MEETING SUMMARY

Work Zone Management and Safety Meeting
Thursday, July 13, 2006
9:30 AM to Noon
UW-Madison College of Engineering
Engineering Centers Building, Room 1045

ATTENDANCE ROSTER

<table>
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MEETING DISCUSSION

1. Meeting Opening

Tom Notbohm called the meeting to order. No new agenda items were added. After brief introductions and review of the agenda, Mike Goetzman briefed the group on a couple of work zone crashes that occurred near Highway 53, Highway 54 and I-94 early of the day. 3 people were killed in the accidents. It was a moving work zone but no flaggers were nearby.

2. On-Going Meeting Topics

• Enforcement Traffic Impact Mitigation Process Update

Tom Notbohm updated the process of issuing a master contract with state patrol through BHO for enforcement-based traffic impact mitigation. The statewide
mitigation project will add flexibility to existing work zone enforcement contracts. Some questions about the detailed contracting process and funding were asked. Tom responded that no extra contract is needed for individual projects and the funding will roll over to the subsequent year if not completely used.

- **Work Zone Speed Zoning Discussion (Open Discussion)**

Bob Emmerich on behalf of the contractors would like to see the mandatory policies regarding the work zone speed limit. Peter Amakobe took the chance to introduce Andy’s Law from Michigan in which different speed limits are recommended for six conditions. Other discussion from the Midwest Work Zone Roundtable, and other states’ practices such as Illinois’s 45mph work zone speed limit, Minnesota’s dynamic variable speed limit and Iowa’s blanket polices for 10mph reductions were shared. Bob recommended using electronic signs to display speed reduction only when workers are present. Chris Urech added that increased penalties with more clear warning sign with actual penalty messages and enhanced public awareness would help to enforce speeds in work zones.

- **WisDOT Work Zone Rule Implementation/Preliminary Schedule**

Peter Amakobe and Tom Notbohm led the discussion of developing WisDOT Work Zone Transportation Management Plan (TMP) and future implementation of the FHWA Final Rule.

3. **Work Zone Management and Safety Program**

Xiao Qin introduced the 2006 work zone management and safety evaluation initiatives. A few work zone locations have been pre-selected for evaluating various speed management and traveler information systems. One project in Janesville, specifically the Rock River Bridge repair, was decided to be a “go-ahead” project for evaluation. Xiao also mentioned that all three reports from last year work zone evaluation were available at the TOPS website at: [http://www.topslab.wisc.edu/projects/19.htm](http://www.topslab.wisc.edu/projects/19.htm).

4. **Wisconsin Strategic Highway Safety Plan – Work Zone Component Status**

Xiao and Tom briefed the group of the work zone component in the WisDOT SHSP. Short-term strategies are listed as follows:

1. Develop Lane Closure Map and Guidelines for freeway and expressway system statewide
2. Pilot broader use of work zone management and traveler information systems
3. Develop policies and processes to comply with federal work zone rules
4. Identify and develop work zone safety and mobility training needs and processes
5. Provide training on lane closure and portable changeable message sign guidelines
6. Update guidelines, criteria and processes for work zone traffic law enforcement
7. Deploy pilot projects sponsored by Work Zone Management and Safety Advisory Group to collect traffic data and evaluate effectiveness of enforcement and traffic control
Long-term strategies are listed below:
2. Apply low cost traffic calming devices in work zones
3. Institutionalize cross-cutting project pre-planning
4. Develop guidelines for supplemental signing of work zone traffic law violations.
5. Develop an online Lane Closure Permitting System
6. Provide training on updated Facilities Development Manual guidance, work zone impact analyses, and management plans
7. Incorporate work zone training into Traffic Engineering Services Certification Program
8. Develop more aggressive, innovative work zone public awareness campaign
9. Evaluate new work zone traffic law enforcement criteria and processes
10. Adopt strategies listed in NCHRP Report 500 guidebook as appropriate for Wisconsin

5. Report out on Action Plan Initiatives
The two agenda items were combined for the discussion of following initiatives:
1: Develop More Aggressive, Innovative Work Zone Public Awareness Campaign
2: Institutionalize Cross-Cutting Project Pre-Planning
3: Apply Broader Use of Traffic Calming Devices and Traveler Information Systems in Work Zones
4: Develop Supplemental Violation Signing Standards
5: Develop Consistent Work Zone Speed Zoning Guidelines
6: Develop Nighttime Work Lighting and Traffic Control Guidelines
7: Develop Accelerated Review Process for use of emerging work zone safety products or management techniques

6. Other Issues
Deb Kozol played a few enforcement video clips produced by Sun Prairie Cable Access Channel, Kids-4, KSUN - 12, a PEG (Public Educational and Government) Channel. These video clips were made to advertise work zone enforcement and work zone educational videos to kids and motorists. These Public Service Announcement (PSA) videos will be broadcasted in the Sun Prairie area and can be distributed to the other Wisconsin PEG Channels.

Link - http://www.sunprairiecableaccess.com/contact.htm

Chris and Bob mentioned about the light balloon technology that diffuses the light and reduces glaring. It is recommended as a useful tool for night work on highways and freeways.

NEXT MEETING
The next meeting of the Work Zone Management and Safety Task Force is:

THURSDAY, October 19, 2006
9:30 AM - Noon
Location: UW-Madison Engineering Centers Building, Research Presentation Room
Madison, WI  53706-1609