

President's message

2017 was certainly an interesting year. Changes, meetings, surprises and more twists and turns than a Tom Clancy spy novel. I want to thank everyone for your support of the Executive Committee (EC) this year and we trust you will support us when we ask for more help in 2018. We need to communicate more than ever and remember the audience we all serve. Working together, we have built a valued program. Staying strong together, with the highway agencies foremost in our plans, will help ensure our success in the future.

David Orr, Acting President

Here's to Denise - steadier, stronger and better every day.

Our current president, Denise Brown, is in the battle of her life: she is fighting a rare form of cancer. All of us on the EC are united behind her new mission to fight and beat this cancer. We ask for your support during this time.

Executive Committee Report

Bylaws: At the fall EC meeting in Columbus, OH, we prepared an updated set of bylaws. These changes include adding the roles and responsibilities of the new Vice-Treasurer position, removing out of date language and a general wordsmithing. An official call for a vote will occur at the Winter Business Meeting with actual voting taking place 30 days afterwards. A copy of the draft changes will be available on the NLTAPA.org website by then. Copies will also be provided to those in attendance.

Vice-Treasurer: Amy Begnoche, NH LTAP, is stepping down as the Vice Treasurer due to changes in the NH LTAP program. We wish her well in her future endeavors. We will be looking for a new Vice Treasurer, so let us know if you are interested.

Strategic Planning Committee (SPC): The new strategic planning committee (SPC) held their first meeting in Lakewood, Colorado in late spring. One of the outcomes was to develop a national survey of our audience. This is being prepared by the Center for Local Aid Support (CLAS). We collected your comments on the initial questions and submitted them to CLAS and the Office of Management & Budget (OMB). As of this date, we have not seen the final survey language. Once CLAS receives final OMB approval, they will be moving forward with the survey. We do not have a detailed time frame for when this will be released. Stay tuned...

TTAP's: The seven TTAP's were closed as of the end of September 2017. A few of the centers have developed independent technical assistance programs without FHWA support. As of early December, the University of Virginia's Center for Transportation Studies (also the host of the LTAP Center in Virginia) was announced as the administrative host for the new national TTAP Center. A Road Scholars equipment training facility is planned to be hosted in central Oklahoma, but the final details are still to be worked out. Again, stay tuned ...

Innovation and Implementation Work Group: Finally, we agreed at the EC meeting in Columbus to form an innovation and implementation work group, which we will probably refer to as the Innovation WG too often even though implementation is a very important component. We need folks to step up to serve in leadership roles for that work group and to have everyone help make the new work group succeed. Like safety, a dozen years ago, innovation is one of the shining stars of FHWA and we need to find a way to show what the local audience and the LTAP Centers are already doing in innovation. We should plan to incorporate innovation where we can as we help the local agencies manage their system.

Thank you for your support and please keep Denise in your thoughts.

Reported By: David Orr

2018 NLTAPA Leadership (as of Winter Business Meeting)

NLTAPA Website [<http://www.nltapa.org/>]

Officers

President

Denise Brown, ND LTAP

On Leave of Absence, [denise.brown.1@ndsu.edu]

Training Resources

Highlights:

Sponsored two breakout sessions at NLTAPA in Portsmouth, one on training tools and techniques, and one featuring brief presentations on the 11 posters submitted by the centers. Updated Training Resource Syntheses for the following: Winter Maintenance Motor Grader Operator Managing the Department Held discussions with NACE on NLTAPA role in updating NACE guides for Road Surface Management and Road Safety. Held ongoing discussions with NHI on access to training materials. Began initiative to develop out of the box resource templates for tailgate safety meetings.

Ongoing issues partially addressed in 2017:

Hosting of resource materials online; where will they reside? Updating the 2013 training resources needs survey – on hold pending national survey of stakeholders by CLAS. Development of action plan for qualification/utilization of NHI certified instructors within the LTAP Centers.

Reported By: Steven Strength

Professional Development Work Group

Workgroup Members: Kim Carr and Rusty Lee - Co-Chairs Paul Albritton, Denise Brown, Mindy Carlson, Melissa Foley, Kristin Kelly, Terri Nihil, Megan Patent-Nygren, Cindy Schaedig

Highlights:

- The pilot Colleague to Colleague mentorship program was rolled out. It will be continued as a regular program in 2018.
- Began working on the development of an NLTAPA geared orientation for new directors and others that are new to LTAP. This orientation would be separate from the New Director Orientation that is being conducted by FHWA. The focus would be learning more about NLTAPA, how it relates to the program, and it would be peer to peer based.
- LTAP/TTAP U was held for the fourth straight year as a pre-conference training, with over 70 people attending the 2017 event.
- Two new members joined the group in 2017, Melissa Foley and Terri Nihil.

The Colleague to Colleague pilot mentorship program was implemented in the spring of 2017, with Kristin Kelly and Cindy Schaedig taking the lead on coordinating this initiative. The pilot program included eight people in the advisee role and eight advisors.

Kristin created an electronic survey that was sent out in January to NLTAPA members that had indicated their interest in participating in the pilot program. This survey helped clarify what capacity each person wanted to participate and the items that were most important to them when being matched. Cindy sent out the welcome email in March to the pilot program participants that included suggested guidelines for both the advisors and advisees; this email officially kicked off this initiative. In June, program participants were emailed a follow-up survey so the PD workgroup could gauge what worked, what changes should be made, and overall feedback. Kristin and Cindy provided an update on this program and the survey results at LTAP/TTAP U. Based on the feedback received, the Colleague to Colleague program will continue, with some suggested changes being incorporated.

The 2017 LTAP/TTAP U pre-conference session was once again a popular offering, for both individuals new to LTAP/TTAP and more experienced members. At this year's conference, there were approximately thirty first time attendees, and many of these individuals attended LTAP/TTAP U.

Due in part to a number of centers having new leadership and staff, in conjunction with the NLTAPA EC, Kim and Rusty submitted a draft proposal for implementing a peer to peer orientation program. It is important that new Center leaders and staff are welcomed into NLTAPA and are aware of available resources. This orientation program would be separate from the one provided by FHWA and would focus on the Association's role. The goal is to launch this initiative in 2018.

