

Texas Pedestrian Safety Coalition Meeting

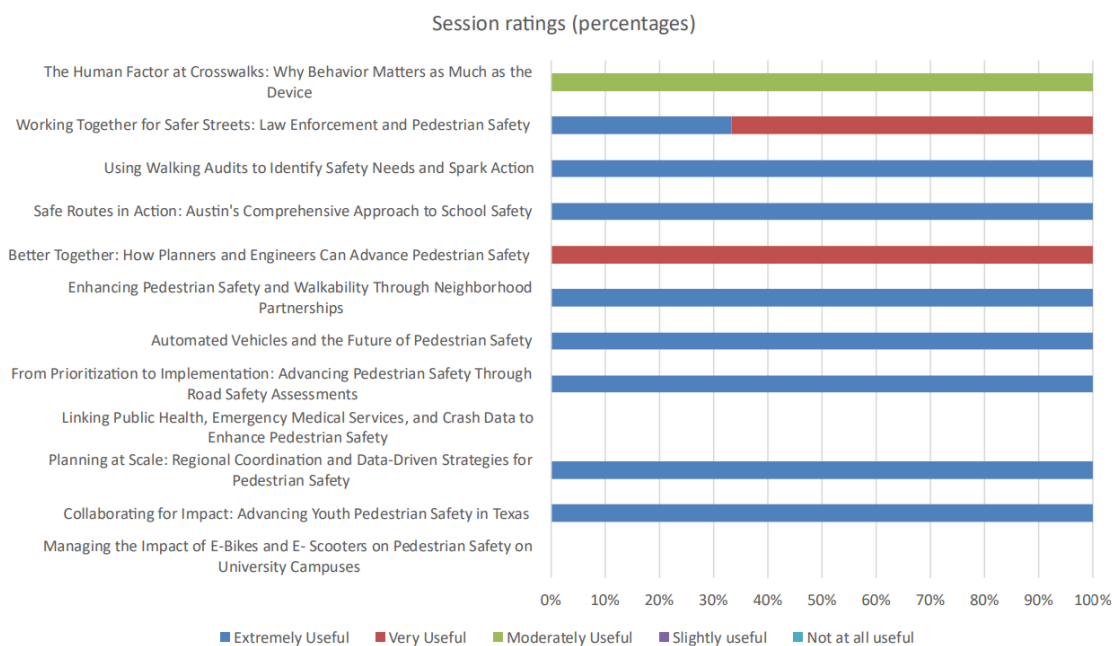
August 20, 2026

Welcome and Introductions

Ben started the coalition meeting by briefly introducing himself and the team, then welcomed the day's presenters: Gaby Kolodzy, assistant research scientist at Texas Transportation Institute, and Taylor Hunter, regional data planner at Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

2026 Texas Pedestrian Safety Forum Recap

Ben shared a recap of the 2026 Texas Pedestrian Safety Forum, which took place on May 6 in Austin, Texas. He shared a chart summarizing session ratings, ranging from "extremely useful" to "not at all useful." All sessions received positive feedback, with seven sessions rated as "extremely useful," one as "very useful," and another as "moderately useful." One session also received both "extremely useful" and "very useful" ratings. Ben noted that in-person conversations throughout the forum were overwhelmingly positive. Looking ahead, Ben announced that next year's forum will not be held as a standalone event, rather it will be folded into the Traffic Safety Conference, and the coalition will be instrumental in organizing the non-motorized track of the conference.



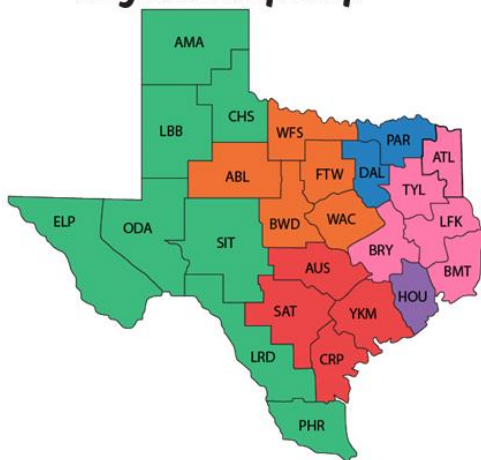
Speaker: Statewide Update on Youth Pedestrian Crashes by Gaby Kolodzy, Assistant Research Scientist, TTI.

