



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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SHAILEN P. BHATT
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING

Date: February 4, 2014

Date of Meeting: January 16, 2014

Location: TMC – Newark Conference Room

Topic: Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Working Group

Attendees: Sarah Coakley – DelDOT Planning
Melanie Earnest – WR&A
Peter Haag – DelDOT Traffic
Lt. Robert Jones – Delaware State Police
Pat Kennedy – Federal Highway Administration
Alison Kirk - Office of Highway Safety
Richard Klepner - Office of Highway Safety
Mark Luszcz – DelDOT Traffic
Rob McCleary – DelDOT
Lou Rossi – Bike Delaware
Jana Simpler – Office of Highway Safety
Dana Trone – WR&A
Adam Weiser – DelDOT Traffic
James Wilson – Bike Delaware
John Yeomans – Alcohol & Tobacco Enforcement

This was the third meeting of the Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Working Group. The purpose of this meeting was to review action items from previous meetings, provide agency updates related to pedestrian and bicycle safety initiatives, and review the data and preliminary results for the SR 2 Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Study while keeping in mind our main goal to reduce the number of fatal crashes involving pedestrians or bicyclists by 5 percent every three years.

Adam Weiser began the meeting and noted that there are some new members. Adam asked the group to introduce themselves. Adam then turned over the meeting to Peter Haag. Peter Haag reviewed the action items that resulted from the July 30th meeting and then asked each agency to provide an update related to their current pedestrian/bicycle safety. The following summarizes the discussions that were held:

Review of Action Items from July 30th Meeting:

- The following summarizes the action items and response.
 - DelDOT Traffic will continue to compare pedestrian data with surrounding states.
 - ACTION ITEM: Peter advised the group we will be working with FHWA to obtain data from the surrounding states.
 - DelDOT Traffic is continuing to reach out to Las Vegas and California to obtain information on unique barrier treatments. However, no response has been received.



- The second Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Study location, SR 4 from east of Newport to Wilmington, is being postponed for further study as DelDOT is still completing signal improvements along this corridor. US 13 from SR 273 to the Walnut Street/Market Street split in Wilmington has been added as the second study location. This location will include a continuation of the 2009 study along US 13 and US 40 which evaluated US 13 between SR 273 (Frenchtown Road) and Saienni Boulevard and the US 40 corridor between US 13 and Buckley Boulevard.
 - ACTION ITEM: DelDOT Traffic will schedule a field walk through in the spring to discuss and observe pedestrian and bicycle activity along the US 13 corridor.
- DelDOT is working with the University of Delaware to evaluate pedestrian and bicycle data within the city of Newark.
 - ACTION ITEM: Peter advised the group DelDOT will be meeting with the University to discuss the information in detail.
- DelDOT was asked to determine if there was any correlation between nighttime pedestrian crashes correlate and overall nighttime crashes.
 - Crash data was queried for New Castle County to determine if there were any correlating factors. The data indicates there were approximately 111 nighttime pedestrian related crashes and a total of 4215 nighttime related crashes. Peter advised the group there is no correlation between them.
- DelDOT used portable and permanent message boards last year to alert drivers of pedestrian crossings. Portable message boards were utilized along SR 1 between Lewes and Dewey Beach. Permanent message boards on SR 1 northbound at the DE/MD state line and US 13, south of Hares Corner in New Castle County were also utilized.
 - ACTION ITEM: Lt. Jones requested DelDOT to install portable message boards along SR 2 between St. James Church Rd and DE 141. DelDOT Traffic will review the corridor to determine where feasible locations exist.
 - ACTION ITEM: Lt. Jones requested DelDOT to install static signs along SR 2 between St. James Church Rd and DE 141 to warn pedestrians to use crossings. DelDOT Traffic will review the corridor and determine where feasible locations exist.
- SR 1 at the beach is under review as well. There was a panel tasked with looking at pedestrian safety along SR 1 from Lewes to Dewey Beach. This panel was led by Representative Schwartzkopf.
 - Sidewalk connections are planned to be constructed as part of DelDOT's Pedestrian Improvement project
 - Roadway lighting is planned to be implemented as part of DelDOT's Pedestrian Improvement project
 - Six (6) new signalized crosswalks but a total of eight (8) are planned to be constructed as part of DelDOT's Pedestrian Improvement project. The locations are as followed:
 - Dartmouth Drive
 - Postal Lane/Melson Road (existing location)
 - Midway Outlets (existing location)
 - Old Landing Road
 - Camelot
 - Holland Glade Road (HAWK signal)
 - 1A (1/2 HAWK signal)
 - Bay Vista Road
 - Implement proposed bus/bike/right turn lane striping plan (solid edge line with bicycle friendly rumble strips)
 - No barriers will be installed at this time
 - Overhead ped warning sign/beacons are planned to be implemented south of Lewes/Rehoboth Canal.
 - No further committee meetings are planned. The group has dismembered and a final report should be submitted from Rep. Schwartzkopf.
 - ACTION ITEM: Once the report is final, DelDOT will circulate it to the members of this working group.

