

MEETING SUMMARY

Regional Safety Advisory Committee

Friday, April 28, 2017

The Regional Safety Advisory Committee met at 10 am on April 28, 2017 at NCTCOG offices.

Members in Attendance

Nathan Benditz, Chair, City of Irving; Rich Larkins, Vice-Chair, City of Grapevine; George Barnes, Dallas Area Rapid Transit; John Denholm, Lee Engineering; Chris Flanigan, City of Allen; Tamara Gart, TxDOT Dallas District; Matt Hotelling, Town of Flower Mound; Kirk Houser, City of Dallas; Paul Iwuchukwu, City of Arlington; Yang Jin, City of Mesquite; Laura Melton, City of Burleson; Brian Moen, City of Frisco; Yang Ouyang, North Texas Tollway Authority; Stephen Ratke, FHWA – Texas Division; Anthony Smith, Dallas County; Mark Titus, City of Richardson

Non-Members/Guests in Attendance

Nicholas Hernandez, NCTCOG; Billy Manning, TxDOT Fort Worth District; Gabriel Ortiz, NCTCOG; Kathryn Rush, NCTCOG.

NCTCOG Staff in Attendance

Natalie Bettger, Camille Fountain, Sonya Jackson Landrum, Barbara Walsh

Meeting Summary Outline

1. Approval of January 27, 2017 Meeting Summary
2. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety for Schools
3. FHWA Safety Performance Management
4. 2016 NCTCOG Safety Performance Report Overview
5. Proposed CMAQ/STBG Funding Program: Safety Funding
6. Update Items
7. Upcoming Safety-Related Events and Training Announcements
8. Other Business
9. Next RSAC Meeting: July 28, 2017

1. Approval of January 27, 2017 Meeting Summary – Nathan Benditz, Chair, City of Irving

The committee accepted the January meeting summary as written.

2. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety For Schools – Kathryn Rush, NCTCOG

Kathryn Rush provided an overview of safety conditions in the region. Texas is designated a bicycle-pedestrian focus state; and the cities of Fort Worth and Dallas are focus cities because of the high ratio of bike and pedestrian crashes and fatalities in the region. From 2011-2015, in school-age children (5-17 years) 2,380 were involved in crashes, with 50 fatalities. NCTCOG developed the Look Out Texans Safety Campaign, through which a number of school resources were developed. Adaptable lesson plans were developed for two age groups, grades 3-5, and 6-8. Resources are available for parents and caregivers, including a new Safe Routes to School brochure that offers benefits of safe routes to school, how to convene a group of stakeholders, and safety tips for parents and kids.

NCTCOG staff were going to work with BikeDFW to conduct bike rodeos at three schools prior to the end of the school year. Rodeos include obstacle courses, bike inspections, helmet fitting, and learning rules of the road. Working with school administrators, PTA, the city, and TxDOT, NCTCOG staff were also going to conduct walking safety audits at the same three schools. The audits will address the greatest concerns and barriers to kids walking to schools.

All resources are available in English and Spanish, and can be downloaded at www.LookOutTexans.org/schoolkits for free. The presentation can be found on the [RSAC web page](#).

Q. What is BPACs awareness or involvement of all this? It just seems like a resource for getting more cities involved.

A. This presentation has been made to BPAC but has not been addressed as to direct any action.

3. FHWA Safety Performance Management – Stephen Ratke, P.E., FHWA – Texas Division

Stephen Ratke provided an update on some of the safety performance measures currently going on throughout the State. Safety Performance Management (SPM) is required by law by Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act measurements. There are five SPM that must be used: Number of Fatalities; Rate of Fatalities; Number of Serious Injuries; Rate of Serious Injuries; and Number of Non-motorized Fatalities plus Serious Injuries.

Target-setting types are evidence-based target setting and aspirational or aspirational-based target setting. Aspirational targets include reducing fatalities by 50 percent over the next 20 years. Evidence-based targets are required to be data-driven, and include estimating achievements for a specific set of investments, policies and strategies, and what can be achieved in a relatively short time frame (5-10 years).

Stephen explained how FHWA assesses whether a state has made significant progress towards a target, and the DOT and MPO requirements. Other MPO activities include integration with Long Range Statewide Transportation Plans and Metropolitan Transportation Plans, and Statewide Transportation Improvement Programs and TIPs.

FHWA sponsored a Texas Safety Target Setting Coordination Workshop in January. Discussion topics included Texas' experience to date with reporting safety measures to NHTSA, and starting the conversation of coordination with MPOs. Draft safety targets should be available within two weeks. Draft safety targets will be distributed to the MPOs through TEMPO. Submittal to FHWA must be by August 31. Stephen showed the timeline for 2018 targets to be met by March 2020. The presentation is available on the [RSAC web page](#).