Youth Pedestrian Crashes in Texas & Education Support

The presentation included data on the Count of Youth Pedestrian Involved Fatal Crashes and Serious Injury Crashes in Texas from 2021 to 2025, specifically focusing on three age groups: 10–14-year-olds, 15–19-year-olds, and 20–25-year-olds. Attendees learned how this crash data informs safety strategies and campus initiatives. To explore these topics further, a Zoom meeting titled “From TX Crash Data to Campus Action: Prioritizing Youth Safety Where It Counts” is scheduled for Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 1:00pm CST, where participants can delve into actionable steps for enhancing youth pedestrian safety. Additionally, Gaby provided an overview of “U in the Driver’s Seat”—a free traffic safety program designed for colleges and universities to proactively encourage safer driving behaviors among students. Attendees were encouraged to join these programs to actively participate in promoting youth safety and making a positive impact within their communities.



2026-2027 TDS Regional Rep Map



Enroll in TDS



Enroll in UDS



PLEASE CONTACT US

Valeria Martinez
v-martinez@tti.tamu.edu

Rubi Mares
r-mares@tti.tamu.edu

Christy Thomas
c-thomas@tti.tamu.edu

Austin Rupert*
a-rupert@tti.tamu.edu
*UDS Regional Rep

Kim Sailor
k-sailor@tti.tamu.edu

Gaby Kolodzy
g-kolodzy@tti.tamu.edu

Email: g-kolodzy@tti.tamu.edu

Enhancing Youth Pedestrian Safety with Schoolpool by Taylor Hunter, Regional Data Planner | Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Taylor Hunter presented the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (CAMPO) Schoolpool program, a transportation program designed for the Austin region that focuses on facilitating carpooling for schools. CAMPO supports Schoolpool by offering a FREE online platform, marketing materials in both English and Spanish for school administration and parents and dedicated technical support to ensure smooth implementation. Schoolpool is relatively new in the Austin area, though it builds on over a decade of proven success from similar programs nationwide. Each participating school receives a unique, private sign-up link—accessible only to its families and not the general public—for registration and communication through MyCommuteSolutions.com, which is managed by CAMPO. This online tool allows families to connect directly with others at their school, while the schools themselves are not required to manage or facilitate sign-ups or carpool connections. All questions and support requests are directed to CAMPO for streamlined assistance.

Email: taylor.hunter@campotexas.org or schoolpool@campotexas.org for more information.

Update on Texas Pedestrian Safety Task Force

The Texas Pedestrian Safety Task Force has a meeting scheduled for August, with an additional meeting planned for September. These meetings will focus on establishing the task force's vision, structure, and membership. During the September meeting, attendees will review progress and implementation plans for the NHTSA Assessment Recommendations. There remains an opportunity for broader participation, and more information will be provided in the coming weeks. The task force will continue to build on the success of the NHTSA Pedestrian and Bicycle Assessment, working collaboratively to advance pedestrian and bicycle safety initiatives across Texas.

Stakeholder Updates

- Neal Johnson shared the following: The results of TTI's 2026 Survey of Texans on Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety are available. Here's a link to the summary infographic: <https://www.walkbikesafetexas.org/wp->

[content/uploads/2026/08/Safety-Survey-Infographic_2026_v2.pdf](#) Full report is available here: https://www.walkbikesafetexas.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Ped.Bike-Survey-Results-Report_FY26_FINAL.pdf

Upcoming News:

- Webinar on August 26, 1:30 – 2:30: What does Texas' New Sidewalk User Law Really Mean?

MEET OUR SPEAKERS

What does Texas' New Sidewalk User Law Really Mean?



