



Texas Pedestrian Safety Coalition Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, September 29, 2026
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions –

Ben Ettelman welcomed participants and introduced the TPSC team. He noted the coalition will increasingly broaden its discussions beyond pedestrians to include vulnerable road users as a whole, consistent with NHTSA assessment recommendations and other statewide transportation safety efforts. Micromobility was identified as an emerging priority because of the rapid growth of e-bikes and e-scooters and their interaction with pedestrians.

2026 National Pedestrian Safety Month

Speaker: Michael Teran, Statewide Program Manager, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
Contact information: Michael.Teran@txdot.gov

TxDOT’s “Be Safe. Drive Smart. Be Safe. Walk Smart” Pedestrian Safety Campaign

The Campaign will run October 24 - November 14. It has shifted later this year to coincide with the end of daylight-saving time and Halloween. The statewide campaign will go to all 25 TxDOT districts. Outreach will include television, radio, billboards, transit advertising, digital and social media, with materials available in English and Spanish. Street teams wearing walking billboards will focus on areas where the crashes have been the highest. Street teams will also gather feedback from the public and distribute reflective “Be Safe. Walk Smart.” wristbands. Printed outreach material will be handed out at street events. Michael answered questions from the group.

Trends in Pedestrian and Micromobility Injuries

Speaker: Caitlin Currer, Trauma Injury Prevention Coordinator, St. David’s Medical Center
Contact Information: Caitlin.currer@stdavids.com

Micromobility – A new mechanism of injury to trauma

St. David’s has seen a substantial increase in trauma associated with micromobility devices, with micromobility injuries recently exceeding motorcycle injuries. While improved medical coding may

account for part of the increase, trauma staff are also seeing a genuine rise in serious injuries, including traumatic brain injuries, spinal injuries, facial and mandibular fractures, and extremity fractures. Older e-bike riders may face especially serious consequences from falls, including spinal and rib injuries, while some scooter-related trauma involves alcohol use and lack of helmet use. Prevention challenges include increasing helmet use, reaching younger riders through effective communication channels, educating parents and purchasers about different types of e-bikes, and improving infrastructure. Participants also discussed the risks micromobility devices can pose to blind pedestrians and others using shared spaces, along with possible strategies such as rider education, earlier safety education for children, community level policies, and clearer restrictions for higher speed devices. The discussion also highlighted the need for better terminology and data, particularly the importance of distinguishing e-bikes from e-motos, which can travel at much higher speeds. Inconsistent identification of device types by first responders and medical personnel may also contribute to underreporting or misclassification of micromobility crashes.

A National Comparison of Injuries from Micromobility Devices

Hannah N. Younes, Senior Research Specialist, Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center at the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University - hny3@ejb.rutgers.edu

Comparing injuries from e-scooters, e-bikes, and bicycles in the United States

Micromobility laws and classifications vary considerably among states, and New Jersey was discussed as an example of a state that recently adopted stricter e-bike requirements, including licensing and registration. The experience highlighted the importance of involving advocates and transportation experts before implementing new regulations. Research examining approximately 14,000 micromobility injuries from a national sample of about 100 hospitals found that e-bike injuries increased substantially between 2021 and 2022 and continued to rise in later data, while bicycle injury levels remained comparatively stable. About 26% of bicycle injuries, 23% of e-scooter injuries, and 33% of e-bike injuries involved motor vehicles, and common injuries across modes included head and facial injuries, fractures, and contusions. Older age, being male, alcohol or substance involvement, and involvement of a motor vehicle were associated with a greater likelihood of hospital admission; however, after controlling for those factors, the specific micromobility mode was not a major predictor of admission. The discussion also noted that police crash records may miss many micromobility injuries because they typically capture incidents involving motor vehicles, while many injuries result from falls or other single-device events. Participants also raised concerns about unintended consequences of broad regulations, particularly for people who rely on e-bikes because of disability, transportation access, or financial constraints, and agreed that micromobility safety will likely remain an important topic for the coalition.

