

WAPA/WSDOT Paving Work Zone Risk Reduction Joint Committee
WSDOT Bullfrog Facility Cle Elum, WA
July 20, 2017
Meeting

Attendees:

Cal Beyer, Lakeside Industries	Mike O’Neil, Lakeside Industries
Dave Bierschbach, WSDOT	Mark Ottele; Granite
Travis Brock, Shield of Armor Safety	Amir Rasaie, WSDOT
Chris Christopher, WSDOT	Doug Stiffarm, Miles Resources
Dave Gent, WAPA	Billy Wallace, NW Laborers
Torrey Johnson, Tucci & Sons	

Guests Attending: ** signifies proxy attended in place of missing member

1. Anne Ford, WSDOT Commercial Vehicle Services (oversized load permitting and bridge/road restrictions)
2. ** Sean Jeffries, IUOE #302 (attending for Josh Swanson)
3. Jeff Minnick, WSDOT SC Region (attending for Brian White)
4. Elena Wagar, Lakeside Industries; Safety Intern
5. ** Brian Walsh; WSDOT HQ Traffic (attending for John Nisbet & Steve Haapala)

Members not able to attend meeting:

Bob Adams; Atkinson Construction (AGC Co-Rep)	Al Hughbanks, Inland Paving (Oldcastle)
Mike Bussard, PR Systems	** John Nisbet, WSDOT
Bill Dempsey, Lakeside Industries	Mike Stein, Granite
Doug Donegan, Granite	** Brian White, WSDOT
Dave Erickson, WSDOT	Brian Van, Atkinson Construction (AGC Co-Rep)
** Steve Haapala, WSDOT	** Josh Swanson, Operating Engineers Local #302

1. **Meeting called to order.** Emergency/safety procedures for facility were reviewed.
2. **Dave Gent reviewed WAPA Anti-Trust Acknowledgement.** All attendees signed in.
3. **Update on 2 Pilot Projects using Variable Speed Limits**
 - a. Northwest Region project on SR 509 “NB S 160th ST to S 112th St Paving and ADA
 - i. (Amir Rasaie of WSDOT & Torrey Johnson of Tucci)

Amir and Torre reported good results on this pilot project. There were some challenges with getting the trailers initially and getting them set up properly, especially with data recording. Once those items were resolved, it has been working well. They are collecting data and have seen speed drop to 41-42 mph in a zone that is normally 60 mph that was reduced to 40 mph at the work zone. Speed reductions being achieved without law enforcement presence. Feedback from workers on site has been positive. Amir will be providing the data to Steve Haapala who will be doing a report at the end of the project on the results.

- b. South Central Region project on I-82 “1 Mile West of Benton City to I-182 Paving
 - i. (Jeff Minnick will report for Brian White)

Jeff reported that their route was a 70 mph route, which dropped to 45 mph in the work zone. He indicated WSP has been happy with the speed reductions they have seen on this project. Jeff indicated there were some issues getting the sign initially and some issues with the contractor having enough resources to keep the signs moving. Jeff will coordinate with Steve Haapala on the report out of results.

Action Steps:

- Steve Haapala will be doing a report on the results of these pilot projects.
- WSDOT evaluate recommendations to:
 - extend temporary work zone by a minimum of 500 additional feet with variable speed limit (provide greater protection for truckers and finish rollers)
 - consider using variable speed limits on multiple lane projects and not only where traffic reduced to single lane
- Results will be shared at both the WSDOT statewide project engineer meeting and WAPA Annual meeting in November

4. GSP on reimbursement of Law Enforcement in Work Zones -- update 5/18/17 meeting of WSDOT Construction Engineers – Dave Bierschbach

Dave B shared that each Region will have a pilot project utilizing the new GSP in 2018. Dave G indicated he would like to see at least the work zone law enforcement hour information in each project. Cal led discussion on how these law enforcement hours related to the traffic management plan (TMP) and traffic strategy. Chris reiterated support from WSDOT for this GSP and expressed the need for greater intra-agency communication on the GSP. WSDOT regions will be asked to identify candidate projects for the pilots.

Action Steps:

- WSDOT regions will be asked to identify candidate projects for the pilots.
- WSDOT will work on a formal implementation plan for 2018 and communicate details.
- Information on the GSP and the 2018 pilot projects will be shared at the annual WAPA meeting

5. Work Zone Crash Data – Brian Walsh

Brian provided a handout on work zone accident data over the past 14 years. Work zone accidents involving roadway workers/flaggers have dropped in recent years compared to the 2002-2007 timeframe. It was discussed that this trend was likely because of more work zone emphasis and safety items. A request was made for a breakout of daytime vs. nighttime accidents.

Action Steps:

- Brian will provide the group with a daytime vs nighttime accident breakout.

6. Oversize Load Permitting – Anne Ford

Ann provided a handout and discussed the oversize load permitting process. She discussed restrictions, permits, and notifications. The contractors were interested in the online work zone restrictions information. It is something they can review and let the PE know if any adjustments need to be made. There may be an opportunity to add contractor contact information to the online work zone restriction information. Chris asked about technological jump needed to achieve real-time notification.

Action Steps:

- Information on the online work zone restriction information regarding oversize loads will be shared at the annual WAPA meeting.

7. Work Zone Safety Awareness Campaign – Review objectives and identified stakeholders - Cal

Cal has been working with Shelly Baldwin of the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission (WSTSC) on this. This would be a subgroup of this team involving Contractors, WSDOT staff and the WSTSC.

Action Steps:

- Cal will coordinate further with the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission (WSTSC) on moving this forward.

8. Work Zone Mobile Crash Barriers -- WSDOT report on test project results -- Group Discussion

Experience with the mobile crash barrier on a Granite project in Southwest Region was discussed. It provided good benefit on a panel replacement project. It was discussed that these may be better suited on a stationary project that has plenty of room, and may not be a good tool for a traditional mobile paving project.

Action Steps:

- Information from the barrier supplier will be made available on Basecamp.

9. Update from States on Work Zone Initiatives

- a. State Directors of Traffic Safety Commissions -- update on state work zone awareness campaigns (from Shelly Baldwin) posted on Basecamp
- b. Update from MA on Work Zone Safety Committee -- Cal reported it has been challenging on getting a response back from Massachusetts on this topic.

Action Steps:

- Brian will share a good MassDOT contact with Cal.
- Cal will contact Brian Walsh contact at MassDOT.

10. Scheduling 2018 Quarterly Meetings

Committee agreed that summer meeting in July during peak construction and vacation season is too difficult for both WSDOT and contractors. Consensus to have three meetings in 2018 in January, April and October. Important for communicating major outcomes at both the mid-year and annual WAPA meetings that WSDOT attends.

Action Steps:

- Andrea Billingsley at WSDOT contacted to check availability of WSDOT officials
- 2018 meeting scheduled meeting dates are confirmed with calendar invitations sent for:
 - January 25, 2018 – 9 to 12 noon at AGC of WA
 - April 24, 2018 – 9 to 12 noon at Bullfrog Maintenance facility in Cle Elum
 - October 18, 2018 – 9 to 12 noon at AGC of WA Fife

Topics for Next Meeting:

- Update on WA State Patrol High Visibility Enforcement – John Nisbet
- Autonomous Vehicles in WA and impact on work zones

Next meeting: scheduled for October 18, 2017 at 9AM at the AGC of WA building in Fife located at 3601 20th Street East

Submitted by: Dave Bierschbach and Cal Beyer