

Executive Committee for Highway Safety (ECHS)

Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2016

Location:

Chief Engineer's Conference Room, Beryl Drive @ 9:00 a.m.

In Attendance: Wally Ainsworth, Tracy Anderson, Isaac Avery, Jeffrey Babb, Jonathan Bandy, Greg Ferrara, Daniel Findley, Adam Fischer, Arthur Goodwin, Ron Hancock, Tony Hayes, Brad Hibbs, Edward Johnson, Freddy Johnson, Kevin Lacy, Suzanne LaFollette-Black, Meg Langston, Brian Mayhew, Jon McCormick, Don Nail, Chris Oliver, Suraiya Rashid, Mindy Roberson, Dedric Robinson, Jennifer Smith, John Sullivan, Nick Tennyson, Kelly Thomas, Aaron Williams

Task I/II – Call To Order/Introductions

Secretary Tennyson reflected on the recent passing of Janet Greene, the retirement of Terry Hopkins, the promotion of Brian Mayhew and Don Nail's receipt of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. From the success of the Highway Safety Symposium and the Labor Day Booze It & Lose It Campaign to the recent news of our state's 91.7% seat belt usage rate, Secretary Tennyson appreciates the efforts of the ECHS and everyone involved. Secretary Tennyson thanked everyone for coming and self-introductions were made.

Task III – Fatal and Serious Injury Trend Update

Mr. Brian Mayhew gave an update on the Fatal and Serious Injury Trends (*pdf attachment Fatal and Serious Injury Trend Update*). Mr. Mayhew noted that the 2016 year to date lane departure fatalities and serious injuries continue to be higher than the 2015 year to date numbers and he provided more details on the composition of the lane departure numbers. The 2014-2015 Top 10 State's fatality numbers from NHTSA's recent Traffic Safety Facts -2015 Motor Vehicle Crashes report were also discussed.

Task IV – NC Vision Zero Website Official Launch and Upcoming Efforts

Ms. Tracy Anderson shared information on the upcoming official launch of our state's [Vision Zero Website](#). To promote the collaboration needed to eliminate roadway deaths and injuries, anyone that views the website will be given an opportunity to sign a Vision Zero pledge. The website will provide additional information on the emphasis areas identified in our state's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) and links to our safety partners' webpages.

Task V – NCSU Crosswalk Yielding Study Preliminary Results

Mr. Daniel Findley presented information on the NCSU Crosswalk Yielding Study (*pdf attachment NCSU Crosswalk Yielding Study*). Five enforcement strategies were used at various crosswalk locations within the surrounding communities of NCSU and the low intensity, long duration scenario appears to be promising. Law enforcement officers issued Citation Warning placards filled with "Watch for Me NC" information to observed motorist who failed to yield to pedestrians.

Task VI – Autonomous Vehicles

Mr. Kevin Lacy presented information on the evolution of Autonomous Vehicles (*pdf attachment Autonomous Vehicles*). Different forms of automation have been around since the 1940s and 2025-2030 appears to be the predicted time period in which fully autonomous vehicles will be available to purchase. Adequate transportation infrastructure will be the key feature needed for autonomous vehicles to safely navigate our roadway systems. NCDOT has a steering committee in place to determine what our state needs to start working on to prepare for autonomous vehicles.

Task VII – Setting Targets for Safety Performance Measures

Mr. Kevin Lacy and Mr. Don Nail presented information on Setting Targets for Safety Performance Measures (*pdf attachment Setting Targets for Safety Performance Measures*). In accordance with MAP-21 Performance Management Requirements, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will assess each State’s safety performance based on five Performance Measures: 1) Number of Fatalities, 2) Fatality Rate, 3) Number of Serious Injuries, 4) Serious Injury Rate and 5) Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries. Beginning in August 2017, states are required to establish annual targets in their Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) reports for the five Performance Measures. Based on five year rolling averages, the proposed targets for our state’s five Performance Measures align with our 2014 NC SHSP’s goal of a 50% reduction in fatalities and serious injuries by 2030. After some discussion, the proposed targets were approved by the ECHS.

Task VIII – Current Media Topics/Safety Partners Activities

Mr. Kevin Lacy presented information on Red Light Camera Programs (*pdf attachment Red Light Camera Programs*). Many of our state’s municipality Red Light Camera Programs can be found in various news reports. The FHWA’s “*Safety Evaluation of Red-Light Cameras*” publication found a significant decrease in right angle crashes as part of a multijurisdictional study representing different locations across the United States. The Red Light Cameras throughout our state are not physically connected to the traffic signals and NCDOT has supported these programs as long as there is no interference with the existing traffic signals. The City of Greenville would like to install Red Light Cameras within their jurisdiction and has asked for support from the ECHS. After some discussion, Secretary Tennyson agreed to send a letter of support for the City of Greenville’s Red Light Camera Program.

Several of our safety partners also provided updates on the activities that are going on within their agencies.

Task IX – Committee Members’ Responsibilities

Committee members were reminded to contact Mr. Chris Oliver if their agencies would like to share ongoing safety initiatives, legislative support items or any safety media topics at future ECHS meetings. All of our safety partner’s efforts towards reducing fatalities and serious injuries are appreciated.

Task X – TENTATIVE Meeting Dates

The Tentative Meeting Dates for calendar year 2017 have been set:

- *January 13, 2017 @ 9:00 am*
 - *May 12, 2017 @ 9:00 am*
 - *September 8, 2017 @ 9:00 am*
- Chief Engineer’s Conference Room
4809 Beryl Road
Raleigh, NC 27606*

If there is a need to reschedule any meeting, we will let you know well in advance of the scheduled date.