

Texas Pedestrian Safety Coalition Meeting

December 11, 2025

Welcome and Introductions

Ben Ettelman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the team; Emmy Shields, Soleil Gignac, and Kim Sailor. He asked everyone to put their name and organization in the chat, as well as an enjoyable walk in their hometown.

2026 Texas Pedestrian Safety Forum

Ben announced that we have secured a date and location for the 2026 Texas Pedestrian Safety Forum. The forum will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at the AT&T Hotel and Conference Center in Austin. Registration will open in February, and attendance will be capped at 200 people. There will be a call for presentations in January. One day prior to the forum, we will conduct a walking tour that is overseen by the forum planning committee.

Ben asked for workshop ideas and many people offered ideas that were noted by the planning committee.

2026 Pedestrian Safety Task Force

Ben gave the background of the Task Force and its role over the past few years and how it was instrumental to the success of our NHTSA Pedestrian and Bicycle Assessment back in August. Moving forward, the Task Force will assist with implementing the assessment recommendations. They will track the progress of 54 recommendations made for the 6 program areas. The Task Force will also help us ensure the alignment with Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

Future of Pedestrian Safety Task Force

Emmy discussed how we are going to transition this task force into a more action-based implementation body. She discussed several aspects of the task force, including the envisioned roles of the:

- Committee Membership Composition Overview

- Program Management Committee
- Education and Outreach Committee
- Planning and Engineering Committee
- EMS Committee
- Enforcement Committee
- Accessibility Committee, and
- The next steps for PSTF

Stakeholder Updates

- Amanda Ventura with Waymo, white papers and data published report that Waymo is 12 times safer than a human driver around VR use. Avzink@waymo.com
<https://waymo.com/safety>.
- Micheal Teran from TxDOT, the Safety campaign will launch March 16th – 31st. They will be visiting various locations in Texas.
- Jay Crossley from FarmandCity gave an update on the status of the organization and asked that anyone that wanted to contribute or help out could contact him.
Jay@farmandcity.org
- Freddy Summer from TxDOT, the request for proposals for FY27 is posted. You can contact VanJames Mayfield. vanjames.mayfield@txdot.gov
<https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html>
- Jessica Son from TxDOT, a change this year is that the BTX staff at TxDOT is allowed to talk with potential proposers to better align the proposals received.

98 attendees