Reported By: Kim Carr

Joint Safety Program

Highlights:

Represented NLTAPA at national meetings

AASHTO Safety Management Subcommittee and Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety
National Tribal Transportation Conference

Presented/participated at national peer exchanges

Gravel Roads Local Road Safety Plans

Organized/sponsored webinars

Safety Circuit Riders Signing Basics and Engineering Studies Unpaved Roadway Safety

Organized/moderated safety sessions at the annual meeting in Virginia

EDC Safety Initiatives Past & Present Urban & Rural Pedestrian Safety Communicating Safety: Engaging Elected Officials and the Public workshop

Continued partnership with FHWA on joint program initiatives

FHWA Office of Safety FHWA Resource Center National Center for Rural Road Safety

Distributed safety resources to membership

NLTAPA.org repository on the Safety Work Group page LTAP/TTAP Forums (now discontinued)

Reported By:

Matthew Enders (Washington LTAP), Janet Leli (New Jersey LTAP), and Nicole Frankl (Nebraska LTAP),
Safety Work Group Co-Chairs

Partnerships Work Group

Highlights:

NLTAPA Partner Liaisons attended the national meetings for each of our partner groups and were provided with an opportunity to provide an NLTAPA update to their members. LTAP/TTAP and NTTD agreed to work on a joint national conference in 2019. A national partnership activity survey was conducted. Results were compiled and reviewed during an “All Partners” conference call held in November, 2017. The results of the partnership survey are also being used to develop a set of best practices/examples of partner activities centers can implement. NACE, in partnership with NLTAPA and the FHWA Office of Safety is developing a conference session on Local Road Safety Plans for the 2018 NACE conference (a blended learning approach with advance webinars). APWA is planning an article in the APWA Reporter to highlight successful LTAP/APWA Chapter partnerships. Due to a strong partnership with the New England APWA Chapter, the CT LTAP was awarded the Donald C. Stone Award at the 2017 APWA PWX.

We want to thank the NLTAPA Partner Liaisons for their hard work this year and to Victoria Beale for volunteering to be the Co-Chair of the work group. Special thanks to Martha Horseman who will become the APWA liaison at the January Winter Business Meeting.

Reported By: Donna Shea

Conference Work Group

Highlights:

2017 Conference – Portsmouth, VA July 17-20

The 2017 Summer Conference at the Renaissance in Portsmouth, VA had a total attendance of 172 and broke even!

Highlights included the opening reception, partnership updates, 5 center sharing sessions and the evening banquet complete with photo booth, game show, and the Build a Better Mousetrap award announcement.

2018 Conference – New Orleans, LA July 22-26

The 2018 conference is scheduled for July 22-26 in New Orleans. Registration details and budget should be available by the Winter Business Meeting.

Hotel Monteleone, 214 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

Reported By: David Orr

Communications Work Group

NLTAPA Website

<http://www.nltapa.org/>

Please explore and favorite our Association website for resources and events provided by the Association's Executive Committee, national partners, and member centers.provided by the Association's Executive Committee, national partners, and member centers.

What is NLTAPA about and what are the benefits of membership?

[<http://www.nltapa.org/about-us>]

Work Group Information

[<http://www.nltapa.org/workgroups>]

Region Information

[<http://www.nltapa.org/regions>]

NLTAPA is on Facebook!!

Be in the know with all the happenings, events and general updates or even just to connect with other LTAP/TTAPs.

Join the NLTAPA Facebook page at: [<https://www.facebook.com/groups/656567654531928/>]

If the link doesn't work, try searching for NLTAPA, then send a request to join.

NLTAPA Google Groups

[<https://groups.google.com/d/forum/nltapagroup>]

"How To"

Join a group

Sign in to Google Groups. Learn how to join if you don't have a Google Account.

To join a group, click Join group or Apply to join group. If a group is invite-only, you can ask to be invited by clicking Contact owner. Rebecca Mayher [rmayher@azdot.gov].

After you've joined the group, you'll get an email letting you know. If you applied or contacted the owner, that means your application needs to be approved.

Change your settings and display name

You can change your display name, photo, email address, and how frequently you get email from the group.

Sign in to Google Groups.

Click My Groups. Choose a group. In the top right, click My settings and then Membership and email settings. Choose your settings. Click Save. Join a Google group without a Gmail address

If you don't have a Google Account, you can still:

Read posts in public groups

Search for posts in public groups

Post to public groups via the web forum

But you'll need a Google Account to:

Create and manage a group

Join a group

Post to private groups you've been added to

Read a restricted group's posts

To use these features with Google Groups, you can create a Google Account without changing your email address.

Using a non-Gmail account to Access NLTAPA GoogleGroup

If you want to use a non-Gmail account to access the forums and have not done this before, here are the easy steps to create a Google account with your existing email.

1. Go to [<http://www.google.com/>] (NOT GMAIL)
2. If you are currently signed in, select the round image in the top right corner and select "Sign out"
3. Select "Sign in"
4. Select "Use another account" or "Create account"
5. If a Sign in box appears, select "More options" and "Create Account"
6. Fill out the form. Below the box title "Choose your username" select "I prefer to use my current email address."
7. Follow the prompts, and you are done.

Thank you Andrew Morgan from WV LTAP for this easy trouble shoot for non-Gmail accounts.

Reported by Rebecca Mayher

CLAS Sharepoint

Share Point access should be available to those who have registered. If you have registered and have not been able to get into the Share Point site, please let CLAS know asap. Also, please copy David Orr on the email so he can help you get access. You will need access to the site to upload your PAR data for 2017.

Also, David found he had to use Internet Explorer and make sure ActiveX was working in order to access the tables for bulk uploading of data. Here are the steps they used.

ActiveX

Open Internet Explorer

1. Click on settings icon
2. Choose Compatibility View Settings
3. Add dot.gov web site – keep the two boxes on the bottom checked

- You can open the [<https://collaboration.fhwa.dot.gov/dot/fhwa/LocalAidSupport>] first and dot.gov will be populated when you open Compatibility View Setting

If you have issues getting into Share Point even after registration is complete, we found that it takes two steps to get into the site.

