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# Introduction to LTAP/TTAP and NLTAPA

The Federal Highway Administration created the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) in 1982 to provide local agencies with information and training programs to address the maintenance of local roadways and bridges. The Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) was established in 1991 to address the transportation needs of Native American tribes.

The Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) and Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) are composed of a network of 58 Centers – one in every state, Puerto Rico and regional Centers serving tribal governments. The LTAP/TTAP Centers enable local counties, parishes, townships, cities and towns to improve their roads and bridges by supplying them with a variety of training programs, an information clearinghouse, new and existing technology updates, personalized technical assistance and newsletters

The National Local Technical Assistance Program Association (NLTAPA) is a not-for-profit organization representing and serving LTAP/TTAP Member-Centers in the United States and Puerto Rico. All staff of Member-Centers are entitled to Association services and opportunities to serve.

In 2005, the Association formed six work groups: Training Resources, Professional Development, Safety, External Communications, Partnerships, and Internal Communications.

These work groups, with members from NLTAPA elected representatives and the general membership, produce most of the Association's tangible results. Each work group develops an annual plan and budget.

For more information regarding NLTAPA: www.nltapa.org

# NLTAPA Safety Work Group

The NLTAPA Safety Work Group (WG), one of the six work groups, serves as a focal point for NLTAPA's safety efforts and a primary point of contact for other national safety stakeholders.

Safety WG members coordinate and promote LTAP/TTAP safety activities nationally and respond to requests for assistance on safety matters that impact local agencies and other LTAP/TTAP customers. Safety WG members are active in many road safety efforts and routinely represent LTAP/TTAP and the local transportation community on committees and task groups.

The Safety WG has provided participants on technical panels as well as helped develop and implement materials and outreach programs for local audiences. The Safety WG strives to incorporate a road safety focus into all LTAP/TTAP activities and to highlight the importance of the local agencies in identifying and solving road safety problems in their communities and states.

As the NLTAPA Safety work group engages LTAP/TTAP with the larger local road safety community, it is clear that Centers can play an increased role, and that many opportunities exist for Centers to further their activities in local roadway safety and thus increase our national impact in the safety focus area.

Through the dedicated NLTAPA Safety Work Group with broad Center representation, the LTAP/TTAP Program is better connected than ever before to stakeholders, key groups and initiatives – both within FHWA and in the wider association community – that affect road safety for locals.

## NLTAPA SAFETY WORK GROUP

#### **CO-CHAIRS:**

Marie Walsh, LA LTAP Bruce Drewes, ID LTAP

#### **MEMBERS:**

Janet Leli, NJ LTAP Ronald Eck, WV LTAP Bruce Drewes, ID LTAP Daniel Cady, NE LTAP Tom McDonald, IA LTAP Matthew Enders, WA LTAP Kevin Burke, IL LTAP Ben Colucci, PR LTAP Alberto Figueroa, PR LTAP Khaled Ksaibati, WY LTAP Janet Degner, FL LTAP Jaime Carreon, FL LTAP Matt Cate, TN LTAP Lauren Cosentino, KY LTAP C.S. Popacostas, HI LTAP Cliff Reuer, SD LTAP Michele Beck, MT LTAP Tim Colling, MI LTAP Joni Graves, WI LTAP Dina Johnson, KY LTAP Keith Knapp, IA LTAP Christy Lovett, GA LTAP Mark Sandifer, FHWA John Dewar, FHWA Rosemarie Anderson, FHWA Brian C. Roberts, NACE David Brand, NACE Safety Kelly Hardy, AASHTO Safety Cathy Gillen, RSF Susan Monahan, LTAP-TTAP Clearinghouse

#### CONTACTS:

Marie Walsh, Co-Chair mbwalsh@ltrc.lsu.edu

**Bruce Drewes**, Co-Chair bdrewes@Ihtac.org

Visit the Safety Work Group on the web for meeting info, minutes, Safety updates

and more!

www.NLTAPA.org

# NLTAPA Safety Work Group 2010-2011 Highlights

Held meetings with FHWA Office of Safety Associate Administrator, Joe Toole, as well as FHWA Safety & TPP staff to discuss the role of LTAP/TTAP in future safety programs and how we can best work together to further our national safety agendas. Participated in Safety Partners meeting with FHWA TPP and Resource Center Safety Team in Denver in October.

Coordinated with FHWA Office of Safety's new Local and Rural Safety Cross Office Work Group (COWG); and worked to develop a more structured and documented working relationship between COWG and LTAP/NLTAPA. With Jeff Zaharewicz, FHWA LTAP/TTAP Program Manager, and Cameron Ishaq, FHWA OS Consultant, the NLTAPA Safety Work Group continues to aggressively work toward narrowing our national safety strategy to three primary efforts:

- Maintain, manage and grow external national road safety partnerships and relationships
  Create and maintain a tool kit of road safety resources accessible to Centers
- •Define a menu of proposed road safety efforts and actions of LTAP/ TTAP Centers

Through this increased strategic focus on safety, inclusion of these new safety efforts may require additional discussion and negotiation with the state DOT, FHWA Divisions, or other funding sources.

### LTAP/TTAP 2010 Safety Focus

647 Safety Newsletter Articles 3,160 Safety Courses 62,431 Safety Workshop Participants Began development of a Safety Toolkit for use by all centers. Began development of a Safety Checklist Tool for Centers to use to evaluate the status of their safety programs. Distributed and analyzed results of a brief safety survey at the LTAP-TTAP Conference to benchmark current center activities regarding safety best practices, DOT safety relationships, safety capacity and needs.

Represented NLTAPA on the NCHRP Project to implement the 2011 National SHSP Peer Exchange to ensure that LTAPand local agencies are included in State SHSP development and implementation.

Developed and submitted a proposal for an NCRHP synthesis project to examine the status and accessibility of crash and road characteristic data for safety purposes with an emphasis on local roads.

Participated on NCHRP Project 17-18 development; and reviewed and distributed NCHRP White Paper: Alternate Strategies for Safety Improvement Investments.

Worked to implement a rural roads focus amongst AASHTO's Safety Management Subcommittee. Coordinated the development of a Local Roads Resolution signed by AASHTO; and crafted an LTAP-TTAP program response to the resolution with detailed supporting tasks.

Had five LTAP representatives at AASHTO's Safety Management Subcommittee Meeting in Kansas City, MO in September 2010.

Participated in the development of the Workforce Development portion of the AASHTO SCOHTS Strategic Plan. Participated on AASHTO SCOHTS Task Group 2: Technical Safety Publication Oversight & Outreach to influence training resources on the Highway Safety Manual geared toward local governments. Participated in several HSM peer exchanges across the country.

Participated on AASHTO SCOHTS Task Group 4: Safety Data Systems & Analysis and Workforce Development.

Participated on regularly scheduled meeting of FHWA's EDC Safety Edge committee. Developed an LTAP-TTAP Safety Shoe Loan Program. Worked with FHWA to purchase and deliver seven Safety Edge paving shoes. Developed and distributed Safety Edge informational packets to all Centers including an implementation toolkit, and videos for supplemental training opportunities. (Provided training for Centers with loaned shoes at a Safety Edge Open House in Florida in March 2011.)

Participated in an invitationonly Towards Zero Deaths stakeholder workshop and summit in Washington DC.

Participated on two FHWA Technical Oversight Working Groups for local guide book development.

Encouraged LTAP-TTAP programs to participate in the National Click It or Ticket campaign, and provided resource information.

Coordinated with ATSSA and APWA on LTAP-TTAP presentations at their 2010 Annual Conferences.