

**Executive Committee for Highway Safety
Meeting Minutes; Mtg. #5
July 21, 2004**

Location:

Chief Engineer's Conference Room, Beryl Drive @ 9:30 a.m.

Committee Members in Attendance:

David King	Axel Lluch	Bob Andrews	Debbie Barbour
Nicole Burris	Adam Fisher	Herb Garrison	Lt. Colonel Lockley
George Tatum	Darrell Jernigan	Kevin Lacy	Doug Robertson
John Sullivan			

Guests in Attendance:

Don Nail	Marlena Armani	Chris Broom	Cliff Braam
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Scribe:

Cliff Braam

Minutes:

- The meeting began at approximately 9:45 a.m.
- David opened the meeting and everyone introduced themselves for the benefit of new members.

Task I – New Members

David welcomed the new members to the committee.

Axel Lluch; Director of Hispanic/Latino Affairs from the Governor's Office

Lt. Colonel Lockley; NC State Highway Patrol. Colonel Clay from the SHP has agreed to continue in Colonel Holden's role on the committee, but had a conflict for this meeting, so Lt. Colonel Lockley filled in and emphasized that the committee has the Patrol's full support and that either he or Colonel Clay will be at all of the meetings.

Local Police Representation

Both of our local police agency representatives (Chief Crone and Chief Ken Bumgarner) have retired since the last committee meeting, however, Ken has agreed to continue working on the committee.

There was discussion concerning additional local law enforcement representation on the committee. David asked that Cliff and Kevin contact the NC Chief of Police Association to find another representative.

Task II – Overview of Public Survey Results (FHWA)

John gave a PowerPoint presentation on national public surveys that have been conducted by the USDOT and FHWA. The objectives of the study were to 1) Provide national measures of public satisfaction with the nation’s highways, community transportation systems and options and access to and travel on Federal highways, 2) Describe travel patterns, 3) Understand how community transportation systems affect where people live and work and 4) Identify the public’s priorities and preferred approaches to solving transportation problems.

Some of the results of the surveys were surprising. For example, there is a disconnect between perception and reality. 72% of those surveyed were satisfied with the level of safety on rural roads, yet the data shows that this is where the majority of our crashes occur. The public is willing to fund safety, but they do not think that it is needed. The survey showed that the overall satisfaction for highway safety is high.

Nicole	Results of the survey are surprising. The majority of the calls that the NCDOT public information office receives are safety related (90% or better).
Darrell	GHSP gets 2-3 inquiries per day related to highway safety issues.
Kevin	The committee may need to consider taking our own random survey possibly through focus groups.
Adam	Most calls that the City of Greensboro receives concern local streets where they do not have and data.
Lockley	85% of the incidents the Patrol investigates involve speed and the ones on the interstate seem to be more severe.

Task III – ECHS Proposed Implementation Plan Format

Cliff provided the committee with a proposed outline to be utilized to document the activities of the Executive Committee for Highway Safety. This document will also serve as our “Implementation Plan”. The major components are as follows:

1. **Executive Summary**
2. **N.C.’s Executive Committee for Highway Safety (ECHS)**
3. **The ECHS Process**
4. **Current Emphasis Areas**
5. **Strategies for Current Emphasis Areas**

Kevin	This is a dual purpose document. 1) To document the process, provide evaluation of the strategies and accountability and 2) for general information to others interested in what we have done, how we did it, etc.
David	Who is the intended audience and how would the public access the information?
Kevin	We can put the document on the portal (parts that we are not yet ready to release to the public) and/or put it on the public web site. Also distribute it through the public information offices of the other agencies that are represented on the ECHS.
Doug	This is/should be a multi use document and we may need to section out parts for distribution to different target audiences. This should also be considered a dynamic document.

Task IV – Working Group Strategies; The Next Step

Several of the working groups have begun to develop strategies for the target issues and the other groups will likely be doing so in their next meeting. The working groups will not be fully developing each strategy, but instead they will be putting together enough information about the strategy to present to the ECHS so that we can make a decision as to the next step. Once the strategy is presented to the ECHS, there will be three possible actions the committee may take:

Three possibilities:

- 1) Proceed with the strategy. Assign it to the appropriate lead agency or agencies and let those agencies take over and fully develop the strategy providing this group with regular updates.
- 2). Send the strategy back to the working group for further clarification, additional information, etc. that we need to make an informed decision.
- 3) Hold the strategy for future decision/action. This maybe a prioritization, resource or other issue.

It was later discussed that when the working groups present strategies to the ECHS, that the strategies presented should be ones that “are ready to be moved forward”.

Task V – Updates and Recommendations From the Working Groups

The chairs (or representatives) for each of the working groups provided an update on the activities of each group and some presented strategies and/or recommendations to the ECHS for review and consideration. The strategies and/or recommendations are broken out into two sections below: 1) Strategies Discussed w/ Recommendations and 2) Strategies Mentioned: No Action Taken.