Open access paper: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2950105925000051>

Coalition Activities for Upcoming Grant Year & Pedestrian Safety Task Force Update

For the upcoming grant year, the annual Pedestrian Safety Forum will not be held, and the Traffic Safety Conference/Summit will serve as the primary statewide opportunity for in-person engagement, with TPSC supporting development of the non-motorized transportation portion. Coalition meetings and webinars will continue, and the TPSC team is exploring additional ways to replace some of the interaction previously provided by the Forum, including virtual expert panels, moderated discussions, breakout or roundtable sessions, and greater opportunities for peer-to-peer discussion of local issues. Members were encouraged to suggest additional activities and audiences. One participant proposed developing a short transportation and injury-prevention presentation for School Health Advisory Committees (SHACs) that could be used by school staff, parents, community members, and school resource officers. Safe Routes to School and school-based bicycle and e-bike safety education were also identified as potential opportunities.

The Pedestrian Safety Task Force met twice during the year and provided input on the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, as well as priorities and recommendations resulting from the pedestrian safety assessment. The task force will continue working with TxDOT and NHTSA to support implementation of the assessment recommendations and use them as a roadmap for future activities, and TPSC continues to welcome additional interdisciplinary participation.

Stakeholder Updates

Heyden Walker - Week Without Driving: Participants were encouraged to participate October 1–8. The initiative originated within the disability community and is designed to help participants consider transportation access from the perspective of people who cannot drive.

Gaby Kolodzy - Walk Bike Safe Texas: New educational videos are available addressing safe driving around e-bikes and safe e-bike riding. The program also shares information about Texas laws and vulnerable road user safety through social media.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33.

Resources shared –

Austin City Council, mobility Committee spoke to this issue
<https://www.austintexas.gov/council/2026/20260903-mobc>

AAA E-Ride Safety Guide
https://content.presspage.com/uploads/2983/f029aac0-f3a4-4592-aebe-722c5aff8f92/e-ridereadysafetyguide_final.pdf?10000

E-Bike Handbook – by Safe Routes to School

https://www.sonomaferoutes.org/sites/default/files/sonoma_county_e-bike_handbook_english_june2026...

Open access paper – Hannah Younes, PhD:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2950105925000051>

Week Without Driving (Oct 1-8) Sign up: [Join Us! | Week Without Driving: October 1-8, 2026](#)

Walk Bike Safe TX has a few videos on YouTube (Driving safely around e-bikes and E-bike safety) and please share our @walkbikesafetx Instagram and X posts with safety messaging and laws where we're covering safety for all types of vulnerable road users. [Videos - Walk. Bike. Safe.](#)

Walk. Bike. Safe. Instagram page - <https://www.instagram.com/walkbikesafetx/>

Meeting Chat

DeLaCruz, Christina 10:01 AM

CD Good morning.

Elizabeth De La Garza 10:01 AM

EG Elizabeth De La Garza, TxDOT Grant Administrator, Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives, Texas Municipal Courts Education Center, Austin, elizabeth@tmcec.com

Southside Driving 10:06 AM

SD Alisa Allen Southside Driving Centre

Michael Teran 10:06 AM

MT Michael Terán, TxDOT, Program Manager.

Kiel, Michael 10:06 AM

MK Michael Kiel, City of Austin, Vision Zero

Rebecca Byford 10:06 AM

RB Becky Byford, Toole Design Group

Ricky Cardenas 10:06 AM

RC Good morning. Ricky Cardenas with the East End District here. 🇲🇽

Nicholas Samuel 10:06 AM

NS Nicholas Samuel, Senior Regional Planner, Capital Area MPO

DeLaCruz, Christina 10:06 AM

CD Christina De La Cruz, Michael Baker International

Kolodzy, Gabriella 10:06 AM



Gaby Kolodzy, TTI Youth Transportation Safety Program

Sarah Martinez 10:06 AM



Sarah Martinez, Travis County Underage Drinking Prevention Program

Jack Autry 10:06 AM



Jack Autry, Farm and City Intern

Jeanne Tarrants 10:06 AM



Jeanne Tarrants, Legacy Engineering Group

Raquel Garza 10:06 AM



Raquel Garza Pearland Fire Department

Chad Henderson 10:06 AM



Chad Henderson, Bartlett & West

Matthew Volkmann 10:06 AM



Matthew Volkmann, TxDOT PTN Engineer

Caitlin Currer 10:06 AM



Caitlin Currer Trauma Injury Prevention Coordinator at St. Davids South Austin Medical Center

Michael Burns 10:06 AM



MICHAEL D. BURNS

District Rail Project Coordinator

TxDOT (Houston District)

Michael.Burns@txdot.gov | O:713-802-5888 M:823-343-8182 | [TxDOT.gov](https://www.txdot.gov)

