

#TxPedSafety2021



PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Thursday, August 12, 2021

8:30 – 8:55 INTRODUCTION AND OPENING REMARKS

Speakers:

- Michael Manser, Senior Research Scientist, Texas A&M Transportation Institute
- *TxDOT speaker to be announced!*

8:55 – 9:00 BREAK

9:00 – 9:45 BREAKOUT SESSION #1 CONCURRENT SESSIONS:

Session #1: Finding and Treating Texas' Pedestrian-Crash Hot Spots

This presentation uses 10 years of Texas' pedestrian-crash data to identify the most injurious corridors and intersections, predict what factors have practically significant impacts on crash counts and their severities, and produce cost-effective treatments to save lives and property across the State in the years to come. Alongside state-wide results, UT Austin researchers will show specific hot spots and benefit-cost ratios for recommended improvements.

Speakers:

- Ken Perrine, University of Texas Center for Transportation Research
- Natalia Zuniga, University of Texas Center for Transportation Research

Session #2: The Lisa Torrey Smith Act: How Will We Educate and Enforce New Pedestrian Safety Laws?

On June 18, 2021, The Lisa Torrey Act was signed into Texas law. The new law states that a person commits a criminal offense if he or she is operating a motor vehicle in a crosswalk and causes bodily injury to a pedestrian, cyclist or someone using an electric scooter or car. Join our presenters as they discuss this and other pedestrian safety initiatives that came out of Texas' 2021 Legislative Session and talk about the challenges that lay ahead with educating the public and enforcing these laws.

Speakers:

- Jay-Blazek Crossley, Farm and City
- Michael Munson, Texas Municipal Police Association

Session #3: A Safe Systems Approach to Pedestrian Safety

A Safe Systems approach to traffic safety aims to reduce fatal and serious injuries for all road users through proactive identification of risks and system design and operating decisions that minimize the consequences of human error. Join our presenters for a discussion of how the Safe Systems approach can be used to improve pedestrian safety.

Speakers:

- Stephen Ratke, Federal Highway Administration
- Robert Wunderlich, Texas A&M Transportation Institute

9:45 – 10:00 BREAK

10:00 – 10:45 BREAKOUT SESSION #2 CONCURRENT SESSIONS:

Session #1: Mythbusters: What's holding you back in ped safety?

This interactive session will ask some of the hard questions about the real and perceived challenges of advancing pedestrian safety in your community. Join our speakers and get involved in the Q&A!

Speakers:

- Peter Eun, Federal Highway Administration
- Becky Crowe, Federal Highway Administration

Session #2: FHWA Focus Cities: What's working?

Since 2004, FHWA has focused additional resources in states and cities with high pedestrian fatalities. Join this session to hear some success stories from FHWA Pedestrian and Bicycle Focus Cities.

Speakers:

- Millie Hayes, Federal Highway Administration

Session #3: NHTSA Region 6 Pedestrian Safety Updates

There are many pedestrian safety activities occurring in Texas and in the surrounding States. This session will provide an overview of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's activities in pedestrian safety within Region 6 which includes Arkansas, Indian Nations, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Speakers:

- Maggie Gunnels, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
- Becky Walker, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Session #4: Countermeasures for Infrastructure and Persons with Visual Disabilities

Research examining countermeasures to improve pedestrian safety is used to inform the implementation of countermeasures on local, state, and national levels. This session will provide a view into two different areas of pedestrian safety research. Presenters will provide an overview of research conducted in a large urban area examining the use of a traffic calming technique on pedestrian vehicle conflicts and will provide an overview of novel technologies to support pedestrians with visual impairments at intersections.

Speakers:

- Wen Hu, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety
- Chen-Fu Liao, University of Minnesota

10:45 – 11:00 BREAK

11:00 – 12:00 KEYNOTE AND CLOSING REMARKS

Keynote Address

- *Speaker and topic to be announced soon!*

Closing Remarks

- Ben Ettelman, Texas A&M Transportation Institute