1. Sign in <https://collaboration.fhwa.dot.gov> first to log in.
2. Then open the CLAS Share Point location:
[<https://collaboration.fhwa.dot.gov/dot/fhwa/LocalAidSupport>]

Please let David Orr [david.orr@cornell.edu] (and CLAS [clas@dot.gov]) as soon as possible if you are having issues.

Region Reports

Mid-Atlantic Region Update

The Mid-Atlantic Region (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia) continued to hold our monthly conference calls.

During our regional meeting which was held October 26-27, 2017 in Lewes, DE we closed out the NLTAPA Summer Conference and each center provided the following updates.

Virginia LTAP

Virginia is working on having tow truck drivers trained as first responders on Work Zones. They have more than 40 being certified in Richmond. Bridge Preservation – working with VDOT on this course and websites to go along with it. They are starting a Safety Circuit Rider Program.

West Virginia LTAP

West Virginia provided a backhoe course (Kim drove a backhoe over a trench!) Revamping their chainsaw training with a new trainer.

Delaware T2 Center

Delaware provided equipment blind spot demonstrations (30 men can fit behind a truck and the driver can't see them). The DE Center is working on getting a snow plow simulator, still working on funding. The DE Center also assisted with the Municipal Street Aid Fund (legislator denotes what funding goes where; they assisted in creating a planning level estimate and created a spreadsheet to provide a breakdown on what costs what).

Maryland Transportation Technology Transfer Center

The Maryland Center welcomed a new administrative assistant, has continued to have a rise in requested courses and came up with a cute tradeshow giveaway (a small construction cone phone holder).

Pennsylvania LTAP

The Pennsylvania center has a new Road Scholar II program which will begin in 2018. Their Build a Better Mousetrap competition has been announced; last year they had 20 submissions from 15 municipalities.

The Mid-Atlantic Region is also working on reviving the Roadway Management Conference which will be held October 15-17, 2018 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Reported by: Carly Keane, Mid-Atlantic Regional Representative

North East Regional Update

Connecticut T2 Center

The Center was honored with the APWA 2017 Donald C. Stone Award for Excellence in Education.

The first CT Safety Champion was recognized for completion of the Safety Academy training program

The CT T2 Center co-hosted the Northeast Transportation Safety Conference

Maine Local Roads Center

Been slowed down quite a bit as we have not filled Jerry's position yet.

Conducted 8 breakfast workshops entitled "Crosswalks, Sidewalks, and the ADA" for municipal officials and had 67 towns apply for a set of our 40 free "rapid rectangular flashing beacons" to be installed at specific crosswalks to significantly improve pedestrian safety in Maine. (\$5,000 value each)

Our "Timeout for Training" stations at the 26th Maine Highway Congress in Skowhegan generated much interest and participation. About 200 folks went through the stations and about 80 of them walked away with some great prizes donated by the vendors.

We deployed 2 portable speed trailers in many towns in Franklin, Somerset, Kennebec and Piscataquis counties. Each town can borrow them for 2 weeks.

We inventoried bad local road signs in 14 towns in Lincoln and Sagadahoc counties for our Regulatory and Warning Sign replacement program and provided \$38,000 worth of hardware to replace them and improve local road safety.

Helped DOT Traffic Division conduct 3 days of traffic signal maintenance training for municipal and private employees

Massachusetts Baystate Roads Program

Presented 135 workshops with 2,706 attendees on 33 different topics.

Developed new Trench & Excavation Safety, Basics of a Good Road, and Equipment Operator Training workshops.

Increased our conference registration rates by an average of 12% each:

Innovation & Technology Exchange Conference registration: 886 (2016 - 788)

Moving Together Conference registration: 844 (2016 - 743)

Reduced our training location rate expenditures by 88% this year, by using free municipal locations and DPW's to host classes. Offer two free class spaces or vouchers for future Baystate training.

Developed a partnership with the New England Tractor Trailer Training School, to provide municipal employees with reduced rates for CDL-B Licensure Training. To date, 13 people have registered for this program; 5 of whom have received their CDL-B Licenses.

New Hampshire Technology Transfer Center

Record number of Workshops: 129

Successfully co-hosted the 4th Annual NH Salt Symposium with just under 200 attendees

Grant concluding on 12/31/17; new Grant is on the Governor's desk - with all positions (except Butch's) being reclassified and new hires taking place within the first few months

Charlie Goodspeed, the original Principal Investigator and Executive Director of T2, retiring after 32 years

New Jersey LTAP

Cornell Local Roads Program (New York LTAP)

52 workshops with 1,018 attendees in 13 different topics

Finalized new workshop with workbook Local Roads & Streets Done Right

Ran pavement management summer intern program with 11 municipalities

Highway School attendance: 726

Bridge Conference attendance: 373 (increase of 25 over last year)

Developed action plans with two additional statewide partners for a total of six agreements: American Public Works Association NY Metro, American Public Works Association Upstate, Association of Towns of the State of New York, New York Conference of Mayors, New York State County Highway

Superintendents Association (NACE affiliate), and NYS Association of Town Superintendents of Highways.

Vermont Local Roads LTAP

Successfully hosted the 30th Northeast Regional LTAP

Conference in May at Lake Fairlee with 29 attendees

Todd Eaton (VT Circuit Rider) obtain his OSHA 10 instructors certification

Reported by: Donna Shea

North Central Region Update

Colorado LTAP

Colorado LTAP's recent three biggest tasks have revolved around successful projects supported by alternative funding sources.