Barker, Scott (Engineering) 10:06 AM



Scott Barker, Harris County Office of the County Engineer

Raul Avelar 10:06 AM



Raul Avelar, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

Vinson, Shana 10:06 AM



Shana Vinson, UMC Lubbock, TX Injury Prevention & Outreach Coordinator

Serrano, John 10:07 AM



John Serrano, Senior Planner with Harris County Precinct 4

Buck Russel II 10:07 AM



Buck Russel, Union Pacific Railroad Public Safety

Josh Smith 10:08 AM



Josh Smith, Project Manager & Traffic Engineer, Lee Engineering LLC

LaViza Matthews 10:10 AM



LaViza Matthews Amarillo TxDOT

Heyden Walker 10:10 AM



Good Morning. Heyden Black Walker, Safe Streets Austin

Leane Heldenfels 10:10 AM



Leane Heldenfels, Planner, TXDOT Corpus Christi District

Elizabeth De La Garza 10:10 AM



Hello Michael!

Ali, Syed A. - HPW 10:12 AM



Syed A. Ali, Managing Engineer, City of Houston, syed.ali2@houstontx.gov

Hannah Younes 10:12 AM



Hannah Younes, Rutgers University - New Jersey

Hudson, Joan 10:13 AM



Joan Hudson, TTI

Kolodzy, Gabriella 10:15 AM



awesome to hear and love the date change

Pacheco, Eric 10:16 AM



Any Ebike or scooter safety/education campaigns?

Elizabeth De La Garza 10:16 AM



How would Subgrantee as obtain hard copies of the campaign materials?

Serrano, John 10:16 AM



are there any ped and cyclist safety improvements on txdot maintained roadways that will come out of this campaign or is it education-focused only?

LaViza Matthews 10:18 AM



Amarillo 806-356-3338

Elizabeth De La Garza 10:18 AM



Thanks!



Jack Autry 10:32 AM



Are you seeing a lot of injuries from delivery drivers specifically that are using high speed e bikes?

I fear they may not be seeking medical care due to costs

Leane Heldenfels 10:33 AM

LH

Scooter rentals don't have helmets available at point of rental, could that be required by the Cities that license their rentals/use of ROW?

Heyden Walker 10:34 AM

HW

You may already know, but the Austin City Council has been talking about this issue with different types of e-bikes and scooters. The Council's Mobility Committee took up this issue at their September meeting, agenda item #2.



<https://www.austintexas.gov/council/2026/20260903-mobc>

You might want to watch the presentation, as APD is also trying to figure out how to educated around these same issues.

Nat Treadway 10:35 AM

NT

Are there people in the other parts of Austin government working with you (or your hospital) on the appropriate legislation that should be introduced?

Hannah Younes 10:38 AM

HY

Pacheco, Eric 9/29/2026 10:16 AM

Any Ebike or scooter safety/education campaigns?

<https://content.presspage.com/uploads/2983/f029aac0-f3a4-4592-aebe-722c5aff8f92/e-ridereadysafetygu...>

This is from AAA - may be useful for parents

Ettelman, Ben 10:38 AM



Here is a handbook that was recently shared with me as well:

https://www.sonomaferoutes.org/sites/default/files/sonoma_county_e-bike_handbook_english_june2026...

Josh Smith 10:39 AM

JS

Can you give a scale of the problem vs. trends only? Understood that e-bike and scooter crash injuries are up over 100% and now surpass motorcycle injuries, and this is concerning. But what are the raw numbers of monthly or annual injuries, comparing motor vehicle crash injuries vs. e-bike/scooter crash injuries vs. motorcycle crash injuries?



Addie Walker 10:39 AM

AW

Are you seeing more micromobility / ped crashes or micromobility / car crashes?

Elizabeth De La Garza 10:40 AM

EG

Could we have contact information for Caitlin?

Heyden Walker 10:43 AM

HW

Austin Polic Dept. has said that many e-motos and pocket bikes are not even street legal and they are going to start enforcement. They are very worried about parents buying these for children without understanding the dangers or legalities.



Hannah Younes 10:45 AM

HY

I am curious about how this compares to the amount of car-only related injuries, compared to micromobility.

Josh Smith 10:47 AM

JS

Response was she isn't allowed to share this info, but they report to the state and Safe Streets Austin has anonymized data that doesn't identify specific hospitals

Response to my earlier comment



Heyden Walker 10:49 AM

HW Heyden Black Walker, Board Member, Safe Streets Austin chair@safestreetsaustin.org

Thanks so much Caitlin!



