

Statewide Pedestrian Safety Coalition FY 2023

FY23 Meeting #3 Notes

9/20/2023 – 10:30 a.m. – Meeting conducted via Microsoft Team

Attendance: Vince Holdridge, Timothy Jeffcoat, Seth Franks, Kimberly Fields, Micah Leonard, Ben Ettelman, Kim Sailor, Jaqueline Ipina, Garry Rand, Jolie Person, Rebecca Byford, Scott White, Elizabeth Jones, Joan Hudson, Eddie O’Conner, Darron Jurajda, David Pallotti, Susan Jaworski, Julia Davies, Sarah Bently, April Ramos, Buck Russel II, DeAnn Crane, Mona Lisa Fischer, Jeremy Hancyk, Kevin St Jacques, Craig Wuensche, Freddie Summer, Justin Leon, Suman Shrestha

Welcome & Introductions

Ben Ettelman of TTI (Texas A&M Transportation Institute) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Thirtyone people attended via Microsoft Teams. Attendees who provided their names in the chat or could be identified on Teams are listed above.

2023 Texas Pedestrian Safety Forum Recap

- The Texas Pedestrian Safety Forum was held Thursday, August 25th, at the Norris Center in San Antonio.
 - Ben discussed the feedback provided and that the numbers of surveys were limited but if anyone had feedback to please let our team know – “we are consistently trying to make the forum better”
- Approximately 230 people registered for the forum, but on the day of, there were about 50 no shows. Ben asked the group for ideas on how to deal with no shows and get more people to show up.
 - It was suggested “For no shows, I have found that offering a virtual or proceedings only sign up helps. Sometime people signup only wanting to be sure they get the presentations.” For better evaluation participation, a small raffle for filling them out on site helps.” “Offering CEU’s is always a good way to increase attendance. Very good justification for the attendee to provide to their employer. Possibly law enforcement, social work, etc.” (Ben: this costs money)
- Looking at a different location. We are aiming for the end of April. We plan to hold a walking and or accessibility audit day before the forum and an unofficial social. This would give us more opportunities to network.
- We would like to reinstate the forum planning committee. We would meet twice before the forum. Please let us know if you are interested in serving. (Josh Peterman interested) (Jolie Person wants to participate in a Walking Audit “Would love to participate in a Walking Audit - a type of 'train the trainer' so participants can coordinate this in their own communities and/or educate others on the 'how to'.”))

2023 Pedestrian Safety Task Force – 10 Initiatives and Overview

11:00 – 11:25: 2023 Pedestrian Safety Taskforce Overview (Micah)

- The task force had a variety of members and diverse backgrounds and skill sets. As this is a new task force, we always have room to change and to better ourselves we could add more MPOs (Metropolitan Planning Organizations) and people from the health industry.
- Provided an overview of our process and meetings and shared the refined 10 initiatives.
- The Idea Mapping Exercise and Spheres of Influence were explained.
- An example of one of the Output of Idea Mapping Exercise was presented
- TPSTF outcomes documentation will be sent out.
- Comments
 - Josh: suggested we prioritize the initiatives so that we can focus.
 - Ben and Micah agree that these are big initiatives – but together maybe we can begin to work on one at a time or organizations can pick one initiative they are compelled by to take ownership of
- Micah: We hope that people will choose some of these to take and partner with us to work through. TTI offers resources.
- Ben: We will continue to refine and improve.
- Scott: It is great to think of the BIG goal, but for now it may be time to focus on just a few smaller, attainable goals.
- Micah: The logic model will help us identify the small actions that will make a significant impact in the future.
- Darron J: I have an interest in splitting best practices between urban, suburban, and rural recommendations (or even deciding if that is needed)
- Please reach out with ideas.

Coordination for Pedestrian Safety Awareness Month in October

11:25 – 11:30: Coordination for Pedestrian Safety Awareness Month in October

- While TTI does not have any initiatives as this is the beginning of the fiscal year and they are in the process of idea generation for the next year. Does anyone want to share anything regarding October Initiatives? Assistance needed or wish to get the word out.
- Darron: Cedar Park – council proclamation – and what projects they are working on. He will share the proclamation. We will put it on the website.
- Elizabeth: Any law enforcement, Oct 4th student walk to school day, Law Enforcement Officers have big presence on this day. <https://www.walkbiketoschool.org/> October 4th Walk & Bike to School
- Josh: We are doing a pedestrian safety audit for a small roadway in Dallas on October 28, FWIW. You are all free to come but it is not really an "event" <https://www.betterblock.org/fd23>

Upcoming Grant Year Activities

11:30 – 11:45: Upcoming Grant Year Activities

- Reminded the coalition of the past webinar topics that have been done and prior suggested topics

