

## Work Zone Group Functions

May 15, 2019

Revised August 29, 2019

### **Work Zone Safety Committee**

The Work Zone Traffic Safety Committee oversees work zone traffic safety issues that affect the traveling public and road workers within temporary traffic control zones. Areas of oversight include design policies, standard road plans, and specifications. This committee recommends updates to details or information required for temporary traffic control in work zones and provides details for the Office of Design to include in the Design Manual, Standard Road Plans, and/or the Road Design Details. Information provided by this committee aids in plan development, traffic management and operations, staging, and work zone restrictions.

Chair – Work Zone Traffic Control Engineer (Dan Sprengeler)

Meetings: Every 2 months.

### **Maintenance Work Zone Safety Subcommittee**

This is a subcommittee of the Work Zone Safety Committee. This group provides input from key maintenance personnel and feedback on proposed changes to standards and guidelines proposed by the Work Zone Safety Committee. Most activity is for improvements to standard road plans, so they can be effectively used for maintenance operations. This subcommittee also recommends changes to Maintenance Instructional Memorandums (IMs) related to temporary traffic control, safety, and mobility.

Chair – Maintenance Assistant Office Director (Brad Fleming)

Meetings: Every 2 months.

### **Work Zone Management and Traffic Operations Committee**

This Committee is a combination of the Work Zone Management Service Layer Subcommittee and the Traffic Critical Projects (TCP) Working Group.

The Work Zone Management and Traffic Operations Committee oversees efforts to implement the TSMO Work Zone Management Service Layer Plan to support the strategic goals of safety, reliability, efficiency, convenience, and coordination, by identifying and implementing strategies that address work zone safety and mobility challenges. Areas of oversight include work zone mobility and safety mitigation, work zone process review, recovery from traffic incidents, intelligent work zones, training, research, and new product and technique evaluation.

The Committee strives to provide safe, reliable, and efficient travel through Iowa's construction and maintenance work zones and by instituting processes that:

- Identify upcoming projects during the planning and design stages that have potential to cause significant safety or mobility impacts.
- Apply various mitigation strategies to address safety and mobility concerns, including quick recovery from traffic incidents or queueing.
- Evaluate mitigation efforts to determine if they are reliable, timely, and effective.

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- Develop performance measures that can be used to establish safety goals and travel time delay targets in Iowa and apply performance measures to quantify work zone safety and mobility impacts.
- Meet or exceed FHWA requirements contained in 23 CFR Subpart J - Work Zone Safety and Mobility and 23 CFR Subpart K - Temporary Traffic Control Devices.
- Maintain and update the Work Zone Management Service Layer report on a three-year cycle.

The multi-disciplined approach utilized by the committee provides insight for the development of future work zone management service layer updates and activities and to make recommendations for department policy updates to improve mobility and safety mitigations that enhance construction and maintenance work zone operations on Iowa's roadways.

Co-Chair – Construction and Materials Office Director (Wes Musgrove)

Co-Chair – Office of Traffic Operations Director (Andy Lewis) or

Office of Traffic Operations Assistant Director (Donna Matulac)

Meetings: 6 per year

### **Work Zone Process Review Team**

The joint FHWA and Iowa DOT Work Zone Safety and Mobility Process Review Team fulfills federal requirements by examining Iowa's progress implementing rules related to work zone safety and mobility, as well as identifying best practices and areas that need improvement for the safety and efficiency of Iowa work zones for motorists, workers, and pedestrians. Reviews include:

- Inspections of randomly selected projects throughout Iowa,
- Assessment of procedures for specifications, standards, and evaluation of work zone data at the state level by utilizing a Business Process Review, and
- Utilization of a Capacity Maturity Framework workshop to improve the performance of the six work zone dimensions.

Results of these reviews are used to further develop future work zone standards and processes.

Lead – Work Zone Traffic Control Engineer (Dan Sprengeler)

Meetings: Every 6 months.

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### **Work Zone Mitigation Team**

The Work Zone Mitigation Team members are technical experts that act as a resource for traffic mobility and safety mitigations employed by the Iowa DOT. The committee:

- Assists designers with identification and selection of methods to ease mobility and safety impacts during construction.
- Assists with development of full TMP plans.
- Conducts periodic reviews to ensure work zone mobility and safety goals are being met.
- Recommends thresholds and performance criteria for TCP.
- Reviews concept letters for TCP to ensure proper mitigations are considered.

The team also develops processes and tools that facilitate selection and evaluation of mobility and safety mitigation methods.

Lead – Traffic and Safety Engineer (Willy Sorenson)

Meetings: One per year and as needed.

### **Lane Closure Planning Tool Team**

The Lane Closure Planning Tool (LCPT) Team members are technical experts that:

- Develops the LCPT.
- Maintains functions of the LCPT.
- Reviews data sources used to include ITS sensors and ATM sensors.
- Reviews and determines which sensor data is accurate and available for inclusion in the LCPT.
- Monitors the effectiveness to ensure LCPT meets the needs of design and field operations.

The team also determines the acceptable capacity levels for various roadways that are used by the LCPT.

Lead – Traffic and Safety Engineer (Willy Sorenson)

Meetings: Every other Week.

### **Intelligent Work Zone Team**

The Intelligent Work Zone (IWZ) Team is an internal/external group that plans, deploys, and monitors all Intelligent Work Zone (IWZ) projects on DOT roadways. Each year they work with Central Office to develop a list of projects that are expected to cause significant delay or impact to the roadway system. They then work with each District directly to determine their IWZ needs for the coming construction season and create smart work zone layouts for each project based on the temporary traffic control plans. This team then manages, tracks, creates logic, facilitates relocations, recalibrations, and finally removal for all IWZ systems

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throughout the state of Iowa. The team holds an annual season kick-off meeting in the Spring that highlights the activities and IWZ projects for the upcoming year. They hold weekly teleconferences to discuss current and upcoming IWZ projects and resolve any issues related to the operation of these systems. At the end of the construction season a workshop is held to review the past construction season and to develop a set of recommendations to improve the IWZ program for the year ahead.

Lead – ITS Engineer (Tim Simodynes)

Meetings: 2 in-person, Weekly teleconference

### **Work Zone Training Team**

The Work Zone Training Team fulfills the FHWA's requirement that the Department conduct training for personnel involved in the development, design, implementation, operation, inspection, and enforcement of work zone traffic management. Periodic training updates are conducted that reflect current industry practice and State processes and procedures. Participants include workers from DOT construction and maintenance, public and private utility companies, cities, counties, and private contractors.

Leads – Work Zone Traffic Control Engineer (Dan Sprengeler) Traffic Safety Engineer (Mark Bortle replacement) Assistant Office Director Maintenance (Brad Fleming)

Meetings: Trainings held in winter annually.

### **Roadway Industry Safety Committee (RISC)**

The Roadway Industry Safety Committee (RISC) is an industry-formed group. The committee's mission is to sponsor safety related initiatives for Iowa's heavy highway industry in cooperation with the Iowa DOT to improve the safety of highway work zones. The RISC is made up of representatives of the following agencies and associations:

- Asphalt Paving Association of Iowa
- Iowa Concrete Paving Association
- Iowa American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) Chapter
- Associated General Contractors of Iowa
- Iowa DOT

The Committee meets as determined by industry representatives to discuss issues. An example of efforts is development of contract document requirements for portable temporary rumble strip working with industry and CTRE

DOT Representatives – Work Zone Traffic Control Engineer (Dan Sprengeler), Traffic and Safety Engineer (Willy Sorenson), and Traffic Safety Engineer (Mark Bortle replacement)

Meetings: Every 6 months.