Colorado LTAP received State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) funds to hold a Local Innovation Implementation Summit. The Summit idea originated after attending FHWA's EDC IV Summit in fall 2016. We started trying to break down the EDC initiatives into smaller bits and think of ways to make the processes more attractive/accessible to local agencies. Discussion focused on physical equipment and technologies that could be implemented to "support" EDC; such as Traffic Volume Counters for DDSA, or Pavement Temperature Sensors for Road Weather Management, etc. The CO LTAP Advisory Board picked 13 initiatives out of all EDC topics that were most appropriate to local and rural roads. LTAP implemented a short state survey asking local agencies to vote on their Top 5 of those 13 EDC topics. The highest top 5 topics became the Summit Sessions covered. Sessions were lengthened to 2-hours each to provide attendees with enough information to feel confident in implementing the initiatives once returning to their jurisdictions. The Summit involved two unique aspects – the first was we required interested vendors to "apply" to exhibit and we required each to have a hands-on/interactive aspect to their displays illustrating their technology/innovation – no tables with just flyers. Example exhibits included ADA work zone traffic control devices and ramp that locals had to navigate with a wheelchair or cane with disabling goggles; a snow plow simulator; and equipment from CDOT's Lean Innovations program in which they won STIC funds to manufacture select technologies they will distribute for local agency use. One of the best features was that 7 local agencies also brought their equipment and trucks to display their past Better Mousetrap winning projects. The second unique aspect of the Summit was we minimized the cost to local agencies at only \$25 per person for the 2-day event; and covered free hotel rooms for local gov't agencies traveling farther than 80 miles, in order to encourage West Slope agencies to attend. City & County participants made up 68% of the total 193 attendees; and there were 4 attendees from other LTAP centers. The event was a great success and well-liked by local agency participants. The STIC funding received covered 55% of the total Summit cost;

and next time - LTAP Center participants could even apply for FHWA Technology Transfer (T2) funds to ATTEND!

The other two big Center projects involve STIC funds received to implement a new Learning Management System; and Technology Transfer funds received to expand the Center's Equipment Loan Program. The Center is adding new equipment/technologies to the loan program that support implementation of the EDC initiatives; and the Center purchased the xCatalyst Event/Association/Website Management System from ESX, Inc. – the similar system to MA and FL LTAP. We have spent the last few months implementing our own customizations and will Go Live in January 2018.

Iowa LTAP

The Iowa Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) continued its efforts within several focus areas of training, outreach, and technical assistance for which Iowa local agencies have indicated a need. These included safety-related trainings as well those focused on curb ramp design, motorgrader operation, bridge or culvert hydraulics, leadership and supervisory skills, and bridge inspection. In addition to these typical activities Iowa LTAP also introduced the local agencies to a series of innovations that have either been suggested nationally or developed within the state of Iowa. Events, workshops, and presentations were provided for innovations that included four lane three lane roadway conversions (i.e., road diets), ultra-high performance concrete, self-cleaning multi-barrel culverts, and a tool to measure the cost savings and sustainability impacts of using recycled materials on unpaved roadways.

In addition, the Iowa LTAP assisted with and attended an Unpaved Roadway Safety peer exchange and organized a tour of facilities related to the steel and galvanizing of elements related to bridge construction.

KANSAS LTAP

Kansas LTAP, in partnership with the Kansas County Highway Association and Kansas Association of Counties, developed and published a "Kansas Handbook of Traffic Control Guidance for Low-Volume Rural Roads."

Kansas LTAP developed and hosted a 3-part webinar series outlining FHWA's "Proven Safety Countermeasures," addressing a number of safety focus areas including roadway departure, intersection, and pedestrian and bicycle crashes. Transportation professionals from across the country attended.

Kansas LTAP, in partnership with KDOT's Bureau of Local Projects, received an FHWA Excellence in Right-of-Way Stewardship Award. This was in recognition a new certification process and web-based training, using FHWA LPA videos, for Local Public Agencies in Kansas.

We will be piloting online courses in asset management, winter maintenance and workplace safety topics from PublicWorksTraining.com to introduce Kansas agencies to this training resource and assess interest in further online training.

The “MINK” 2017 conference included presentations on innovations in reducing scour at culverts, and building “Lego” block culverts.

Mehrdad Givechi, Traffic Safety Engineer, announced his retirement after 26 years with Kansas LTAP. We will miss Mehrdad’s technical expertise, can-do spirit, personal warmth, and all he brought to our LTAP family.

MONTANA LTAP

Our center has hit the ground running with our new Director, and we are having great success in reaching out to our communities to tailor our efforts to meet the needs of our communities. We are also expanding our class inventory, providing more training on new topics to meet the demands of counties in the Fall district Meetings. We provided our first First-Aid/CPR/AED training to Lewis & Clark County and the City of Helena, and traveled on short notice to provide Flagger Certification training to Meagher & Broadwater Counties.

We are updating our flagger certification, WZT, TCS, & TTT to meet ATSSA specifications, and we have audited our database of certified trainers to ensure trainers have been kept up to date. We are currently working on a local project of significance with an economically challenged County to improve a major gravel road accessing key State and Federal recreational resources. We are planning to have our first meeting/orientation meeting with FHWA in January. Our Director is also reaching out to neighboring States with great success. The North Dakota LTAP invited our easternmost counties to a training this summer, and our Director traveled to Rapid City’s regional Local Roads Conference (South Dakota LTAP) this fall to present on OHV/ATV Safety analysis.

MISSOURI LTAP

Missouri LTAP has some exciting opportunities because of the restructuring that took place during summer 2017 at Missouri University of Science and Technology. Missouri LTAP, previously under the Office of Sponsored Programs, is now part of the Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering Department. This development will provide several new possibilities for the agencies served as well as help extend Missouri LTAP’s customer base. Missouri LTAP can provide training in the department’s materials labs on aggregate selection and testing. This should be of strong interest to local agencies along with contractors. Additionally, Missouri LTAP will have a better connection with the research on advancements in various pavements and innovative solutions in infrastructure technology development. This will allow the Center to develop a stronger partnership for technology transfer to better engage an ever-increasing LTAP customer base.

The Missouri Local Training & Resource Center also operates the Missouri Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) alongside Missouri LTAP. 2017 marked the end of a five-year RTAP contract. The Center recently completed a successful proposal for a three-year contract with an option for a two-year extension. This provides beneficial cost sharing and administrative overlap between the two programs. Missouri LTAP benefits from this additional funding source.

NEBRASKA LTAP

Nebraska LTAP is advancing a formalized technical assistance component to expand services across the state. Though technical assistance has always been integral to the LTAP mission, in 2017 we made advances in three areas – Transportation Asset Management, Local Safety Plans, and Road Safety Audits. In each of these areas, NE LTAP partnered with local agencies and municipalities to address safety concerns and discuss potential solutions. Safety countermeasures may be implemented and signs will be installed in 2018. Insights from these developing projects will facilitate the evolution of more extensive technical assistance outreach for 2018.

