



# NLTAPA Work Group Report of Activities

**Work Group: TTAP & Great Lakes    Date: 1/5/2017**

---

## **TTAP Update Additions**

### **Highlights:**

#### **2016 Southern Plains TTAP Center Highlights/Results:**

Southern Plains TTAP Center (SPTTAP) used funding from the Southern Plains Transportation Center (SPTC), a regional transportation consortium, located at the University of Oklahoma. SPTC assisted with funding for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tribal Safety Champions Workshop and also provided funding for Road Safety Assessments for the Iowa Tribe and the Sac & Fox Tribes of Oklahoma.

At SPTTAP's Tribal Safety Champions Workshop, we incorporated a university student poster session and made the students and their research a focal point. Featured in the afternoon were six 5-minute poster presentations provided by engineering students from Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma University, and the University of Tulsa. Of the presentations, four contained **Federal Highway Administration's Every Day Counts** innovations including Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Integrated Bridge Systems, Pavement Preservation, Data Driven Safety Analysis, and Road Weather Management. Workshop participants had an opportunity to interact with the students, and ultimately voted for their favorite poster.

Also new this year was a Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Planning Course initiated by our Tribal Safety Circuit Rider. This course is intended to equip participants with tools and knowledge to improve safety conditions for all road users in their communities, specifically pedestrians and bicyclists. Participants walked through the beginning stages of planning pedestrian and bike safety improvement project to come away with knowledge and skills to follow through with the plan they have begun.

As a Center staff, we had a half day planning meeting, where we discussed all the training we wanted to implement for the year. We placed all the training on a schedule and distributed it to the tribes, so that they could plan training and time out of the office accordingly. We also asked for feedback on other training needs as the year progresses. This process gave our center a good roadmap for the year. Instructors were booked well in advance.

With all the requests for ArcGIS training and the depth of the material, we began offering one-day, hand-on training that incorporate a lot of exercises. We use a consultant who has

developed four one-day classes that have helped tribes track resources and plan safety strategies. The LTAP has also started using this trainer, as they are receiving requests from counties for this type of training. The courses offered are Making Data Useful, Creating a Base Map, Editing Basics, and Map Making in Arc Map.

The safety resources offered through the National Highway Safety Administration that we have promoted to tribes have been implemented by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to conduct Seat Belt checks, impaired driving events, and safe driving programs for teens.

At our Tribal Safety Peer Exchange, we used resources from AT&T to bring awareness to the dangers of texting and driving. AT&T brought their simulator to the event, which had about 20 tribal youth in attendance.

Our partnership with Southern Plains Transportation Center at the University of Oklahoma has provided us with funding and access to engineers who have assisted Tribes with Road Safety Assessments that help tribes prioritize transportation safety needs. In cooperation with Oklahoma DOT, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes were able to improve a school crossing as result of the RSA.

**Reported By:** Becky Tremonte

#### **Great Lake Region Update Addition**

##### **Highlights:**

**Illinois** - Illinois' LTAP center has experienced a significant change in personnel. Gwen Montgomery retired in 2016. David Maziarz was hired as our Training and Graphics Specialist. He was our former Graduate Public Service Intern. We also hired Stephanie Stoverink as a Training Specialist. Stephanie has already completed National Safety Council training for flagger instructors and she restarted our flagger training program. She has also completed True Colors training. The position for our center manager has been posted and we expect to interview for that position soon.

We have been conducting day long training sessions on Phase I Engineering (environmental, historical, cultural, NEPA) for local agencies that have been popular. We are continuing ADA training and we have added a class on ADA transition plans. These classes have been among our most popular offerings.

**Reported by:** Ben Jorden

#### **Southeast Regions Update Addition**

##### **Highlights:**

**Florida**

The Transportation Technology Transfer (T2) Center at University of Florida Transportation Institute provides training, technical assistance, technology transfer services, and safety information to transportation, public works and safety professionals throughout Florida.

This year, the T2 Center marked 32 years in administering the Florida LTAP. In 2015, the T2 Center trained over 2,100 individuals in 127 course sessions. T2 continues to provide its popular Maintenance of Traffic Courses (Basic, Intermediate and Advanced), responded to local requests for Plans Reading Fundamentals, and added new heavy equipment training (Excavator and Skid Steer). This past year, Florida LTAP in partnership with FHWA hosted a series of webinars aimed at local agencies including sessions on the use of FHWA Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding for local agencies to address safety needs, Buy American requirements for Federal-aid projects and on “Every Day Counts” innovations, the Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil-Integrated Bridge System (GRS-IBS), to help reduce bridge construction time and cost.

The T2 Center also houses several statewide safety resource centers, including the Florida Pedestrian and Bicycling Resource Center and the Florida Occupant Protection Resource Center. These programs and projects have been renewed for the 2016-2017 grant year.

T2 has grown to serve several other state-based programs including the Transportation Safety Center and Technology Transfer Support to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The Transportation Safety Center (TSC) established in 2014 provides technical assistance to local agencies in identifying road safety problems and develop projects eligible for funding. Technology Transfer Support disseminates technology transfer media for FDOT in the form of editorial reviews of final reports, summaries of final reports, maintains an archive of transportation-related digital images, and assists in the production of Research Showcase magazine.

T2 continues to be an integral part of Florida’s transportation organizations, providing technology and annual award assistance to the Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS), delivering presentations, and offering a variety of workshops and resources to Florida’s transportation and public works professionals. Center staff is expanding its reach with transportation and public works organizations such as the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association/American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), the Florida Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), The Intelligent Transportation Society (ITS) of Florida and the American Public Works Association (APWA)

A major change in the Center's leadership occurred in 2016, including a reorganization of its programs. A new director, Maria Cahill, AICP, was named in April of 2016.

**Reported by : Matt Cates**