roads, including local rural roads. He encouraged involvement with the HSHP in state DOTs. He looks forward to the opportunity to meet everyone in person in the near future. Marie requested from the participants, who has worked with their state DOTs on HSIP: Todd Morrison, KY LTAP, said their safety circuit rider program has been implemented into their state's HSIP as part of the strategic plan; Papacostas indicated their LTAP center was at the table at the beginning of their DOT's strategic planning and continue as part of the core group; Lisa Harris, KS LTAP, said it is the same in Kansas' DOT and she is personally involved with the APWA Committee Carla Anderson chairs which focuses on bringing federal, state, and local levels to the table talking about roadway safety; Kevin Burke, IL LTAP, is involved in their state's HSIP through the municipal league and APWA; Janet Leli, NJ LTAP, also has been involved from the beginning with their DOT on the original HSIP and are presently working on updating the next revision; Marie Walsh, LA LTAP, concurred their center was also involved at the very beginning and continue this partnership. Also noted was an APWA CLL happening April 19, 2011, with Matt Enders, WA LTAP and Marie Walsh, LA LTAP, on HSIP: <http://www2.apwa.net/events/eventdetail.asp?ID=5365>. Marie also expressed to Mr. Furst this NLTAPA Safety Work Group looks forward to working more with our Federal and State partners for local governments and ways of improving safety at all levels. She requested to please let us know how we can be of assistance. Mr. Furst said John Dewar and Rosemarie Anderson will be reporting to regarding LTAP/TTAPs involvement with the federal side of safety.

- **NLTAPA Introduction and Overview**

Marie Walsh briefly covered what LTAP/TTAP is for APWA visiting participants. She covered the following:

- This committee is focused on establishing LTAP/TTAP as a national leader in rural road safety by providing leadership, advocacy and improved resources to the local transportation community.
- Noted the 58 centers are nation-wide and receive FHWA and State funding; are based at a DOT or at a university; focus primarily on local roads and agencies by providing training and technical assistance.
- Primary focus is safety – road and highway; but includes training for infrastructure management, workforce development, and organizational excellence.
- As a national program, we build awareness about LTAP/TTAP in the transportation community; assist FHWA with developing strategies for the program; and build the capacity of each center to best meet the needs of its customers, helping centers get more involved in safety.
- Noted NLTAPA's officers and our working relationship with FHWA's Technical Program Partnership assisting with program management and support with the Clearinghouse and Strategic Planning Committee. This national LTAP association also has five other work groups to address various issues.
- This group – the Safety Work Group- works with all LTAP/TTAPs, FHWA, friends, and partners. Presently this group has a new operational structure due to its size: Communication & Outreach, Capacity Building and Work Force Development, Technical Resources, and Leadership.

Communication: All announcements, training opportunities, news items, and anything related to assist centers is dispersed on email listservs, through the Clearinghouse Forum, listed on the NLTAPA website, and to various partners.

Capacity Building and Work Force Development is presently working on a safety component for the regional meetings coming up this spring and for the national summer conference. Also from this subcommittee Victoria Beale, OH LTAP, led on developing HSM Matrix and now is available at NLTAPA website: <http://www.nltapa.org/sites/default/files/HSM%20Training%20Matrix%202012.pdf>

Technical Resources chaired by Tim Collin, MI LTAP, was with Tony Giancola at TRB and sat in at a work session with DOT representatives exploring the Michigan LTAP course created for newly elected local government officials. Giancola noted there was discussion about making it a national program, possibly researching if federal monies would want to invest toward it. This course focuses on transportation topics such as signage and safety. Giancola thought the next step to be taken is following up with the DOT committee members to search for potential funding and perhaps contracting with Cambridge Systematics.

- **APWA Introduction – Goal to Reduce Fatalities and Serious Injuries on Rural Roads**

Carla Anderson, APWA Road Safety Subcommittee Chair:

