North Carolina Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Meeting
NCDOT Greenfield Office, Room 161
March 29, 2017

Attendees Present:

Brian Mayhew (NC DOT)	Greg Ferrara (NCSU ITRE)
Brian Murphy (NC DOT)	Jennifer Barbour (NC AOC)
Colleen Oliver (UNC HSRC)	Mark Scaringelli (NC GHSP)
David Harkey (UNC HSRC)	Mike Thomas (NC DOT IT)
Don Nail (NC GHSP)	Roger Smock (NC DOT Rail Division
Eric Bellamy (NC DMV TR)	Seth LaJeunesse (UNC HSRC)
Eric Rodgman (UNC HSRC)	Shawn Troy (NC DOT)
Frank Hackney (NC GHSP)	Vish Tharuvesanchi (NC DOT IT)

9:30 a.m.   Welcome / Introductions / Plan for the Day – Eric Rodgman and Frank Hackney

The report will be ready on May 9th. Please take a look at the latest comments from the assessors and see if you have anything to add. If you have any questions, please contact Eric or anyone else within the group. Thank you for all your hard work.

9:39 a.m.   NC 2017 Updates for the NC TR Assessment/ Updates on Current Projects Funded by 405 (c) Money through GHSP – Eric Rodgman and Frank Hackney

Eric Rodgman updated the committee on the two-year project to merge NC crash and NC medical data project headed by Dr. Anna Waller. The project is hosting the first big stakeholders meeting on April 6, 2017 to begin the process of pulling together all the key players. The project has also been awarded a GO Team grant from NHTSA with R J Porter leading that team to assist NC with this effort.

Updates to other projects at AOC were noted as continuing. Specifically, the eCitation software project has been completed and is in its next phase of upgrading the direct linkage between the eCitation and NCAware software.

The Vision Zero project with ITRE is also continuing with strong backing from both the NC DOT Secretary and the Colonel of the SHP. The idea of the VZ website is that it will grow to be a go to site for community members to find what kind of crashes have occurred within their neighborhood, working towards the VZ goal to connect traffic safety to get to zero fatalities in the state.

Frank Hackney introduced a new project request for the TRCC which was submitted by Yudan Wang at UNC HSRC. This project wants to use the zip code of the drivers in crashes to investigate trends and issues that can be determined by the zip code of the driver. It would allow further examinations of social equity issues and other local funding disparities.   Frank also noted that the medical data project mentioned previously would continue to use the crash data and medical data link to further examine questions around medical services for older drivers. This project would likely be delayed until the current linkage project directed by Anna Waller has been completed.

Brian Mayhew opened a discussion on other TR data system issues of addressing the accuracy, completeness, accessibility, and integration of these NC databases. Brian noted the example of the bicycle advocates in NC not trusting NC DOT or even the research results published by agencies such as UNC HSRC. These advocates often attack the data and its integrity. Uncovering the obstacles would help and more training of medical personnel (EMTs) could help too. Brian recommended that the committee select projects that have goals around improving the data, or identifying obstacles and/or potential ways to improve the dataset.

10:33 a.m.   Discussion Around Creating a TRCC Process for Reviewing and Recommending Projects to be Funded by the 405 (c) Funds through GHSP - David Harkey and Brian Mayhew

David gave a brief update regarding a meeting last week about creating a process for reviewing/recommending projects. David noted that the criteria for evaluating project proposals would include:

1) Traffic Safety problem to be addressed in NC?
2) Goals and performance measures in the project align with the NC TR Strategic Plan?
3) Does it address the NHTSA six pack of TR data measures in some form?
4) The outcome of the project helps NC improve the TR data?

David noted that he would try to have a draft policy proposal for the TRCC at the May 17th meeting in Chapel Hill for consideration and discussion.

10:40 a.m.   Meeting at UNC HSRC on May 17th to Update the 2017 NC TR Strategic Plan – David Harkey

David reminded the committee that the next meeting on May 17th at UNC HSRC will be to make updates for the 2017 NC TR Strategic Plan. Colleen Oliver (UNC HSRC) has sent out an email to key individuals to update their Agency summary descriptions. These are due back to her no later than Friday April 14th.

This will be followed by a second email (sent out on April 18th) requesting each key area to update all their projects (short description, source of funding, and cost info).   The deadline for returning those project updates will be May 5, 2017. HSRC will need some time to update the 2017 Plan and prepare for the May 17th meeting. That meeting will be all day with lunch provided and UNC HSRC will need to know who need a parking pass for the day (an email on this will come out closer to the meeting date).

10:50 a.m.   TRCC members input on the NC TR Assessment to date (i.e. 2 of the 3 rounds have been completed) - Eric Rodgman

Jennifer Barbour (AOC) asked if she could provide feedback to the NHTSA folks about the assessment format. Jennifer noted that the guidelines on documentation needed to be more specific because it was hard to be certain of which guidelines to use. Eric R added that anyone who had comments and/or suggestions on improving the assessment should send those to Frank Hackney and himself. Eric R will consolidate these thoughts into one document, share them with the TRCC, and send them on to Maureen Johnson (the NHTSA Assessment facilitator for NC). All comments should be sent no later than April 21st.

11:00 a.m.   Key Upcoming Dates - Eric Rodgman and Frank Hackney

On May 9th the NC TR Assessment Report will be available. May 16th is the webinar of the NC TR Assessment – information on how to connect is listed at the bottom of the agenda. May 17th is the day to review the NC TR Strategic Plan and make all the necessary changes (noting the recommendations of the latest 2017 TR Assessment Report).

11:03 a.m.   Issue with the 2016 NC Serious Injury Crash Data - Brian Mayhew

In 2016, the state updated their injury level descriptions to match the 2016 MAP-21 4th edition MMUCC definitions. This change has resulted in a large shift in the categories of injuries (A, B, and C) where the A Injury counts for 2016 (beginning in September) have jumped immensely. It resulted in an annual increase in A Injuries of 20% for the year. The new descriptions are long and detailed – LE officers of all experience levels are using these with an overall change in the A injury results. Brian Murphy noted that the SHP and the Wake County LE officers saw the biggest data jumps.

David and Brian Mayhew noted that the LE coders of this field might need some additional instruction and training. The new definition was written by EMS types. Eric B noted that DMV bulletins had gone out. Brian Mayhew noted that maybe an on-line course module could be created to assist in this as a statewide tool for training.

11:28 a.m.   Closing Remarks and Thanks to Everyone for their Hard Work – Eric Rodgman and Frank Hackney

Upcoming TRCC meetings and events in 2017:

April 14, 2017 – end of the third round of the 2017 NC TR Assessment.

April 14, 2017 – deadline for the updated TR Area System Summaries for the new Strategic Plan – please send them to Colleen Oliver (email address: oliver@hsrc.unc.edu) .

April 21, 2017 – deadline for any comments / suggestions for improvement, etc. on the assessment – send to Frank (email address: fhackney@ncdot.gov and Eric R (email address: eric_rodgman@unc.edu).

May 9, 2017 – 2017 NC TR Assessment Report out – Eric R will send out an electronic copy to everyone.

May 16, 2017 – NHTSA Webinar at 10:00 am EST on the NC TR Assessment Final report.

Wednesday May 17, 2017 – next NC TRCC meeting from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (UNC HSRC Conference Room).