



State Traffic Records Advisory Committee (STRAC)

Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, December 18, 2014
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Colorado State Patrol Academy
15055 Golden Rd, Building 100
Golden, CO 80401

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

APD, Kevin Diechsel
APD, Lt. Michael McClelland
CDOR, Steven Monson (*Co-Chair*)
CDOT, Alisa Babler
CDOT, David Bourget (*Secretary*)
CDOT, Kevin Dietrick

CDOT, Carol Gould
CDOT, Tara Mundt (*Minutes*)
CDPHE, Barbara Gabella
CDPS, Janet Allbee
CDPS, Maj. Barry Bratt (*Chair*)
CDPS, Jack Reed

DRCOG, Mark Northrop
RMHIDTA, Chelsey Clarke
RMHIDTA, Kevin Wong
FHWA, Dahir Egal
FMCA, William Copley
NHTSA, Leslie Nelson Taullie

Agenda: (action items in red)

1. Introductions
 - a. Alisa Babler - replacing Rahim Marandi
 - b. Steven Monson - replacing Cheri Urda as STRAC representative
2. Review of past Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve last meeting minutes
 - i. **Motion approved**
 - b. Action item review:
 - i. 3.a.3. Colorado Springs having difficulties with transmitting to DOR. Cheri Urda has retired; **Steve Monson will follow up**
3. Status of 405C grant projects (2014 & 2015) (Alisa B & Dave B.):
 - a. Changes to the sheets - project status have been changed a little bit:
 - i. "Approved" = approved by STRAC
 - ii. "Declined" = Either STRAC declined or they declined the funding
 - iii. "Started" = project has been started
 - iv. "Proposed" = not approved yet, place holders
 - v. "Completed" = project is completed and billed
 - b. 2014 projects - most of them "completed"
 - i. CDPHE, EMS Registry - was completed, declined grant for 2015
 - c. 2015 Traffic Records Forum - completed - CDOT has not received the final invoices for reimbursements.
 - i. Barry will talk to those who attended but have not invoiced yet. (David Aldridge, Barry Bratt, Ted Trujillo)
 - d. Few projects that involve MSU - Susan Lowrance, Director of CAVEA, no longer employed there; working on re-connecting with MSU.
 - e. STRAC has close to \$1.1 million unplanned funds. \$600k is planned. **Alisa will get final numbers and send them to everyone.**
 - i. Strategic Planning - we should go out to the smaller communities/counties and help them with the grant writing

1. Barry - many it is just awareness with those communities. Would like to still help Judicial with staffing for the E-Citations.
 2. Alisa -people say they do not know how to apply for grants.
 - ii. Dave B - Brenda Hahn with CDPS is looking to digitize their new Records Unit. They were going to present at today's meeting, but they are not ready yet. Application expected soon.
 - iii. Barry - would like to solicit strategically and to have more projects than we have money. Instead of just approving because we have the money, we could be choosy in regards to the strategic planning and STRAC's goals.
 - iv. Alisa - one project should be for DOR to help with temporary staffing to help with the process of electronic reporting.
 1. Large agencies are ready but not having luck with the transmission; problems have been with the diagrams, GPS, etc. DOR has expressed that staffing is the main issue. Maybe help them with a more robust plan.
 2. Vendor was in this week - Firewalls were down for a while as well
 - a. Steve Monson - DOR had to rebuild the fire walls
 - i. Someone from DOR should come to STRAC to talk about the new systems. As DOR is re-vamping their systems, they need to keep in mind of other agencies' needs with E-Citations, E-Reporting, Health Dept., etc.
 - v. Carol - planning on putting together Highway Safety Conference later this June or July. The planning meeting is scheduled for January. STRAC members should join. Carol wants to have a track for Traffic Engineering Safety.
 1. Barry - we should coordinate that with the Colorado Traffic Records Conference as well (one conference). We could add more funding.
 - vi. Barry - Spend some money and effort on the new accident report (DR 3447)
4. New STRAC Members
- a. Cheri Urda retired December 12, Steven Monson is replacing her on STRAC. He is the CDL Program Manager at DOR with over 30 years of experience. Cheri's replacement in Driver & Vehicle Control is pending.
 - b. Barbara Gabella is filling in for Lindsey Myers with Health, who is temporarily replacing Jan Hart and Tamara Hoxworth, until Jan's permanent position is filled.
 - c. Diana Anderson with OIT retired. Unknown who is replacing her. (Later Barry identified Deborah Blyth, CIO with OIT as the STRAC representative.)
 - d. Alisa Babler has replaced Rahim Marandi in the Traffic Records Unit at CDOT. Alisa has worked in Traffic Engineering with CDOT for 7 years, last two years with the Traffic and Safety Engineering Branch doing the data analysis. Before that she worked for Kansas DOT. Alisa wants to increase the sharing of data.
 - e. Andrew Freedman with Office of Marijuana Coordination, Office of the Governor is coming to the next meeting (was in another meeting today).
 - f. Jack Reed with DCJ/CDPS is a new member, working to coordinate with all agencies - globally - with the legalization of Marijuana issues. How to bring all of the data together.
 - i. Need an advisory board to find what information we do have and how to collect it all into one place. Sub-committee with STRAC.
 - ii. Jack has been talking with Dave McCurdy, OIT.
 1. VERY important to have someone from OIT here at STRAC with most data going electronic.
5. Traffic Records Forum (Dave B)
- a. Attendees: David Aldridge, David Bourget, Alisa Babler, Barry Bratt, & Ted Trujillo
 - b. Barry - Lessons learned from the first 10 traffic record assessments (first few states)
 - i. Responses that we will get for the first round of questions, how the answers are rated and the overall score that we will receive ("Meets", "Partially Meets", "Does not Meet" or "Clarification Requested")
 - ii. Usually performance measures are lacking
 - iii. Good workshops
 - c. Alisa - prevention & systemic approaches - crash modification factors. Our existing copy is old and needs to be updated. Need to find the time to do so.
 - i. Roadway Data is not as automated as it should be. Could use the design documents to collect important data rather than aerial mapping view which could take up to a year after the construction is completed to receive.
 - ii. We need to do better with analysis and data sharing with others
 - d. Dave B - the best session was the TRCC discussion