Nebraska LTAP participated in the Unpaved Roads Peer Exchange in Lincoln, Nebraska and attended the Local Road Safety Plan Peer Exchange in Boise, ID. We look forward to working with local and regional partners in 2018 as we continue to provide high-quality service and assistance across the state.

WYOMING LTAP

The Wyoming LTAP has been involved in collecting PMS data on all paved county roads. In 2017, we shifted the data collection from video logs to an automatic system which will save us lots of time and efforts. The processing of the video logs was time consuming but the new automatic processing for data will save time and provide more accuracy and consistency in the future.

In addition to the management system for paved roads, we have started a pilot study in Laramie county to manage gravel roads. The management of gravel roads will include developing an optimization model to optimize budgets. The findings of this pilot study will be shared with other counties for potential statewide implementation.

Reported By: Terri Nehill, North Central Region Representative

South Central Update

Highlights:

Preparations are underway for the NLTAPA Annual Conference in New Orleans, hosted by the South Central Region! Individual center highlights for 2017 included:

Arkansas- Laura D. Carter, Director

The Arkansas T2 Center is enjoying the benefits of working on a two-year work plan (2017-2018)

Hosted a “Construction Site Safety in Work Zones” class in West Memphis on December 12-13, 2017. This training is being conducted by The University of Texas - Arlington as a regional grant project.

Conducted six classes on the “Guide for Traffic Signs, Markings, and Signals,” based on the MUTCD, and also contracted for classes in Trench Safety/Excavation training and Confined Space training.

Our ROADS Scholar Program now has 102 graduates at Level 1, and 11 graduates at Level 2.

Louisiana – Marie B. Walsh, Director

The Louisiana LTAP Center houses the Local Road Safety Program on behalf of the Louisiana DOTD, and conducted training on the internally generated Crash Data Profiles, as well as crash countermeasure selection, to the 9 SHSP Regional Safety Coalitions around the State.

Coordinated two EDC Pavement Preservation workshops and is working with our NACE chapter to develop a simple Asset Management Program to support Pavement Preservation and emergency relief reimbursement for local roads following natural disasters.

Using STIC funds, coordinated two workshops with locals and LADOTD participation aimed at streamlining the delivery process for LPA projects.

Celebrated its 30th year with the ever popular “Chainsaw Safety and Precision Felling” class at four locations in May.

New Mexico – Josh Johnson, Program Manager

Transfer of the New Mexico LTAP Center to the University of New Mexico was accomplished this year, culminated by the hiring of a Program Manager in September. Dr. Gregory Rowangould and Dr. Susan Bogus Halter of the University of New Mexico serve as Center Directors.

Participated in the New Mexico Data Integration Peer Exchange in Santa Fe in November. Sponsored by FHWA and New Mexico DOT, the event included representation from ten States and featured discussions on roadway and traffic data collection, dissemination, and data quality.

Developed course schedule for the coming year including ADA Compliance, GIS, Geospatial Surveying, and on-site Heavy Equipment Training, as well as CDL prep and Forklift certification.

Oklahoma – Michael Hinkston, Director

The Oklahoma LTAP Center bade farewell to its longtime Director, Douglas Wright, on August 15. With 33 years of service, Doug was the longest tenured member of the National LTAP program. During this time he has taught more than 1000 classes to over 33,000 students, and overseen the certification of over 500 Roads Scholar graduates.

Conducted four Snow and Ice Control Techniques workshops, as well as Roads Scholar classes on Construction Project Management, Aggregate Road Maintenance, Surveying, and Testing for Soil Properties, among many others.

Continuing its commitment to the Every Day Counts innovations, the Center hosted EDC workshops at multiple sites on:

Pavement Preservation – When, Where, and How Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian (STEP) EDC-2 Traffic Incident Management Responder (SHRP2)

Texas – Ashley Mathews, Director

The Texas LTAP Center, housed at UT-Arlington's Public Works Institute, offered over 36 courses in topics including Heavy Equipment, Occupational, Work Zone, and Roadway Safety to agencies responsible for over 220,000 mile of local roads and 12,000 span-type bridges.

Coordinated Heavy Equipment "Road-eo" events to help local operators develop skills through competitive events, as well as the popular Snow and Ice Workshops to prepare agencies for winter weather.

Provided support, instruction, and programming for partner groups such as the Texas Public Works Association Annual Conference, and Regional County Judges and Commissioners Association Conferences held around the State.

EDC Technologies and other transportation related innovations are showcased in a special edition of TxLTAP's newsletter, Better Roads, Safer Roads.

Hosted the NLTAPA South Central Region meeting at their UT-Arlington facility in March.

Reported By: Steven C. Strength, South Central Region Representative

Western Region Update

Idaho LTAP

The Idaho T2 Center capitalized on opportunities provided through FHWA. We sponsored two STEP (Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian) workshops through a STIC grant. We also worked with the FHWA Resource Center to develop a new class on Designating Truck Routes on the Local System. The Center coordinated with ATSSA to bring a Flagger Instructor Training course to Idaho. The Center incentivized local agencies to send students, ultimately providing us with more flagger instructors throughout the state. We continue development of the new Leadership Development program. The first classes will be offered this spring.

Washington LTAP

We underwent a staff transition this year. Our program manager retired at the end of January. Rather than replace her, we shifted some of those responsibilities to our training coordinator (increasing that FTE position from 0.5 to 0.75) and other responsibilities to our director. Overall LTAP FTEs decreased from 3.5 to 2.75 with this change.

Another significant effort in 2017 was an evaluation/analysis of our training program over the past decade. We incorporated the results of this analysis into our training needs survey sent to our customers this year.

Utah LTAP

This last year and a half we have been using our state extension centers in each county to expand our reach to students around the state. We have been able to broadcast many of our workshops to extension centers in each county. We are able to have face to face contact with students in counties around the state, where they can ask questions and comments during workshops. This has enabled us to reduce a lot of driving and enabled us to contact more people to our workshops.

Oregon T2 Center

The Safety Circuit Rider pilot is finishing up this month and will not continue.

Through the Safety Circuit Rider program, the T2 Center was able to provide ball banking data to 19 counties around the state

In partnership with Marion County and OACES, the T2 Center cohosted the first Enhanced Winter Road Maintenance Workshop.