Note: Due to time constraints, many of the strategies were not discussed in detailed. These will be presented back to the committee at a later time after prioritization from each of the working group chairs. It was also decided that at future meetings, each working group will bring forward a maximum of two strategies for presentation to and discussion by the ECHS.

Strategies Discussed w/ Recommendations

Working Group	Strategy	Recommendation
Lane Departure	Utilization of Rumble Strips to Reduce Lane Departure Crashes	Move Forward – Lacy will coordinate/arrange lead contact within DOH
	Target Enforcement to Deter Behaviors Contributing to Lane Departure Crashes	Establish Pilot Test/Demo Project for Evaluation. GHSP will take the lead on this and coordinate with the SHP and Traffic Engineering

	That the ECHS Support DOT's Long Range Transportation Plan	Someone will give a presentation to the ECHS at the next meeting about this plan
Speed	Establish a fee structure to increase the enforcement capabilities of law enforcement with regard to speeding	Send back to the working group for more information: i.e. if implemented, what time savings would be realized if we could cut out court time, need a measure of effectiveness added
	Add a Judge to the Committee	Lacy will contact Chief Justice Beverly Lake

Strategies Mentioned: No Action Taken.

Working Group	Strategy
Lane Departure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, Improve and Implement the Driver's Education Component that discusses Run-Off-Road and Lane Departure Crashes • Provide Guidance Information to Drivers for Maneuvering Through HORIZONTAL CURVES to Decrease the Likelihood of Lane Departure Crashes • Provide Roadway Geometric Enhancements
Speed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor Charlotte's Speed Programs for effectiveness and possible future widespread utilization • Targeted CMV Speed Enforcement as a Generalized Deterrent to Speeding Motorists • Pace Car Program – State Employees • Pace Car Program – Statewide
Ensuring Drivers Are Fully Licensed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confiscate vehicles at the time of arrest for drivers with suspended or revoked license • Arrest individuals who do not have sufficient information to allow a law enforcement officer to make a positive identification • Recommend that the issue of "Competent Drivers" be addressed by a stand alone working group • Linking out of state driver's license information automatically with NC information and providing law enforcement personnel better training on how to access and query this information • Placing interlock devices on vehicles. Make this process administratively administered instead of judicially • Support of the Nation Driver's License Database

- Recommend that the issue of “Competent Drivers” be established as a separate Working Group. Competent can cover a wide range from being fully educated to the rules and regulations of the road to operating a vehicle without being under the duress of incapacitating mental or physical constraints

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- Keeping Drivers Alert
- Rumble Strips
 - Ban on Hand Held Cell Phones
 - Education – Identify what is available, what is needed and how to implement. Approach this from three perspectives:
 1. General Message
 2. School Age Programs
 3. DMV/Driver Education
 - Potential Research program for Identifying Distracted/Drowsy Drivers
 - Improve rest area services, access and availability;
 - Improving lighting and security
 - Utilization of these facilities to take care of young children
 - Working w/ public/private partnerships for things like coffee distribution
 - Utilization of Fatigue Monitors
 - Drowsy Driving Law

Update on Remaining Working Groups

Increasing Seat Belt Usage:

- Only one Meeting to date.
- Next Meeting Scheduled for August 3, 2004
- Established Technical Working Group to explore different Strategies
 - Revocation of School parking passes for Students not wearing their seat belts
 - Educational flyers in utility bills
 - Involvement of insurance agencies
 - Billboards on roadsides
 - Enforcement cameras (Similar to Red Light Running Cameras)
- Begin formulating and drafting strategies at the next meeting

Commissioner Long has stated that the time has come to begin adding insurance points to seat belt violations.

CURBING AGGRESSIVE DRIVING:

- Only one Meeting to date.
- Next Meeting Scheduled for August 9, 2004
- Begin formulating and drafting strategies at the next meeting
- The term “Aggressive Driving” needs to be identifiable and addressed both on the street and in the data.

- Aggressive Driving legislation has passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Action Items:

Name	Item
Braam	Contact NC Association of Chief of Police for ECHS representative.
Lacy	Move forward with the Rumble Strip Strategy – Assign to DOH
Lacy	Move forward with the Law Enforcement Strategy for Lane Departure Crashes; establish a demo project – Assign to GHSP/SHP/Traffic Engineering
Lacy	Contact Chief Justice Beverly Lake for participation on the ECHS.
Braam	Arrange for a presentation at the next meeting on DOT's Long Range Transportation Plan
Braam	Look into adding a representative for Education to the ECHS. Contact the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), possible someone with experience with the driver education program.

◆ **Next Meeting: October 20, 2004 9:30 – 11:30 Chief Engineer's Conference Room**