- Requested group share ideas
 - Darron: Best practices from cities in Texas that have low incidents and what are they doing. (his city, Cedar Park had zero deaths for four years)
 - Sarah Bentley: regarding policy initiatives, someone from City of Austin about their mobility bonds - I could connect y'all with the COA SRTS director if you want - Amir.Emamian@austintexas.gov
 - Elizabeth Jones: Webinar topic: How to conduct / best practices for walk audits. Recently, I have been getting emails from communities and school districts that want to do walk audits but don't know how ... or need tips. Might be a good culmination / follow-up ... to have the Walk Audit session at the Ped Forum in April (Added that this might be a good addition to the forum after or prior to the walking audit)
 - Scott White: Jay Blazek Crossley, with Farm&City, has a good take on the vote for safety and mobility bonds in Austin (Ben – we could have a panel)
 - Rebeccas Byford: Any pedestrian safety studies or actual projects that were constructed and their effect on pedestrian safety.
 - Josh: a lot of vendors for surrogate safety measures

Stakeholder Updates

11:45 – 12:00: Stakeholder Updates

- Scott: Not in October, but the next Texas Vision Zero Summit is Nov 28-29 in Austin and more information is available at <https://www.visionzerotexas.org/summit/>

Informational Sharing

- Ben: https://www.sfoxaminer.com/marketplace/understanding-the-new-california-jaywalking-law/article_8ca6b542-b87d-11ed-b108-cb029a9ab516.html
- Wondering about long term implications. Texas has longer blocks than big cities in California
- Scott: legislature considered a “freedom to walk” bill to avoid leo from stopping people for that but with other intent in mind.
- Ben: we will send information out in detail.

Closing Remarks

- Micah: Encouraged to email ideas that are generated in your specific community. Please use our resources freely.
- Ben: Thanked everyone for their participation and collaboration this year and reminded everyone of the Webinar on the 26th

Adjourn

Adjourn – 11:35

Attendance Identified by Teams

1. Jeffcoat, Timothy
2. Sailor, Kimberly
3. Seth Franks
4. Leonard, Micah
5. Kimberly Fields
6. Vince Holdridge
7. Jacqueline Ipina
8. Ettelman, Ben
9. Garry Rand
10. Jolie Person
11. Rebecca Byford
12. Scott White - Farm&City (Guest)
13. Hudson, Joan
14. Elizabeth Jones
15. Eddie O'Connor
16. Darron Jurajda
17. David Pallotti
18. Jaworski, Susan
19. Julia Davies
20. Buck Russel II
21. April Harris Ramos
22. Bentley, Sarah
23. DeAnn Crane
24. Josh Peterman
25. Mona Lisa Fischer
26. Jeremy Hancyk
27. Kevin St. Jacques
28. Freddie Summer
29. Craig Wuensche
30. Justin Leon
31. Suman Shrestha

Chat Transcription

[10:35 AM] Kimberly Fields

Hello from TxDOT. No favorite sports team but enjoy Fantasy Football!

[10:35 AM] Ettelman, Ben

Ben Ettelman, TTI, New England Patriots

[10:35 AM] Eddie O'Connor

TxDOT Traffic Safety GIS, Texas Longhorns

[10:35 AM] Leonard, Micah

Micah Leonard - TTI - Ben copied me

[10:35 AM] Elizabeth Jones

Elizabeth Jones, TxDOT, Atlanta Falcons!

[10:36 AM]

Buck Russel II was invited to the meeting.

[10:36 AM] Sailor, Kimberly

TTI - Texas Aggies Whoop!

[10:36 AM]

April Harris Ramos was invited to the meeting.

[10:36 AM] Rebecca Byford

Rebecca Byford, TxDOT DES

Texas Aggies! Whoop!

[10:36 AM] Jolie Person

Jolie Person - TxDOT Traffic Safety Specialist Waco District. University of Oklahoma of course!

[10:36 AM] Jeffcoat, Timothy

City of Dallas, New England Patriots

[10:36 AM] David Pallotti

TxDOT TSS, Rams

[10:36 AM] Vince Holdridge

MoboTrex, Inc (Supplier) Dallas Cowboys!

[10:36 AM] Jaworski, Susan

Susan Jaworski, Houston Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Active Transportation

[10:36 AM] Darron Jurajda

Hi everyone, Darron Jurajda, I'm the Chair of the Trails and Active Transportation Committee for Austin Outside. Texas Stars (local AHL Team), GO STARS!

[10:36 AM] Hudson, Joan

Joan Hudson, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, Texas Aggies!

[10:36 AM] Scott White - Farm&City (Guest)

Hi, I'm Scott White from El Paso - and a Seattle Sounders fan - and I work with Farm&City statewide, and Velo Paso locally

[10:36 AM] Seth Franks

TxDOT Lufkin District, Texas A&M Aggies

[10:36 AM]

Bentley, Sarah (Guest) was invited to the meeting.

[10:36 AM] Jacqueline Ipina

TxDOT-Bengals & TCU

[10:37 AM] Garry Rand

Garry Rand - TxDOT Texas A&M

[10:37 AM] Bentley, Sarah

UTHealth Houston School of Public Health in Austin

[10:40 AM] Darron Jurajda

For no shows, I've found that offering a virtual or proceedings only sign up helps. Sometime people signup only wanting to be sure they get the presentations.

