North Carolina Traffic Safety Information Systems Strategic Plan Meeting Minutes for Wednesday May 1, 2019

Attending: Meg Miller (NHTSA), Matt Kuliani (NCSU ITRE), Roger Smock (NC DOT-Rail), Warren Smith (NC GHSP), Jonathan Puryear (NC DMV), Janna Allison (NC DMV), Mark Ezzell (NC GHSP), Alan Dellapenna (NC DHHS), Erin Lesh (NC DOT GISP), Ryan Koschatzky (NC DOT), Faith Johnson (NC DOT), Shawn Troy (NC DOT TSU), Vish Tharuvesanchi (NC DOT IT), Anna Waller (UNC CCHI / IRC), Randa Radwan (UNC HSRC), Eric Schaberg (NC SHP), Jennifer Barbour (AOC), Kimberly Rutledge (AOC), Marie Melendez (UNC HSRC), Nancy Lefler (UNC HSRC), and Eric Rodgman (UNC HSRC).

UNC HSRC Conference Room 317-318 in Chapel Hill, N.C.

9:00   Coffee / Conversations

9:20   Welcome / Introductions / Plan for the Day

9:25   NC 405 (c) Explanation of the NHTSA Application Requirements and the Requirements to Use the Latest NC TR Assessment Recommendations in the Updated 2019 TR Strategic Plan (see last page for details) – Nancy and Eric

9:30   NC 405 (c) Explanation of the NHTSA Application Requirements – Eric

9:34   TRCC Assessment and Events in the Coming Year – Nancy and Eric

>   2019 ATSIP TR Forum August 4-7 in Austin, TX

9:35   Review TRCC Objectives and Performance Measures – Nancy and Eric

9:40   Comments from UNC HSRC Director Dr. Randa Radwan

9:45   Introduction and Comments from Meg Miller from NHTSA (Region 3) – Nancy and Eric

Meg shared highlights of new initiatives on new injury code definitions and standardization across the country. Meg emphasized that NHTSA GoTeams could be requested to help in specific areas.

10:00   Injury Surveillance Systems Objectives and Performance Measures – Alan noted that two key areas from the 2017 NC TR Assessment Report were: 1) lack of linking across the databases   and 2) weak documentation on the injury databases. Alan added that staff turnover, changes in PreMIS database responsibility in NC, and that injury databases are not created for use in TR safety use.

Alan noted five observations:

1) Grad student documentation effort (11 of the 12 key databases have been or are close to be documented – work being done by kathy P with Anna Waller)
2) Continuation of the medical and motor vehicle crash linkage project efforts (ongoing projects headed up by Anna Waller)
3) FARS data is available for the fatal cases (though Alan mentioned that the NC FARS team and the NC ME office have not connected in 17 years)
4) NC has done a pilot (2013 Wake County), expanded to 2017 NC bicycle and pedestrian victims, and now is in process of doing all injured victims of crashes in 2017 (using LinkSolv software matched 40% in NC compared to the state standard of 42% in Utah)

5) NC has used GoTeams to overcome current barriers, obstacles in the linking of crash and injury data
6) Currently waiting to hear on the CDC linkage project approval (2 year project for $250K). NC is uniquely positioned to be eligible to receive this type of grant.

10:10 Anna noted all the help the linkage project has received through the GoTeam assigned to this project. Biggest issue now is the loss of Mark Bell who is leaving his position and has been instrumental in helping with data linkage. Next meeting is in September 2018 where the project will look at both NC pedestrian and bicyclist crashes as a demonstration study. Kathy P is helping document the data for the linkage project.

11:00 Crash Information Systems Objectives and Performance Measures – Jonathan Puryear, Janna Allison, Shawn Troy, and Vish Tharuvesanchi helped the TRCC go through the Crash Data goals, efforts, and performance measures.

11:40 Roadway Information Systems Objectives and Performance Measures – Erin Lesh and Ryan Koschatzky helped go through all the key objectives. Erin noted that 97% of the counties have completed geo-coding.