Sonya asked committee members to bring draft or suggested target recommendations to the next RSAC meeting for discussion.

4. 2016 NCTCOG Safety Performance Measure Overview – Camille Fountain, NCTCOG

Camille Fountain provided an overview of the 2016 safety performance measures. Major items included in the report are crash and fatality statistics; contributing factors; crash rates by county; TIM attendance; HazMat stats; and MAPP stats and others. Crashes increased to more than 11 percent with statistics from all 16 counties; fatalities increased by more than triple from five percent in 2015 to over 19 percent in 2016. Three counties, Dallas, Denton, and Tarrant, experienced an increase in crash rates over the regional average of 71. HazMat incidents decreased over the last year. Camille's presentation is available on the [RSAC web page](#).

5. Proposed CMAQ/STBG Funding Program: Safety Funding – Sonya Landrum, NCTCOG

At the March STTC meeting, NCTCOG's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) staff presented on upcoming funding opportunities under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG). Safety was identified as one project of the 11 projects the TIP team is looking to fund in fiscal years 2018 through 2020. There is approximately \$185 million in the CMAQ bucket; and \$130 million in STBG bucket for those three years. Sonya asked committee members today for possible regional safety-related type projects that the RSAC could recommend for funding under these funding buckets. TIP team staff are looking for projects identified in the Plan, but new project ideas can be presented as well. Ideas are being sought to incorporate and build a regional safety improvement program. One idea is to expand the wrong-way driving pilot project into other areas; another is to request funding to improve all signalized intersections identified in the Intersection Safety Implementation Plan (ISIP) based on countermeasures used in the ISIP. Sonya asked members to submit ideas by June 2, in order to get project recommendations to the TIP team as quickly as possible. Rich Larkins suggested furthering the idea of safe routes to schools.

6. Update Items

a) TxDOT Fort Worth District WWD Pilot Project Update

- i. Billy Manning provided the update. The installed systems started operating on January 10. Since then, 47 alarms were false; some were attributed to lawn maintenance companies operating equipment in the opposite direction on the roadway. There have been 38 real-world actual detections. All but one self-corrected. Twenty-one of them occurred on IH 30 at Center St. Out of this pilot, Standard Operating Procedures will be developed, including how would TxDOT respond. Sites chosen for detection were determined off a TTI study done for the Fort Worth District.

Billy noted what the wrong way driver sees when entering a ramp – raised pavement markings, red tape on the backside of Do Not Enter poles, and flashing lights.

- b) 2017 TxDOT HSIP Reminder
 - i. Sonya reminded members of the HSIP submittal deadline of May 8 to local TxDOT districts. State deadline is May 24. Proposals will be submitted to the State by the local TxDOT districts.
- c) Crash Reconstruction Equipment and Training RFP
 - i. A new RFP was released on April 14. Proposal deadline is May 12.
- d) Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Portable Scale RFP Preparation
 - i. An RFP will be developed for CVE portable scales.
- e) 2017-2018 RSAC Membership Appointments and Vice Chair Opportunity
 - i. NCTCOG staff will be sending a letter via email to STTC representatives requesting of them to appoint 2017-2018 RSAC committee member. Vice Chair Larkins will assume the Chair position and the Vice-Chair position will need to be filled. Chair Benditz asked for a volunteer to assume the seat.
- f) RSAC Member Attendance Summary for 2016-2017
 - i. The RSAC member attendance summary was available as a handout at the meeting. It will be included in the email to STTC representatives when asking for next year's appointment.

7. Upcoming Safety-Related Events and Training Announcements

- a) Traffic Incident Management Executive Level – May 4, 2017
- b) [Traffic Incident Management First Responder and Manager Course](#):
 - i. May 18-19, 2017
 - ii. July 11-12, 2017
- c) [Global Youth Traffic Safety Month](#) – May 2017
- d) [Motorcycle Safety Month](#) – May 2017
- e) [National Bike Month](#) – May 2017
- f) [National Safety Month](#) – June 2017
- g) [2017 Traffic Safety Conference](#) – June 7-9, 2017, Las Colinas

8. Other Business (Old or New)

Brian Moen asked members if their cities had Vision Zero plans. A Tex-ITE meeting session will be held in San Marcos to talk about this topic. He asked if there was interest to put together a plan as a region, rather than individually.

- 9. The next meeting of the RSAC is July 28, 2017.

Chair Benditz concluded the meeting.