- i. Most states have the same issues that we have (attendance) and many states are hiring Traffic Records Coordinator (TRC) to help with STRAC
 - ii. Barry - it is nice to see where Colorado is at compared to other states. Where we can do better, and what we are doing that is ahead of other states.
- e. Barry - the next one will be in Costa Mesa, California October 26-29, 2015. Great opportunity to get a better insight to what is possible and seeing other ways for data collection. Best to send new STRAC members.

Traffic Records Assessment (Dave B)

- f. CDOT had a phone conference with Luke Johnson and Kara and have set up a meeting on January 15th (Kick off and training meeting) held at CDOT in the Aspen Conference Room on the 3rd floor. Bring your laptops, if possible (not required); 9 people have accepted. **Anyone who has a part in answering the questions should attend.**
 - g. Two months ago, STRAC/CDOT started putting together the questions and answers on the 391 questions. CDOT will input the 1st round of answers. However, the second and thirds rounds of questions will be imputed by the agency to which the question is directed. That person will receive a "token" (secure link, with user name and password) in order to input the answers into STRAP. This will be time effective so that if there are follow up questions, it will go straight to the person/subject expert that answered.
 - i. Leslie - they want the response from the person that was responsible for the answer of the question; in case there needs to be clarification.
 - ii. CDOT will help but it would be best for the subject expert to answer and enter the data directly.
 - h. Hoping that the second round of questions is only 50-100 questions.
 - i. The final round of question hopefully it will only be 20-25 questions.
 - j. Leslie - reminder - every question has to have an answer. Even if it is just "No". If there is one question without an answer, the assessment will be voided and Colorado will not be eligible for federal funds.
 - k. Cynthia Burch, University of Maryland, is the Traffic Records Assessment Coordinator/Facilitator. She will be our go-to person.
 - l. Barbara - There were only about 10-15 questions that we sent follow up questions in regards to quality control on death certificates. Any **follow up changes need to be sent to Dave B**
 - i. Barry - **Dave to send out list of follow-up questions to make sure everything is covered. Barry thinks we have good answers now.**
- 6. Traffic Records Coordinator, Scope of work updated (Alisa)
 - a. Alisa suggests that we use a contractor instead of one individual person, a firm or team of people. One person may be great in regards to mapping the data and integration, but another one would be better for coordinating the Traffic Records Conference and other meetings.
 - i. Barry - concerned about someone not making STRAC their #1 priority. A firm may have several contracts going on.
 - ii. Alisa - we would still have one "go-to-person" in charge, but that person may use others for different tasks. See who applies, whether it is one person or a firm.
 - iii. Dahir - use a stewardship agreement, with one person in charge, and list tasks to be accomplished.
 - b. Barry - We need a TRC as soon as possible, what is the timeline?
 - i. **Scope of work needs to be finalized, then bidding process takes three months. Spring Hire TRC.**
 - c. Leslie - we need someone that will coordinate with DOR directly (they have 4 of the 6 major TR systems) in regards to their system updates and make sure it will work for other agencies as well.
 - i. Barry - not just an engineer, but someone will overall knowledge
 - ii. Leslie - this person and/or firm will need OIT's trust.
- 7. Statewide Fatal Blotter proposal (Kevin D)
 - a. Currently different agencies are using 2 different forms, each telling the user to send to various people. All of which are different, depending on the form that you are filling in. Also, email addresses are incorrect, as people retire or move on. Would like to have a system where agencies can fill in the form (electronically) hit submit, and it will then automatically send to everyone that needs to have it in a timely manner. FARS needs notification within 24 hours and DOT needs notification daily.
 - i. CSP is ok with this
 - ii. DOR wasn't present at the last meeting.
 - iii. Question is who should "host" the data/website?
 - 1. CDOT - keeper of the FARS