12:00 Lunch at HSRC

1:00 pm Watched the seven minute You-Tube "LE Role Call Video" on the need for consistency in coding injury status on state crash reports. Key areas of focus for LE included:

1) Unconscious – not able to speak
2) Paralysis – loss of movement
3) Significant burns – 2nd / 3rd degree burns
4) Broken extremities – arms / legs in pain – can't move
5) Crush injuries – pinned or trapped in a crushed vehicle
6) Severe lacerations – active bleeding / visual injury
7) Skull, chest, and abdominal – acting strangely

1:05 Citation/Adjudication Systems Objectives and Performance Measures – Jennifer and Kimberly from AOC provided the latest updates from AOC.

****Driver Information Systems Objectives and Performance Measures – not covered

****Vehicle Information Systems Objectives and Performance Measures – not covered

1:23 Nancy presented an overview of the procedure and the steps for rating upcoming 2020 TRCC projects (eligible for 405 (c) funds through NC GHSP).

1) Discuss any potential new projects and begin the discussion.
2) Fill in the new project form detailing the project overview, estimates of cost, and goals and performance measures.
3) Send to Eric (deadline August 1, 2019)
4) Eric will share all projects with the TRCC, send the list to each TRCC member, and ask each member to rank them and send their results back September 1, 2019.

5) Tabulate the results in September and announce the results – to the TRCC and to GHSP (at the NC TRCC on October 2, 2019 meeting).

1:48   TRCC members suggestions for new projects in 2020: Matt K mentioned a small town training assist project; Mark E noted an effort to expand LE partnerships in NC; Eric L noted an intersection data collection; Eric S noted expanding the CRD vehicle kits database to include crashes with Ks and all personal injury categories.

1:52   Nancy shared a description of a HSRC proposed GHSP project to assist TR data areas with developing their goals and performance measures in response to the 2017 NC TR Assessment recommendations.

2:05   Next Steps – Eric and the HSRC Update Team (draft will be shared via email in 3 weeks – sent out on May 24, 2019).

2:10   Thanks to all the TRCC attendees.

2:15   Adjourned for the day.

Key Dates / Action Items:

May 24, 2109 – Rough draft of 2019 Plan emailed out to TRCC members for comments / approval.

June 8, 2019 – deadline for final comments / approval of the draft.

June 15, 2019 – Final Version submitted to the TRCC.

July 1, 2019 – Final Version of the 2019 NC TR Strategic Plan to NHTSA along with other key required documents (via Arthur Goodwin)

October 2, 2019 (location: TBA) – NC TRCC Meeting (2 hour)

February 5, 2020 (location: TBA) – NC TRCC Meeting (2 hour)

May 6, 2020 (UNC HSRC) – NC TRCC Meeting (all day)

Explanation of the need for this meeting:

405 (c) money depends on showing NHTSA that NC is making demonstrated progress in key areas of TR data systems development. Their standards are national and allow them to compare the progress made in each state through their TRCC and state DOT agencies.

Last year NC submitted 3 progress report forms:

1)   Interim Progress report 1: Crash Data: LEA Crash Report Percent Electronically Submitted

2)   Interim Progress report 2: Crash Report Data Forms Percent Electronic Submission

3)   Interim Progress report 3: eCitation Percent Received Electronic Submission

NC benefits in organizing and measuring our progress in two ways:

1)   Allows NC to comply with the NHTSA standards and expectations

2)   Helps NC monitor progress internally

Today we will continue our TRCC journey looking at the NC TR overall goals and spend time refining how these goals can be measured using the 6-pack of performance areas laid out by NHTSA: accuracy, integration, uniformity, completeness, timeliness, and accessibility.

NHTSA has set out the before and after time periods to be used to measure any performance statistic. The periods are one year in duration.

This year's before period is last year's after period.   This year we will compare April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017 (before period) with April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018 (after period).

Our task today is to go through these latest TR Project Reports and add the before and after performance measure statistics definitions and latest results. The top (2-3) performance "positive" (showing improvement) measures will be submitted to NHTSA as part of the NC TR submission due in no later than June 15, 2018. NHTSA will use these progress reports to judge if NC has made progress and is eligible to receive 405 (c) money for the next FY.