- Jana Simpler asked in any enforcement or education was a part of the task force. Mark Luszcz stated Troop 7 was a part of the group from an enforcement standpoint and nothing was recommended from an educational standpoint.

Educational updates:

- Jana Simpler gave updates from an education standpoint:
 - 30 pedestrian fatalities occurred in 2012 while 26 fatalities occurred in 2013. The 2013 pedestrian fatalities were 26% of the total fatalities.
 - 2014 Plan:
 - Similar enforcement component as in 2013 where law enforcement will provide education instead of enforcement at strategically identified locations (approximately 4 to 5 locations).
 - Cooperating with Ocean City Pedestrian Safety Committee to provide a continuous campaign from Lewes, Delaware to Ocean City, Maryland.
 - Delaware's Zombie campaign will continue to occur in New Castle and Kent County.
 - Speed/Pedestrian Safety demos will occur in April.
 - ACTION ITEM: OHS to provide details on the event.
 - Pedestrian safety ads will be placed on the back of lifeguard stands.

Enforcement updates:

- Lt. Robert Jones gave updates from an enforcement standpoint:
 - Colonel is involved in Drive Zero Death Campaign. The goal of the campaign is to cut pedestrian fatalities by 15%. Troops are provided with overtime to enforce pedestrian safety while higher crash locations are given a great task to enforcement.

Review of SR 2 Pedestrian Safety Study:

- WR&A discussed their Pedestrian Safety Study along DE 2 from St. James Church Rd to DE 141.
 - Mark Luszcz asked what percent of pedestrian crashes occurred in signalized crosswalks. Only one (3.6%) of the 28 pedestrian crashes reported during the study period occurred within a signalized crosswalk. The crash occurred within the crosswalk on the north leg of SR 2 at Albertson Blvd.
 - The intersections of St James Church Road and DE 7/Limestone Road are a part of an upcoming DelDOT Pavement & Rehabilitation project. Short-term improvements from the study are recommended to be completed as part of the Pavement & Rehabilitation project.
 - ACTION ITEM: DelDOT Traffic will coordinate the short-term recommendations with the project.
 - Peter Haag stated access management should be a long-term recommendation along SR 2, especially since eastbound SR 2 has approximately 3-4 times as many access points between St. James Church Road and east of DE 7/Limestone Road.
 - The study recommended an investigation occur about the bus stop placement policy provided by Delaware Transit Corporation (DTC).
 - ACTION ITEM: DelDOT Traffic will schedule a meeting with DTC to discuss concerns and findings along SR 2.
 - Pat Kennedy asked Jana Simpler if direct mailings in higher pedestrian crash areas could be successful. Jana Simpler stated directed mailings has not been attempted but could occur if addresses were provided by a database. Adam Weiser advised Jana to contact Geoff Sundstrom in DelDOT's Public Relations Office to determine how DelDOT obtains addresses for Capital Transportation Project mailings.
 - Rob McCleary asked if sidewalk width in accordance to ADA guidelines was investigated. Melanie Earnest stated that a full ADA-compliance exercise was not accorded but a list of noticeable ADA issues could be compiled. Rob McCleary stated John McNeal should have an ADA inventory list for SR 2.
 - ACTION ITEM: DelDOT Traffic will contact John McNeal to discuss the ADA inventory along SR 2.
- WR&A will perform the additional studies noted in the PowerPoint that was discussed during the meeting.

The next meeting will be scheduled for the end of August/early September. However, a field review will occur in March/April within the limits of the Pedestrian Safety Study along US 13.

The above is a memorandum of understanding between the parties regarding the topics discussed and the decisions reached. Any participants desiring to add to, or otherwise amend the minutes, are requested to put their comments in writing to the writer within seven (7) days; otherwise, the minutes will stand as written.