DATE

AUG 26, 2026



TIME

AT 1:30 PM



Neal Johnson

Assistant Research Scientist
Behavioral Research
Texas A&M Transportation Institute



Joan Hudson

Senior Research Engineer
Regulatory Analysis & Engagement
Texas A&M Transportation Institute

- Mid-September: Webinar from Insurance Institute for Highway Safety about current research on vehicle design and pedestrian safety (Date TBA).

- Late September: Webinar on ACTIONNetwork, implementation process for TxDOT's Statewide Active Transportation Plan (Date TBA).
- September 29, 10:00 – 11:30, Pedestrian Safety Coalition Meeting
-

Meeting Chat

ioay

9:52 AM Meeting started

9:53 AM Countouriotis, Alex started recording.

Johnson, Neal 10:04 AM

The slides say April?

Mata,Nellyda V (DSHS) 10:04 AM

Good morning, everyone 😊

Giraldi, Andrew W. 10:05 AM

Good morning!

Kiel, Michael 10:05 AM

Good morning 🙌

Vo, Mary 10:05 AM

Mary Vo, City of Austin (Transportation & Public Works), went to NYC this summer for a comedy festival and was in Manhattan when the Knicks won the NBA finals - a wild time!

❤️ 🗣️

Rosie Medina El Paso Health 10:05 AM

Good morning, Rosie Medina with El Paso Health here.

Karrie Lawson - Medical City Denton 10:05 AM

Karrie Lawson, Medical City Denton, took my son to Disneyland for the first time!

❤️ 2 🗣️

Shelley Williams 10:05 AM

Shelley Williams, Pexco, LLC, Spent a week in Destin, FL

- Julie E. Rodriguez 10:06 AM
- JR Julie Rodriguez, Permian Basin MPO - welcomed my first granddaughter to the world on July 16th. Healthy and happy. 🥰
- 2
- Mata,Nellyda V (DSHS) 10:06 AM
- NM Nellyda V. Mata, LVN - Texas Department of State Health Services - Went fishing to Port Aransas, Texas for the first time 🐟
- Kiel, Michael 10:06 AM
- MK Michael Kiel, City of Austin, Couple of trips to see old friends including hiking and camping
- Larry Krantz 10:06 AM
- LK Larry Krantz, TxDOT Program Manager
- Kolodzy, Gabriella 10:06 AM
- G Good morning - Gaby Kolodzy TTI Youth Transportation Safety Program. I took my 4 and 2.5 year old camping for the first time and it was so fun!
- 2
- Gwen Williams 10:06 AM
- GW Gwen Williams, Sherry Matthews Group
- Nina Saint 10:06 AM
- NS Nina Saint, Director of Education and Compliance, SafeWay Driving
- Johnson, Neal 10:06 AM
- N Neal Johnson, TTI. Had a great time in New York in June walking around Central Park!!
- 2
- Taylor Hunter 10:06 AM
- TH Taylor Hunter, Capital Area MPO
- Shawn Conrad 10:06 AM Edited
- SC Shawn Conrad, North Central Texas Council of Governments. Fun will be happening once things cool off in DFW 🥰
- Roya Etmnani 10:06 AM
- RE Morning. Roya Etmnani with City of Denton - Transportation Department.
- Nan Jiang 10:06 AM
- NJ Nan Jiang, Toole Design.
- Tim Urban 10:06 AM
- TU Tim Urban, TxDOT Hanging out at the beach Isle of Palms
- Salomon Mendoza 10:06 AM
- SM Salomon Mendoza - Alamo Area MPO, swimming in barton springs and tubing!
- Serrano, John 10:06 AM
- JS Good morning! John Serrano, Senior Planner with Harris County Precinct 4. Visited Tokyo & Kyoto for the first time. Flying off to Japan again on Saturday 🥰
- 2
- Victor Saenz 10:06 AM
- VS Victor Saenz, City of Boerne, San Francisco and the redwoods
- De La Fuente, Nancy (PHS) 10:07 AM
- NF Nancy de la Fuente, Harris County Public Health.
- We took our 5 & 3 year old daughters to Peppa Pig's Theme Park!
- Giraldi, Andrew W. 10:07 AM
- AG Andrew Giraldi
Transportation Planner
City of El Paso
- Currently reading Fighting Traffic by Peter Norton.

