Innovation of the Month:

Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian

The Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian (STEP) team is traveling across the country to promote cost-effective countermeasures with known safety benefits to State and local agencies.

The STEP team leads workshops, facilitates peer exchanges, and makes presentations at transportation conferences to help agencies implement the STEP countermeasures and improve safety at uncontrolled crossing locations. The team’s outreach activities in 2017 and 2018 include 36 STEP workshops, four complete streets workshops, a pedestrian-focused road safety audit workshop, and six STEP sessions at conferences.

The team also participates in STEP action plan working meetings, at which 23 States to date have identified strategic improvements to policies, programs, and practices to increase consistent and routine implementation of pedestrian safety countermeasures. Participants report that the meetings push their agencies to consider new strategies for moving forward on pedestrian safety.

An example of the pedestrian safety resources States are developing is the North Carolina Department of Transportation’s “North Carolina Pedestrian Crossing Guidance,” which outlines an evaluation and decision-making process for installing pedestrian facilities at crossing locations. A four-step flowchart walks users through sequenced assessments that result in a recommendation, required action, or no required action.

Contact Becky Crowe of the FHWA Office of Safety or Peter Eun of the FHWA Resource Center for information and technical assistance on the STEP countermeasures, including workshops, presentations, and peer exchanges.

Read next week’s EDC News to learn about the STEP team’s June outreach activities.