Caitlin Currer 11:07 AM

CC Great presentation Hannah!



Suzette May 11:08 AM

SM Has there been any data collected on e-bike/e-scooter crashes with pedestrians?

Raul Avelar 11:09 AM

RA what do you make of the larger proportion (33%) involving escooters compared to bikes and ebikes with motor-vehicle involved (if I'm not mistaken) compared to your later analysis where you did not find difference by micromobility mode in cases involving motor-vehicles. did the initial marginal proportion mask the other factors you found significant?

Heyden Walker 11:11 AM

HW Hi Everyone, Oct. 1 to 8 is Week Without Driving, happening in all 50 states, including Texas. WWD is a chance to try getting around without driving yourself. The goal is to raise awareness of the 1 in 3 people who do not drive, due to age, disability, medical concerns, cost, or choice. You can sign up to take the challenge, try to get around without driving yourself by taking transit, walking, biking, carpooling, or using ride share, then post about your experiences using #WeekWithoutDriving
You can find more information and sign up here: <https://www.safestreetsaustin.org/week-without-driving>



DeLaCruz, Christina 11:15 AM

CD Thank you to all the presenters.

Thank you to the coalition for putting these webinars together.

Hannah Younes 11:17 AM

HY Hannah Younes, PhD
hny3@ejb.rutgers.edu

Open access paper: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2950105925000051>



Watson, Amanda (DSHS) 11:20 AM

AW SHAC's at schools!



Barker, Scott (Engineering) 11:23 AM

SB We have a Safe Routes to School program to teach bike safety at schools.

Elizabeth De La Garza 11:24 AM

EG Municipal courts are asking for materials that would help people in their cities stay safe while using e-motos and the differences in e-bikes and e-motos. Parents are buying these things all while not knowing the dangers and cities are making rules about these without knowledge about the state laws.

Michael Teran 11:24 AM

MT

The Traffic Safety Conference is changing to the Traffic Safety Summit for 2027.



Hannah Younes 11:25 AM

HY

Elizabeth De La Garza 9/29/2026 11:24 AM

Municipal courts are asking for materials that would help people in their cities stay safe while using e-motos and the differences in e-...

<https://content.presspage.com/uploads/2983/f029aac0-f3a4-4592-aebe-722c5aff8f92/e-ridereadysafetygu...>

This is from AAA, so not specific to TX laws, but it can be a useful resource!

Elizabeth De La Garza 11:25 AM

EG

Thanks!

Addie Walker 11:26 AM

AW

More about Week Without Driving (Oct 1-8, starting this week!) and how to sign up: [Join Us! | Week Without Driving: October 1-8, 2026](#)



**WEEK
WITHOUT
DRIVING**
OCTOBER 1-8, 2026

Join Us! | Week Without Driving: October 1-8, 2...
Sign up below! Explore how you can experience Week
Without Driving this year and can spark change in your...
weekwithoutdriving.org

Kolodzy, Gabriella 11:28 AM



Walk Bike Safe TX has a few videos on YouTube (Driving safely around e-bikes and E-bike safety) and please share our @walkbikesafetx Instagram and X posts with safety messaging and laws where we're covering safety for all types of vulnerable road users. [Videos - Walk. Bike. Safe.](#)



Videos - Walk. Bike. Safe.
A post on Walk. Bike. Safe. provided by:
<https://www.walkbikesafetexas.org>
www.walkbikesafetexas.org



Elizabeth De La Garza 11:28 AM

EG

Link Gabby!

Kolodzy, Gabriella 11:28 AM



<https://www.instagram.com/walkbikesafetx/>

Andre Betit 11:29 AM

AB

Thank you everyone!

Barker, Scott (Engineering) 11:29 AM

SB

Good stuff. Thanks

Hannah Younes 11:29 AM

HY Thank you for having me! Great to hear about what's going on in other states 😊

Mary Alexander 11:29 AM

MA Thank you !

Heyden Walker 11:29 AM

HW Thanks so much!

Michael Teran 11:29 AM

MT Thank you!

Marcia Gibbs 11:29 AM

MG Thanks!

Chad Henderson 11:29 AM

CH Thank you!

Kiel, Michael 11:29 AM

MK Thank you!

Nina Saint 11:29 AM

NS Thanks

11:29 AM Sparks, Alex stopped recording.

11:30 AM Meeting ended: **2h 23m 53s**