2. DOR - keeper of the legal crash reports
 3. CSP (Janet) - Assigns the FARS numbers
 - a. Leslie - NHTSA's perspective, the blotter is mainly designed for the FARS system, CDOT should host
 - b. Questions are: Who needs this? Who uses it? Anyone has more needs than CDOT?
 - b. Barry - will this system automatically send the blotter or would it be an email alert where the user would have to go into the system, by means of a user name and password, in order to download blotter?
 - c. CDOT will work on the grant proposal
 - i. Challenge would be the security (get OIT involved)
 - d. Alisa - hoping this will improve the imputing of the records/timeliness.
 - e. Aurora PD suggests adding this to the Crash Investigation Manual with instructions. What it is and why it is important.
 - i. **Can send an email/letter to all of the agencies with a page that will need to be added to the current manual and a "heads up" for new system implementation.**
 1. Janet already has a mailing list
8. Report on work with RMHIDTA (Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) (Kevin Dietrick and Kevin Wong)
- a. RMHIDTA has worked on partnerships with CDOT (Kevin D.), NHTSA (Leslie N.T.), local PD (Janet A.), etc. Working on releasing two yearly reports: Marijuana Legalization and Impaired Driving (will not be released until after the year-end finalizations for FARS is completed)
 - b. RMHIDTA has helped CDOT with getting the BAC reports from coroner's offices throughout the state. Opening the communication lines and expressing the need CDOT has for those reports. They have helped CDOT immensely with this.
 - c. They are also looking at ways that data can be collected for marijuana usage. A lot of the data is already being collected; however, need to find a way to pool all of the information together to help everyone's needs. **Find what data is available and what needs to be collected.**
 - d. To see these reports and get more information of what RMHIDTA does visit www.rmhidta.org
9. Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) (Alisa)
- a. Requirement of MAP-21. Final draft was sent to our director for signatures. Published by January on CDOT's *new* website.
 - b. This took 1200 people, 200+ active participants in the action plans, steps, meetings, goals and emphasis areas teams.
 - c. The goal is "Toward Zero Death". Unrealistic, but no one wanted to say, "It's ok to have even 1 death". Between 2008 and 2030 goal is to cut fatal crashes in half.
 - i. Fatal car crashes should be unusual and not heard of often. Colorado has on average over 400 fatal crashes per year. That is 1.1 fatal crashes per day. We want this to be like airline crashes. 50 years ago, planes crashed all of the time. Now, however, it is unusual to hear of a plane crash. It makes national news. Fatal car accidents should be like this as well; take the same approach.
 - d. SHSP is not just CDOT's plan, but the entire State of Colorado. Large agencies, departments, as well as other smaller groups were involved (i.e. MADD, Bicycle Colorado, and others)
 - e. **STRAC could fund some of these projects. Next meeting - SHSP goals as an agenda item.**
 - f. There will be a signing ceremony with the governor; then we will have a conference.
10. Injury Crash Definitions (Alisa)
- a. Currently there are five injury levels on a report: None, Complaint, Injured, Severe Injury, and Fatal. Software used for data analysis has been including Complaint of Injury as an injury crash rather than a property damage only crash. For example: 44% of pedestrian crashes are classified as property damage only crashes without the complaints.
 - i. Most other states report complaint of an injury as an injury crash. Serious injury crashes are Level 3 (incapacitating) and Level 4 (fatal) only.
 - ii. Alisa will be updating the CORA request form so the requester will know what data they are asking for and receiving. It will ask "What level of injury do you need?"
 - iii. CDOT will give requesters what they want.
 - b. Barry - Challenge - CDOT is taking the current definition and changing it without approval from the state.
 - i. Alisa - CDOT has been using this program for over a year now. It was not announced. Only difference would be how to group the complaints. PDO with Complaint of Injury, or PDO alone, and complaint with injuries.
 - ii. Software system CDOT uses for data analysis would have be updated, very costly.

