

Executive Committee for Highway Safety (ECHS)

Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2019

Location:

Chief Engineer's Conference Room, Beryl Drive @ 10:00 a.m.

In Attendance: Isaac Avery, Brad Bradford, Justin DeLancey, Anne Dickerson, Mark Ezzell, Daniel Findley, Tony Hayes, Brad Hibbs, Jeff Jaeger, Torre Jessup, Kevin Lacy, Suzanne LaFollette-Black, Cheryl Leonard, Chris Lukasina, Brian Mayhew, Todd Messer, Teresa Murray, Chris Oliver, Edward Parker, Randa Radwan, Laura Sandt, Harriett Southerland, Raghavan Srinivasan, James Trogdon, Shawn Troy, Aaron Williams, Jackie Wilson

Call to Order and Introductions

Fatal and Serious Injury Trend Update

Mr. Brian Mayhew provided an update on our state's fatal and serious injury trends (*pdf attachment Fatal and Serious Injury Trend Update*). Mr. Mayhew noted that our 2018 fatalities are higher than the 2017 fatalities but our year to date (January-April) 2019 fatalities are currently lower than this same time in 2018. When looking at our state's overall fatality crash facts from 2002 to 2018, Mr. Mayhew noted that 69% of the total fatalities occurred at rural (outside city limits) locations. Additional information was also presented concerning the normalization of our state's increased serious injury numbers due to the change in the national definition for the injury status attributes for "Suspected Serious Injury (A)".

CY 2020 Preliminary Safety Performance Measures

Mr. Brian Mayhew presented information on the preliminary targets for our state's Safety Performance Measures (*pdf attachment CY 2020 Preliminary Safety Performance Measures*). The targets for our state's five performance measures are based on the 2014 Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) goal of reducing our fatalities and serious injuries by fifty percent by 2030. Our state's Draft Calendar Year 2020 targets were presented, with the final targets to be set once the 2018 Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and crash data have been stabilized. The ECHS was also reminded that with the 2019 update of our SHSP, there will be an opportunity to adjust the goal which in turn may provide a better probability to meet our annually adjusted targets.

Current Legislative Items and Concerns

Mr. Justin DeLancey provided an update on some of the bills being followed during the current 2019-2020 General Assembly Session.

- House Bill 87 (License Plate Reader Systems in State ROWs) did not meet the crossover deadline
- House Bill 144 (Hand Free NC) is currently in the Senate Rules Committee
- House Bill 267 (Require Safety Helmets/Under 21) did not meet the crossover deadline, but it is uncertain if there will be any further action at this time
- House Bill 864 (Require Driver Retraining Course) did not meet the crossover deadline, but can move forward due to a fee adjustment
- Senate Bill 271 (Durham Speed Device Pilot/School Zones) did not meet the crossover deadline

Synthesis on Automated Enforcement

Mr. Daniel Carter presented information on the research findings of our and other state's red-light camera programs (*pdf attachment Synthesis on Red Light Camera Programs*). Based on the research review of the safety effects of red-light cameras compared to traffic signals, similar decreases in right angle crashes and fatal or injury crashes were experienced, while both countermeasures saw increases in rear end crashes. Based on feedback provided by eleven cities, it was determined that contractors were used to run some of all aspects of their red-light cameras program. It was also pointed out that drivers convicted of red light running would suffer higher financial consequences (due to insurance premium increases) from an officer issued citation compared to the fines associated with running a red-light camera. For more in-depth information on the research, please refer to the [Synthesis of Information on Red Light Camera Programs and Effects](#) report.

Discussion and Moving Forward with a Resolution of Support for Red Light Camera Enforcement

Mr. Kevin Lacy asked for a motion to draft a resolution of support for all cities Red Light Camera Enforcement. After further discussion, the ECHS agreed to prepare and electronically vote (via poll in Microsoft Outlook) on a resolution of support for Red Light Camera Enforcement.

Lessons Learned from Vision Zero and the Safe Systems Summit

Ms. Randa Radwan provided highlights of some of the presentations and discussions that took place at the Safe Systems Summit (*pdf attachment Safe Systems Summit Recap and Takeaways*). Over 350 participants from universities and agencies from across the country attended the two-day summit. As quoted from information provided from the Collaborative Sciences Center for Road Safety, "Safe Systems refers to a transportation safety paradigm that fosters a holistic perspective and strives to create a transportation system that ensures that no crash results in death or serious injury". The Safe Systems Summit provided an opportunity to start the conversation of emerging the approaches/practices used in safe systems and systems science. For more information, please visit the [Safe Systems Summit 2019 website](#).

Committee Members' Responsibilities and Adjourn

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.

Future Meeting Dates

- *September 6, 2019 @ 10:00 am* *Chief Engineer's Conference Room*
- *January 10, 2020 @ 10:00 am (TENTATIVE)* *4809 Beryl Road*
- *May 8, 2020 @ 10:00 am (TENTATIVE)* *Raleigh, NC 27606*

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

Meeting agendas, minutes and presentations are also available on the [ECHS website](#).