- She is beginning to realize there are a number of safety resources available and would like to harness them for local government agencies. One of the more recent resources has been the HSM Lite training that will be available at the upcoming APWA Conference and through Click, Listen, & Learn. APWA has been working with Ben Gribbon to provide live training on Highway Safety Improvement Program. In our Mission statement, we are focusing on having the local governments become more familiar with the MUTCD while working with DOTs, finding gaps that might be occurring and then work toward a safety statement. Our main goal is to bring down fatalities on local rural roads and distribute this information out to local city and county governments. She is looking for volunteers for moving forward with the safety program.
- David Brand, NACE, mentioned they are just launching their latest low cost safety measures guide and expects this will get more people involved in starting a safety program. He also emphasized the need to not forget about RSA's and need more local governments to get involved with these audits. APWA/NLTAPA/NACE all have a common bond and common voice about the knowledge that is out there and what we need to get out to our members. Marie noted the importance of cost effective local roads safety planning and safety implementation for locals and now how to get all involved. Giancola noted that the new guide works with the planning element, then use of data, followed by specific kinds of methods and tools. The guide will be an effective tool for locals. Marie looks forward to having LTAP/TTAPs promoting it and will get the information to Carla also. Dave Brand mentioned

there will be a conference call coming up toward the end of February (2/23/2012?) and there are some NLTAPA reps on the call. He will be sending a notice out soon and all are welcomed to join in.

- **FHWA Update**

John Dewar said it is helpful having a joint meeting. The new ATSSA/NACE guide is coming out at a good time to update 2006 manual to broaden out to the planning area. Coming up from the Center for Excellence for Rural Safety is a live webinar featuring Matt Enders, WA LTAP, Target Zero Plan for their Best Practices for Rural Traffic Safety on Thursday, February 23, 2012, 3-4pm (EST):

<http://www.ruralsafety.umn.edu/events/corridorsafety/>

- Rosemarie Anderson is now serving also as the Office of Safety's Liaison to APWA and NLTAPA where Ben Gribbon previously served in this position. She discussed the HSM will help local agencies develop a safety plan. Presently the last volume is being developed on the speed management and should come out in spring. If you want training on the HSM Lite from Hillary Isebrands you will need to contact her immediately to get on her calendar. The new Safety Countermeasures compliment the original ones. NEW – FHWA 9 Proven Safety Countermeasures:

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/provencountermeasures/> The Safety Compass newsletter is dedicating the summer issue to this topic. Rosemarie will send Carla and Michele the information to provide articles to her for this issue. Rosemarie discussed the ongoing planning for the two Peer-to-Peer meetings in Colorado and New Jersey. They are presently also working on an August 5, 2012 Peer-to-Peer exchange with Bruce Drewes, ID LTAP.

- **National Strategy - Towards Zero Death Project Update – Kelly Hardy, AASHTO**

Kelly reported their revision project on TZD will be completed in April. This will allow everyone to review it and talk over the summer about adopting the new plan and how agencies can implement it. There is also a new communications plan that includes updated the old web site and should be launched in just a few months with more new materials. Once the framework is completed, thought has gone into how to implement the plan with DOTS and all safety partners, everyone will be on the same page and can push for a nation-wide effort.

Discussion followed on the TZD effort and how increased local input at preliminary workshops has kept emphasis on local roads as we go forward with this effort.

- John Dewar noted the safety edge is one of those national efforts of a countermeasure being promoted and had forty states try it out. Fifteen states have since adopted it as a standard and they are looking at more states adopting it next year. Along that vein, they are also looking at EDC initiatives and hope for more acceptance of these safety initiatives too.

- **APWA Action Items**

Discussion followed on road safety audits and why do some states use them and others do not. There is a new book coming out from that they hope reaches the smaller local agencies. This may be an area of concern and Carla will check CLL data to see how widely RSAs are being used.

Several LTAPs gave examples of how they are working with their local APWA chapters. Carla will move forward by requesting volunteers who will want to start a progressive program with their APWA chapters. She will survey what APWA provides for LTAP and how LTAPs can serve locals' needs. She could also see more partnering on articles on APWA and on Safety Compass. **Action Item: Laura Slusher, IN LTAP, would like to do more with their APWA chapter. Carla will contact her. Martha Horseman, KY LTAP, will work with Carla regarding APWA to expand training.**

Rick Pain from TRB said after their annual meeting, they have practice ready research. The reviewers are ready to go on the road with practical application of research. These research papers may be of interest to APWA and LTAP. He thought we may want to go through papers and find projects that are particularly suited for locals. If they are, pull those and use communication techniques to distribute to folks to consider as something new and different of real interest. He will let us know by mid-March.

Carla will be developing links on their webpage to link road safety items of TRB, FHWA, and LTAPs.

Carla will send an email out to let everyone know what we are expecting from them regarding things discussed today as well as a possible future joint meeting date.

- **Local Programs Update**

- **Action Items/Next Steps:**

- March SWG – March 12, 2012 – TRB highlights
  - TRB Highway Safety Performance Committee outreach
- April SWG Meeting will discuss TTC Training for First Responders (Tom McDonald/Bruce Drewes)