[10:40 AM]

Jeremy Hancyk was invited to the meeting.

[10:42 AM] Darron Jurajda

For better evaluation participation, a small raffle for filling them out on site helps.

[10:42 AM] Bentley, Sarah

or a QR code survey?

[10:43 AM] Jolie Person

Offering CEU's is always a good way to increase attendance. Very good justification for the attendee to provide to their employer. Possibly law enforcement, social work, etc.

[10:43 AM] Josh Peterman

Ben did anyone offer written comments that were helpful (maybe I'm jumping the gun)

[10:43 AM] Elizabeth Jones

were the sessions that were evaluated "not useful", later in the day? Don't remember the schedule. may have something to do with the responses


[10:46 AM] Scott White - Farm&City (Guest)

Would it be beneficial to explore a two day event? Or maybe partnering with another safety event?

[10:47 AM] Mona Lisa Fischer

Total Eclipse is happening April 4th I believe

[10:47 AM] Scott White - Farm&City (Guest)(I ask as I know of plans for another event being planned for

that time - just saying )

[10:48 AM]

Freddie Summer was invited to the meeting.

[10:49 AM]

Buck Russel II left the chat.

[10:50 AM] Jolie Person

Would love to participate in a Walking Audit - perhaps a type of 'train the trainer' so participants can coordinate this in their own communities and/or educate others on the 'how to'.

[10:50 AM] Josh Peterman

happy to help on the committee (if it's ok to say so now)

[10:57 AM] Bentley, Sarah

will these slides be avialble? that was too fast for me to read them all.

[10:58 AM] Ettelman, Ben

yes! and a detailed report with all of the information will be sent with meeting notes

[11:09 AM] Scott White - Farm&City (Guest)

It's great to think of the BIG goal, but for now it may be time to focus on just a few smaller, attainable goals

[11:10 AM] Darron Jurajda

I have an interest in splitting best practices between urban, suburban and rural recommendations (or even deciding if that is needed)

[11:13 AM] Leonard, Micah


m-leonard@tti.tamu.edu Micah Leonard

[11:14 AM] Scott White - Farm&City (Guest)

Not in October, but the next Texas Vision Zero Summit is Nov 28-29 in Austin and more information is available at <https://www.visionzerotexas.org/summit/>

[11:15 AM] Josh Peterman

We are doing a ped safety audit for a small roadway in Dallas on October 28, FWIW.

You're all free to come but it's not really an "event" . See <https://www.betterblock.org/fd23>

FD23 | The Better Block

A design competition by the Better Block.

[11:16 AM] Leonard, Micah

<https://www.walkbiketoschool.org/>

October 4th 

Walk & Bike to School

A post on Walk & Bike to School provided by: <https://www.walkbiketoschool.org>

[11:18 AM] Bentley, Sarah

regarding policy initiatives, maybe someone from City of Austin about their mobility bonds

[11:19 AM] Elizabeth Jones

Webinar topic: How to conduct / best practices for walk audits. Recently, I have been getting emails from communities and school districts that want to do walk audits but dont know how ... or need tips.

[11:19 AM] Bentley, Sarah

COA could talk about collaborative development agreements too - I know their SRTS partnered with sidewalks and trails programs

[11:20 AM] Elizabeth Jones

Elizabeth Jones

Webinar topic: How to conduct / best practices for walk audits. Recently, I have been getting emails from communities and school districts that want to do walk audits but dont know how ... or need tips.

Might be a good culmination / follow-up ... to have the Walk Audit session at the Ped Forum in April

[11:20 AM] Scott White - Farm&City (Guest)

Bentley, Sarah

regarding policy initiatives, maybe someone from City of Austin about their mobility bonds

Jay Blazek Crossley, with Farm&City, has a good take on the vote for safety and mobility bonds in Austin

[11:20 AM] Bentley, Sarah

Yep

[11:20 AM] Rebecca Byford

Any pedestrian safety studies or actual projects that were constructed and their effect on pedestrian safety.

[11:21 AM] Bentley, Sarah

I could connect y'all with the COA SRTS director if you want

[11:22 AM] Bentley, Sarah

I could connect y'all with the COA SRTS director if you want

Amir.Emamian@austintexas.gov

[11:22 AM] Leonard, Micah

Amir.Emamian@austintexas.gov

Thank you!

[11:23 AM] Bentley, Sarah

you're welcome

[11:25 AM] Leonard, Micah

Please reach out to Ben and I at any time with ideas, comments, and feedback.



m-leonard@tti.tamu.edu Micah Leonard

[11:26 AM] Ettelman, Ben

https://www.sfexaminer.com/marketplace/understanding-the-new-california-jaywalking-law/article_8ca6b542-b87d-11ed-b108-cb029a9ab516.html