Hawaii LTAP

This year found the return of the LTAP program to HDOT's Materials Testing and Research Branch. Under the new team, new channels of communication to the various islands were opened, with a focus on addressing the needs of each county as collectively as possible.

In August, workshops were held in Honolulu for Hawaii Clean Energy and Sustainable Traffic Performance Measures. Also in August, a Peer to Peer Exchange was held on Maui to facilitate collaboration between counties.

In November, the Annual Superintendents and Overseers Conference was held in Hilo. A portion of this conference was dedicated to encourage the counties to identify their needs and goals as well as inform them of new opportunities for 2018.

Nevada LTAP

Nevada LTAP's main effort this year was to increase course offerings both with new courses and presenting our Road Scholar courses more frequently. We developed a course in Stormwater Pollution Control and Practical Math for field workforces. Also this year we purchased a small UAV (drone) and are in the process of exploring the use of it for local agencies. Our program manager has gained his UAV operator license and as a first effort, we are working with our college's drone program to refine the techniques for measuring and calculating the volumes of aggregate stockpiles throughout the state. Additionally, NDOT has funded a program to query the local agencies on what pavement preservation techniques work best for them and why. The goal is to construct a matrix comparing existing pavement,

climate and traffic conditions with the selected preservation procedures. The goal is to use the matrix as a tool to get the agencies engaged in dialogue to establish best practices for pavement preservation in Nevada.

We have been approached by FHWA's Nevada Division to explore the development of a conference for the tribes in Nevada possibly on the LTAP areas of workforce development, safety and infrastructure management. It is expected that this would be offered in 2019 depending on funding availability.

Arizona LTAP

We transitioned where we are housed in the DOT twice this year. Originally transitioned to be housed in the Leadership and Employee Engagement program, we have now been transitioned into the Employee and Business Development Office starting in January 2018. The LTAP program will have some new opportunities with this transition in working with this program's education and development training for small and woman owned businesses. We have already partnered several times in training with this program for their Construction Academy which helps train and develop individuals for the transportation workforce who are trying to get their foot in the door.

Arizona LTAP helped deliver to the DOT and Local agencies the FAST ACT Guardrail training in partnering with FHWA and the contractor.

Rebecca Mayher, program manager, is a member of the Training Resources Work Group and Co-Chair of the Communications Work Group. She has also served as Western Region Representative. She will be at the end of her responsibilities as Western Region Representative in June and looks forward to passing the reigns onto a new representative at the Western Regional Meeting in June.

California LTAP

The CA LTAP is in a transitional period. We renewed all 3 of our LTAP support contracts (2 with Sacramento State, 1 with UC Berkeley).

We continued to provide our most popular classes, the Federal Aid Series and the Residential Engineers Academy, taught by Caltrans staff directly to local agencies. We also continued to subsidize costs for 50+ technical infrastructure and safety classes to local agencies through the UC Berkeley, Tech Transfer program.

Our A&E Consultant process was modified so we revised our procedures manual and went to all 12 districts and taught 27 2-hour intensive classes in a three week period and ended with a recorded webinar.

We sent out a needs assessment (survey) to our local agencies in early 2017. After an in-depth analysis, we are currently writing a new work plan to be implemented in 2018, which will include providing technical assistance (new to CA LTAP), adding new classes, and purchasing new equipment for our equipment loan program. With changes in LTAP management both at Caltrans and Sacramento State in

the last 2 years, our goal is to create a more robust CA LTAP with more resources and offerings to assist our local agencies starting with the complex Federal Aid Process through project delivery.

We are also participating in peer exchanges, safety meetings and workshops, and our CA STIC program.

Reported by: Rebecca Mayher, Western Region Representative

Great Lakes Region Update

Ohio LTAP

Ohio LTAP Focuses on LPA Hurdles to Project Streamlining

During 2017, Ohio LTAP began offering an entire Academy of Real Estate courses for Local Public Agencies (LPAs) in Ohio. The courses train LPAs on real estate acquisition, appraisal, relocation, and any other topic necessary to comply with the Uniform Act. Offering the training has been key to assisting LPAs in streamlining their federal-aid funded projects for quicker delivery. LPAs can select from twenty-three (23) different courses that train staff on simple takes up to complex real estate acquisitions. Real Estate was identified by LPAs as a key concern in the local-let project administration process, so timely training on these topics have helped Ohio's LPAs to continue delivering one of the most robust local-let programs in the Country!

Illinois DOT Technology Transfer Center

IDOT has reached out to federal agencies to expand the technical courses we offer. This year we have added two specialized classes with instructors from outside the agency. In one case the instructor is a Realty Specialist with FHWA. The class he teaches for us focuses on the Uniform Act and Real Estate. The other class has instructors from the Army Corps of Engineers and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Their course focuses on Permitting Issues related to waterways. We have used FHWA's staff to teach work zone safety, MUTCD and other traffic and safety related classes in the past. Expanding our classes into the areas of environment and right of way is new to us.

Indiana LTAP

Learning podcast tool

Indiana LTAP is building a video/podcast app for distributing training content quickly and in digestible amounts directly to our industry members and agency personnel. We plan to put content on the app that is related to industry news, information and training. Think of it as our own private podcast channel where we control the content. We plan to launch the app at the 104th Annual Purdue Road School in March 2018. The app will be free and available to all on iTunes and Google play store.

GIS Crash Mapping

HELPERS completed GIS mapping of crash locations for local agencies. GIS crash layers and heat maps with at least five years' worth of crash data were disseminated to county highway departments. The maps were well-received and several other requests for other GIS products were made by County personnel.

MUTCD Outreach Project

HELPERS and LTAP purchased a printed copy of the Indiana MUTCD for every county in Indiana (92) plus 26 cities/towns who requested them. On-site training for local agencies on the IN MUTCD training started in January 2017 and continued throughout the year. This training is a short, informal overview of how to use the MUTCD, common mistakes, outstanding compliance dates, and any current issues the local agency may be facing with traffic control devices. The HELPERS Engineer conducts this training at the highway/street garage with the personnel directly responsible for installing and maintaining traffic control devices and their supervisors. The HELPERS Engineer uses this training as an opportunity to discuss roadway safety-related topics as well.

