



Key Takeaways and Actions

Location: Teams
Date: July 20, 2023
Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Subject: Work Zone Council Meeting

Purpose of Meeting:

The purpose of the Work Zone Council is to provide overarching leadership and direction of work zone activities throughout the state. The activities of the Council will promote establishing principles of improving mobility and safety impacts created by work zones, improve communication and coordination of these efforts, and foster innovation and participation by field operations personnel.

Agenda Items:

Welcome

Brian Worrel

Opening Comments

Has Iowa noticed a change in the MVE transition?

There have been a few challenges, seem like they want to participate but still trying to work out the logistics. Have a funding mechanism – using traffic ops line item. Requested a meeting to get all the expectations nailed down.

Steve Gent working on the signage needed for “aircraft monitoring speed in this zone”.

Need to ensure timely payment is noted in the white paper.

David Lorenzen, Charlie Purcell

Highlighted Topics:

Work Zone Crash Summary Report (ICAT)

Showed ICAT crashes in work zones 135 with 4 fatalities

Brian Worrel

Work Zone Information Sharing Workshop, December 5-6

- [Submit Topic Suggestions](#)
- Have not received suggestions

Brian Worrel

CMF workshop on the 7th and 8th – usually about 20 people.

Dan Sprengeler

Work Zone Extra Enforcement - MVE Transition

- Have been meeting with State Patrol
- End of August meeting to review formal document
- Extra Enforcement will be through State Patrol for construction
- New relationship in partnership role by advising them of location of construction and maintenance (mobile) to allow

Brian Worrel, David Lorenzen

focus in work zones when full time enforcement. Interest in aerial fleet use.

- Discussing adding work zones in TRACs and MACH

Worker Safety Initiative Update

Sinclair Stolle, Mitch Wood

Pi-lit update:

- Originally had one planned for every district, but Iowa Plains outpriced all other vendors. Deployed by QTC and ATC in D6. Iowa plains putting them out on 2BK in Floyd. Looking at Wejo data to analyze.
- Iowa Plains: there is a lot of maintenance for these systems which is why there was a high cost.
- Dan: the taper is a high-risk area and perhaps the manufacture needs to work on this item.
- Pi-lit is trying to work with TCC people on training and help with deployment to ease some of these issues and concerns.
- Texas is doing this statewide – unknown if the prices are comparable.
- Missouri is also using these. Dan S will talk to his contact down there.
- Skylar: Looking at lane position in the taper, how far in advance of the taper are people moving over. Initial results look promising. Speeds – not seeing any impact through the taper.

VTTI: safety vests buzz the workers if they are too close to the active lanes of traffic or in close proximity to equipment. Not a work zone intrusion system.

Moving work zone – PDMS up and down on construction trucks.

Testing in D6 on the paint crew. Traffic is responding well – moving over sooner and staying over.

Work Zone Council Group Updates:

Work Zone Safety Committee

Dan Sprengeler

TLTWO on interstate is ok, on expressways this causes an issue of right turn only, how do you provide an opportunity without having to detour many miles.

Connected Portable Traffic Signals are being deployed in 2025.

Dan is working on implementing Automated Flagger Assist Devices in place of flaggers.

Looking at requiring the use of TMAs for static lane closure tapers. To give shadow protection to set up. Bid items and specifications. May be other requirements to use TMAs in work zones. Minnesota uses moving operation to pick up signs and devices in the direction of traffic flow.

Maintenance Work Zone Sub-Committee

Jason Fisher

- Updating TS-233 to update distances for painting ops.
- TTI has some moving operations guidance Jon Jackels will share.

Work Zone Management and Traffic Operations Committee

Tim Simodynes, Wes

Next meeting Monday last district TSMO meeting included speed limits, pavement markings, presetting devices, etc.

Musgrove

Intelligent Work Zones Team

Mark Van Dyke, Cortney Falero

- 2023 - 49 TCP; 29 active currently; 3 complete
- Truck entering system in District 4
- Time lapse cameras for bridge work in D3 & D5
- Turn warning system in District 2 (for city of Janesville)

Lane Closure System Team

Willy Sorenson, Tim Simodynes

- Wrapped up maintenance module, but it is not necessarily “maintenance ready.” But we needed a few items worked out with the iPhone SE, and LRS connection before this could move to ‘production.’
- LRS is now ready for integration.
- Construction testing? HNTB has this FY to develop the construction module. So July next year we can test on a few projects.

Work Zone Training Team

Dan Sprengeler

- Funding for workshops is available
- ATSSA and U of Missouri writing grant proposals for TTC and work zone safety training. Drafted endorsement letter and Iowa is on top of list to get the courses.
- Henry Brown and Missouri with virtual reality for flaggers and doing **Could he come to the information sharing workshop?**
- Work Zone training basics for any DOT employee.

Lane Closure Planning Tool Team

Willy Sorenson

- Not too many new enhancements.
- Cleaning up the data; moving to static maps and QF had some data issues.
- Switching to 1 minute data helped with data uptime. Time stamp relaying to early 2000s – working on a work around.
- Still need to update the historical data.
- Adding an updated data disclaimer
Going to begin sending a daily email to Econolite to reset the sensor date/time.

Work Zone Mitigation Team

Willy Sorenson

- We are available to assist if/when needed.
- Bridge inspection cannot be done at night so the team is assisting with getting lane closures
- Soil Boring division reached out to discuss work times.
- 300 foot lead in and lead out for pavement markings, borrowed from Michigan
- TCIP Grant for work zone CMF. Can be included in CMF clearing house, focus on end of queue warning and speed feedback signs, flagging and portable rumble strips.

Maintenance Safety Task Force

Jason Fisher

- See above

Work Zone Process Review Team

Dan Sprengeler, Brian Worrel

- Field reviews next week through September
- Added end of season meeting to process review

Districts

- No Updates

Round Robin

Central Office

Bridges & Structures

Round Robin

- improve safety inspection do during daytime to meet the goals.
- AVI getting inspectors out of traffic using high speed photography and improving inspection. (Jim Nelson)

Construction & Materials

- Distracted drivers and use of main line rumble strips for nonstop situations. Looking for candidate project who has used what is the design, Missouri is using <https://spexternal.modot.mo.gov/sites/cm/CORDT/cmr22-004.pdf>
- TTI may have report. Jeff K to research. He is willing to pilot.
- Wes would like to pilot this year.

Traffic Operations

- Andy Lewis announced TIM conference 9/26 at Gateway

Risk and Delay Efforts

Skylar Knickerbocker

- Relating crashes to the slowdowns we have in work zones correlation between slowdown and incidents. Looking at how long a queue needs to be sustained before a crash occurs – probability of crash occurring due to conditions.

Adjourn

Future Meetings:

October 19, 2023

January 18, 2024

April 18, 2024