- c. Barbara suggests labeling it as such. # of PDO, # with complaint of injury, # of Injured, # of Serious Injuries, and # of Fatal.
- d. Barry - give information of what is published on line as well as the CORA form.

11. New Grant Solicitations (Dave B)

- a. Purpose to keep same schedule as last year. **Send solicitations out at the end of December, Short forms due by March to STRAC.** If approved, long Form by May/June to go into ISP.
- b. Anything that deals with Roadway, Crash, EMS, Citations, Vehicle, Driver data
- c. Leslie - if you need funding, FHWA & FMCA has money too
- d. Barry - solicitations to police departments, DRCOG, all STRAC members, other departments and municipalities, with a note to pass it on.
 - i. Hope to get more applications for grants than we have money for. So we can be more strategic about the selections

STRAC Annual Report (Barry)

- e. Was sent out to everyone, did all receive it? Yes

12. Election for new STRAC officers:

- a. Current Co-Chairperson was Cheri Urda. Need a new person, any volunteers?
 - i. Steven Monson was only one to volunteer
 - 1. Vote - approved unanimously - Steven Monson is new Co-Chairperson
- b. Current Chairperson - Major Barry Bratt. Any volunteers?
 - i. Major volunteered. Vote - Approved unanimously - Major Barry Bratt remains Chairperson
- c. CDOT is to appoint the STRAC secretary - will remain David Bourget with Tara Mundt for minutes

STRAC Officers	Name
Chairperson	Major Barry Bratt
Co-Chairperson	Steven Monson
Secretary	David Bourget
Sergeant at Arms	Glenn Davis

STRAC Voting Members	Name
CDOT	Alisa Babler
CDPS	Major Barry Bratt
CDOR	Steven Monson
GOIT	<i>New - Deborah Blyth (filled after meeting)</i>
CDPHE	Barbara Gabella (temporary)
Judicial	Tracy Walter
DHS	Webster Hendricks

13. Round Table:

- a. RMHIDTA is looking at serious bodily injury crashes and how to collect data on marijuana use
 - i. Testing process and reporting
 - ii. Law Enforcement normally hits Alcohol over drugs. It is easier to get conviction on alcohol and cheaper testing.
 - 1. Isn't this doing a disservice? - Yes
 - iii. The current crash form lumps all drugs together. With a new form we could capture this data better.
 - iv. Challenge what goes on the crash report. What is really important versus what isn't
 - v. Linking the data together, Marijuana Task Force - source from other places
 - vi. Citation data or EMS data would be the best area
 - vii. Testing drugs can take 6 weeks, crash reports submitted in 5 days.
 - viii. TRC to map the data would be the best way to figure out how to collect it
 - ix. Judicial may also be a good place to collect the data, from DA's or lawyers.
 - 1. **Judicial needs to know what value they have to STRAC**
 - x. Drug test costs \$250 versus alcohol testing at \$50. Is there a way to get restitution for the cost?
 - 1. Barry - restitution is very hard to collect.
 - a. Restitution first goes to victims assistance programs
 - 2. Alcohol is easier to convict

3. Alisa - could we "require" a blood test for all DUI/DUID as a sample period?
 - a. Barry will talk to the DUI/DUID Task Force - see what we can do.
- xi. The law has changed - now marijuana matters

Topics to discuss in the next meeting:

1. Status update on 405 Grant Projects
 - a. 14-04-41-14 Colorado Springs E-Reporting follow up
 - b. Short Forms
 - i. Help Judicial with E-Citations
 - ii. Help DOR with workload on E-Reporting
 - iii. Data collection on toxicology reports
 - iv. Project to start collection of the Toxicology report data? Where should it reside?
2. Traffic Records Coordinator (Alisa)
3. Traffic Records Assessment (Dave)
4. Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) -Goals (Alisa)

Future Topics:

1. Impaired Driving (Amendment 64)
2. Colorado's Traffic Records Conference (Waiting for TRC)
3. New Federal Requirements for Safety Performance Measures (tabled from 6/26)
4. New DR3447 / Statewide Blotter (waiting for TRC)
5. 405C Project: 15-04-41-10 "TR Initiative Projects" - Waiting on TRC and TR Assessment recommendations