Wisconsin LTAP

The Wisconsin Transportation Information Center (TIC) has continued to build on partnerships with other organizations. In April and May 2017, we worked with the Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Wisconsin Towns Association to present training to new elected officials on local government highway responsibilities, pavement and asset management and highway safety. Our Towns Association partnership resulted in a new opportunity in fall 2017 to train current town officials in management of winter maintenance (snow and ice) operations. In each of these offerings the partner association took responsibility for the meeting arrangements and costs, allowing us to deliver training at lower cost.

TIC also continued to partner with Wisconsin DOT (WisDOT) to deliver training on PASER (Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating) and WISLR (Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads). In these training events, TIC handled course logistics and provided one instructor while WisDOT provided two instructors. Combining center resources and WisDOT resources allowed us to deliver quality training to Local Agencies at lower cost.

We are continuing to partner with other organizations on upcoming events -- working with FHWA and NACE on Local Road Safety Plan training and data analysis support in conjunction with the 2018 NACE Conference which will be held in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin April 22, 2018 – April 26, 2018. In addition, we are providing conference logistical support for the TRB 12th National Access Management Conference which will be hosted by WisDOT in Madison, Wisconsin July 17-19, 2018. Through our joint efforts with WisDOT, this conference will include a one-day local agency access management track that will be available at a reduced registration fee.

Michigan LTAP

MICHIGAN INNOVATION

Michigan LTAP center released a free tool for Michigan local agencies to use called “Thawcaster”. The tool calculates a localized thaw indexes which are helpful in adding or removing seasonal weight restriction to local roads. The tool follows the guidelines in the paper FHWA Guidelines for spring highway use restrictions 1987 and the Minnesota Local Roads Research Board paper Duration of Spring-Thaw Recovery for Aggregate-Surfaced Roads. This method allows our counties and cities to standardize how and when they put on load restrictions reducing damage to the road structure while insuring maximum use by the motoring public. This tool was a direct technical assistance request from our counties. The tool accesses all of the NOAA weather stations in Michigan and has the capacity to use higher quality purchased data sets.

Reported by: Victoria Beale

South East Region Update

Florida (T2) Center

The Transportation Technology Transfer (T2) Center at University of Florida (UF) Transportation

Institute continued its three-decade administration of the Florida Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). With almost a third of Florida’s counties lacking internal transportation engineering support, the Center directed a significant amount of staff effort this past year towards individually meeting with these local governments to understand their training and technical assistance needs. Despite being spread all over the state and some separated by hundreds of miles, the needs these Counties expressed were largely uniform. In the year ahead, the T2 Center will focus its actions towards responding to the feedback we received during these meetings.

Given the size of Florida, both in terms of area and population, the Center also spent the last year pursuing non-traditional funding partnerships to expand the impact of LTAP. In addition to historic supplemental funding sources, the Center formed funded research partnerships with non-traditional partners, like UF’s Departments of Occupational Therapy and Electrical and Computer Engineering. The activities under these grants will expand the breadth of the Center’s impact and help bring innovative solutions to Florida local governments. Additionally, the Center added two engineers to the staff, which will greatly enhance internal capacity to provide impactful technical assistance.

At the end of the calendar year, the Center welcomed Bill Sampson, PE as its new director. Bill is a recognized, national expert on transportation engineering and highway capacity analysis. He came to UF as the McTrans Manager in 1988 and has been the Director of McTrans since 2000. Bill has led the McTrans’ Tech Transfer Program for nearly three decades working with practitioners from local, state and national agencies. He has developed and taught numerous traffic engineering-related courses (including Highway Capacity Analysis, Traffic Engineering Fundamentals, Basic Signal Operations, MUTCD/Signal Warrants, and Traffic Impact Analysis.) He is a past member of the Transportation

Research Board's Highway Capacity and Quality of Service Committee and a past president of District 10 and the Florida Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

North Carolina LTAP

NC LTAP is excited that our third Roads Scholar level, Master Roads Scholar, has been a great success in the first full year. Our advisory board worked with us to identify 10 courses that serve as the basis for the program. We are in the process of refining those training options and adding new topics for this level, based on the evaluations collected after each course. We have four individuals who have achieved Master Roads Scholar status. They completed the required number of courses and submitted a written case study about a transportation project in their region of the state.

NC LTAP is proud to have added Emergency Management for Local Governments to our training list. We found an extremely qualified instructor and held one class that was very well attended. We are looking forward to scheduling additional sessions around the state in 2018.

We also participated in Accelerating Safety Activities Program (ASAP) by offering Pedestrian Crossing Assessment training in three North Carolina cities : Raleigh, Rocky Mount and Fayetteville. Those sessions were well attended and course evaluations were excellent.

South Carolina LTAP

One of our more valued resources is our relationship with the LTAP's in our region. Learning about classes that they offer, and what is popular in their states, helps us make decisions about gaps in training availability in South Carolina. This year, for example, we "stole" one of Kentucky's great instructors for two weeks and offered two workshops we had never held before: Road Safety 365 and Low Cost Roadway Safety Improvements. Both these classes, as well as the instructor, received excellent reviews and we have been asked to offer these classes on a more regular basis.

Relationships, like those highlighted above, and partnerships are really at the heart of our center's best practices. We have a very good partnership with our state DOT and even have a separate grant with them to provide all their Work Zone Safety training. Recently, we agreed to provide all their surveying training as well. In 2016 we worked directly with the DOT and a member of our university's faculty to design courses tailored to the DOT's needs. This year we were able to roll out the three levels we had developed: Basic, Intermediate, and GPS surveying classes. We provided 14 classes for their employees, training over 150 people in the DOT on surveying. We have another 14 workshops planned in January and February of 2018.

Kentucky LTAP

Kentucky LTAP received two Accelerated Safety Activities Program (ASAP) awards for Horizontal Curve Alignment Signing and the Traffic and Safety Academy. The Horizontal Curve Alignment Signing course focused on recording data taken from the assessment of curves, using the horizontal alignment technology, and installing the proper signage, including curve speed. Participants learned how to use a digital ball bank indicator to assess curve advisory speeds and the need for change and/or additional

signage through hands-on field training. The Traffic and Safety Academy is a two-day training course designed to assist local governments in reducing roadway departures and fatalities. Specific topics include low-cost safety improvements, examining crash data, risk management, asset management, and working with their Department of Transportation - District Office the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Andrew Grunwald, Municipal Engineer Senior for Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, attended the course and said, "I thought the class was well worth my time and would highly recommend it to others." He also said "I developed a better feeling for judging curves and nothing beats direct hands on usage and instruction."