- Caitlin Currer SAMC Trauma dpt 10:07 AM
- CD Caitlin Currer from St David's South Austin Med Center- Trauma Injury Prevention
- Maggie Bergeron 10:07 AM
- MB Maggie Bergeron, Victoria MPO. Went back home to tube the Comal again.
- Ben Magallon 10:07 AM
- BM Good morning! Ben Magallon, Toole Design, family trip to Mexico
- Gibbons, Lee (DSHS) 10:07 AM
- LG Lee Gibbons, Texas Department of State Health Services, PHR I Amarillo. Community Health Improvement
- Sarah Martinez 10:07 AM
- SM Sarah Martinea, Travis County Underage Drinking Prevention Program. Spent summer with kids back for summer from college!
- Elizabeth Jones 10:07 AM
- EJ Elizabeth Jones, TxDOT Public Transportation Bike/Ped Planner. Went to Seattle and always enjoy the walking and biking facilities there! Not to mention the perfect weather!!
- Caitlin Currer SAMC Trauma dpt 10:07 AM
- CD Went on a family road trip to Nebraska It was a lot more fun than you might think lol
- Southside Driving 10:08 AM
- SD Alisa Allen, Southside Driving Centre, attended the TxDOT conference
- Michael Burns 10:08 AM Edited
- MB I work for TxDOT and i am a railroad project coordinator and i took a 7 day cruise to Honduras and two other ports in Mexico.
-
- Ettelman, Ben 10:15 AM
- I did!
- Karrie Lawson - Medical City Denton 10:16 AM
- KL We started middle school this year.
- Mata, Nellyda V (DSHS) 10:16 AM
- NM No new schools for me 😊 But I do have a new teen driver in the house
- Rama Dhanikonda 10:21 AM
- RD Rama Dhanikonda, CivTech
- Giraldi, Andrew W. 10:24 AM
- AG The spike in fatalities for 15-19 yr olds could also be attributed to after-school activities (e.g., sports, clubs, work, etc.).
- Salomon Mendoza 10:44 AM
- SM Which grade levels does CAMPO see more interest in the program? Elementary, Middle or High schools?
- Mace, Stephanie 10:45 AM
- SM have you seen more success with programs when its a neighborhood school or when families come from a variety of areas?
- Ambar Perez 10:45 AM
- AP Did you contact schools directly or how did that initial outreach work?
- Salomon Mendoza 10:45 AM
- SM And are there rewards associated with families or schools that participate in the program?
- Lily Teran 10:46 AM
- LT What is the biggest challenge you've had?

- Serrano, John 10:47 AM
- JS Not sure if this was covered earlier, but can you provide any figures on how many families have participated in the program?
- Roya Etmnani 10:48 AM
- RE Did you develop the platform in-house, or did you work with a vendor?
- Ettelman, Ben 10:49 AM
-  taylor.hunter@campotexas.org
-  
- Johnson, Neal 10:55 AM
-  The results of TTI's 2026 Survey of Texans on Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety are available. Here's a link to the summary infographic: https://www.walkbikesafetexas.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Safety-Survey-Infographic_2026_v2.pdf Full report is available here: https://www.walkbikesafetexas.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Ped.Bike-Survey-Results-Report_FY26_Fl...
-    6 
- Salomon Mendoza 10:57 AM
- SM Thanks you!
- Kolodzy, Gabriella 10:57 AM
-  Thanks!
- Julie E. Rodriguez 10:57 AM
- JR thank you.
- Tim Urban 10:57 AM
- TU Thanks Y'all
- 10:57 AM Countouriotis, Alex stopped recording.
- Nina Saint 10:57 AM
- NS Thanks