Kentucky LTAP continues to coordinate the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) in conjunction with the FHWA Kentucky Division Office and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Kentucky has trained approximately 8,000 responders and 250 trainers, over 40% of responders. Grady Carrick, Ph.D., FHWA TIM Master Instructor said, "Kentucky has demonstrated that coordinated scheduling and tracking of TIM training leads to sustained success. A sustainable training model requires statewide coordination and Kentucky's program tracks when, where, and who is trained better than any other state. The Kentucky model for TIM training is one that has ensured the state is able to effectively deliver the product to responders. I wish every state did it this way."

Puerto Rico LTAP

PR LTAP is a member of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC). Our role is to contribute in identifying and/or evaluate the latest emerging technologies associated with traffic safety that can be implemented in the Commonwealth highway network. Evaluate innovative proposals associated with transportation from public and private sector for potential implementation.

PR LTAP will continue collaborating with the Every Day Counts (EDC) initiative, and in the upcoming EDC 5.

PR LTAP has strengthened partnership with the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), F.I.E.S.T.A. Program to promote awareness on Driving Under the Influence (DUI) and the impact of DUI and speeding.

PR LTAP publishes technical articles in recognized scientific forums associated with the importance and awareness of traffic safety, roadway simulation and road user awareness to road users at all levels.

PR LTAP is collaborating with the DOT and the consultants in the implementation of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) 2014-2018, and has been an active partner since its approval by FHWA in 2014.

For the 7th consecutive year the PR LTAP is promoting the five pillars of the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020, and the 2030 United Nations Sustainability Development Goals associated with traffic safety.

The PR LTAP is planning and completing the work plan for implementing an on-site safety recovery audit at a local and regional level for transportation officials, to accelerate in the recovery of the damages to the highway transportation infrastructure caused by Category 5 Hurricane Maria.

The PR LTAP also collaborates with the FHWA Eisenhower Fellowship Program since its establishment and for 25 consecutive years, with emphasis on highway safety, climatic change, and simulation

The PR LTAP will be celebrating in April its 32nd Consecutive Anniversary.

Alabama Technology Transfer Center

The Alabama Technology Transfer Center saw a lot of growth this year. We grew in staff by one adding Addie Balch as a new administrator.

We also were successfully awarded a Grant for the Safety Technical Assistance for Cities and Counties (STACC). This was a team effort between ALDOT's Safety Office our local FHWA Safety Engineer Linda Guin, and the Alabama LTAP. This will be Alabama's version of the Safety Circuit Rider.

Alabama LTAP received STIC funds to help improve the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) in Alabama. Alabama also hosted its fourth Rural Roads Safety Conference.

A special thanks to Keith Knapp for bringing resources and presentations from the Rural Road Safety Center.

This year was Alabama's turn to host the Region Four meeting with all states and territories in the region attending.

We are currently planning for a busy 2018, which will be our 35th anniversary as an LTAP center.

Reported By: Matt Cate, Southeast Regional Representative

TTAP Announcement

The University of Virginia's Transportation Training Academy was announced as the host site for the new TTAP Center. A location in Oklahoma to be determined will be the location for centralized equipment training where there is a need for certification. I spoke with Beth O'Donnell who will now be responsible for both the Virginia LTAP and new National TTAP Centers.

2018 NLTAPA Leadership (as of Winter Business Meeting)

www.NLTAPA.Org

Officers

- President – Denise Brown, ND LTAP – On Leave of Absence, denise.brown.1@ndsu.edu
- President-Elect – David Orr, NY LTAP – Acting President, david.orr@cornell.edu

- Vice-President – Donna Shea, CT LTAP, shea@engr.uconn.edu
- Treasurer – Victoria Beale, OH LTAP, victoria.beale@dot.ohio.gov
- Vice-Treasurer - vacant
- Secretary – Melissa Townsend, NE LTAP, melissa.townsend@unl.edu

Regional Representatives

- Mid-Atlantic – Carly Keane, MD LTAP, ckeane@umd.edu
- Northeast – Amy Begnoche, NH LTAP, amy.begnoche@unh.edu (vacant as of January, 2018)
- Southeast – Matt Cate, Tennessee, mcate@utk.edu
- South Central – Steve Strength, LA LTAP, Steve.Strength@la.gov
- Great Lakes – Tim Colling, MI LTAP, tkcollin@mtu.edu
- Western – Rebecca Mayer, AZ LTAP, RMayher@azdot.gov
- North Central - Terri Nihil, NE LTAP, terri.nihil@unl.edu

Work Groups

- Conference – David Orr, NY LTAP & Allison Landry, LA LTAP, allison.landry@la.gov
- Communications – Rebecca Mayher, AZ LTAP
- Partnerships – Donna Shea, CT LTAP & Victoria Beale, OH LTAP
 - Liaisons
 - AAHSTO: Tim Colling, MI LTAP, tkcollin@mtu.edu
 - APWA: Martha Horseman, KY LTAP, martha.horseman@uky.edu
 - NACE: Keith Knapp, IA LTAP, kknapp@iastate.edu
 - NTTD, Donna Shea, CT LTAP, donna.shea@uconn.edu
 - Training Resources – Steve Strength, LA LTAP & Matt Carter, DE LTAP, matheu@udel.edu
 - Professional Development –
 - Earl “Rusty” Lee, DE LTAP, elee@udel.edu & Kim Carr, WV LTAP, kim.carr@mail.wvu.edu
 - Safety – Janet Leli, NJ LTAP, jleli@rci.rutgers.edu;
 - Matt Enders, WA LTAP, EndersM@wsdot.wa.gov & Nicole Frankl (nfrankl2@unl.edu)
 - Innovation - ????

Strategic Planning Committee

- Matt Enders, WA LTAP – DOT Centers
- David Orr, NY LTAP – University Centers
- Donna Shea, CT LTAP – Replacement for John Velat, formally with Eastern TTAP