

MINUTES

KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Community Room, Bourbonnais Village Hall,
700 Main Street NW, Bourbonnais, IL

WEDNESDAY, June 5, 2013 @ 9:00 A.M.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bill Carnahan, Kankakee County Sheriff's Office; Mark Rogers and Steve Blanchette, Kankakee County Highway Department; Eric Cavender and Chief Deputy Coroner Stephanie Jackson, Kankakee County Coroner's Office; Deputy Chief John Gerard and Sgt. Sam Miller, Kankakee City Police Department; John Donovan, Federal Highway Administration; Chief Mike Whalen, Limestone Fire Department; Trp. David Verkler, Sgt. Steven Sigler, M/Sgt. Angela Kinstner, Lt. Jamal Simington and Captain Bridget Bertrand, Illinois State Police; Rick Lalumendre, Olivet Nazarene University; Chief Scott O'Brien, Manteno Fire Department; David Tyson, Tyson Engineering, Inc.; Assistant Chief Phil Perkins, Kankakee City Fire Department; Lt. Mike Johnston, Bradley Police Department; Courtney Koning, River Valley *METRO* Mass Transit District; Laurie Cyr, Village of Bourbonnais; Chief Ed St. Louis, Bourbonnais Fire Department; David Luhrsen, Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School;

OTHERS PRESENT

79th District State Representative Kate Cloonen and Michael Dobrow, Community Outreach Coordinator for Representative Cloonen; Deputy Chief Vernon Mitchell, Bourbonnais Police Department; Don Ernat, Illinois Department of Transportation; Josh Clyden, Kurtz/St. Mary's Ambulance Service; Nicole Leonhardt, The Daily Journal; Michael Fenton, The Bourbonnais Herald; Mayor Linda Fowler and Julie Pasel, Village of Aroma Park; Roger Diercks, Kankakee County GIS Department; Fred Ranck, Highway Traffic Safety Services; Mike Lammey and Jim Greenstreet Kankakee County Planning Department.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Tyson called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Tyson introduced State Representative Kate Cloonen who addressed the Committee concerning the Hands-Free Talking Bill that has passed in the State House of Representatives. The bill is being amended by the State Senate. The bill will allow only hands-free cellular phone usage by the driving public, with exemptions for emergency services. The bill is meant to encourage the use of blue-tooth type devices, speakerphone features and On-Star type systems, to have the driver less distracted, to keep the driver's hands free to operate their vehicle more safely. The amended version of the Bill establishes first offenders as a non-moving violation

with a \$75.00 fine (lower than standard fine). Subsequent offenders will pay increasing fines, with second offenders paying a \$100.00 fine, 3rd offenders paying a \$125.00 fine and 4th offenders paying a \$150.00 fine.

Mr. Greenstreet asked if the subsequent offenses will be considered moving violations. Representative Cloonen stated yes, they will. Trooper Verkler asked why the first offense fine was set at \$75.00, below the state standard traffic offense fine. Representative Cloonen replied that the lower fine and the non-moving violation status for first offense was done as part of a compromise to get the Bill passed. Representative Cloonen was asked if this Bill alters other existing provisions for young drivers and cellular phone use prohibitions. She stated it did not make any changes to other current laws.

INTRODUCTION OF CURRENT MEMBERS

Mr. Greenstreet introduced additional persons who had been appointed by the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) at their May 8, 2013 meeting. Those newly appointed were Lt. Michael Johnston, Bradley P.D.; Deputy Chief John Gerard, Kankakee City P.D.; Cortney Koning, River Valley METRO Mass Transportation District; Chief Ed St.Louis, Bourbonnais F.D.; Assistant Chief Phil Perkins, Kankakee City F.D.; Chief Jim Baird, Bradley F.D.; and Beth Wilcox, Transportation Director, Herscher School District.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Tyson offered the Minutes of the April 24, 2013 meeting for approval. Deputy Chief Gerard made a motion to accept the Minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Rogers. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE PROCEDURE

Mr. Lammey asked that anyone who wishes to make a presentation to this Committee contact him, Chairman Tyson or Mr. Greenstreet. Anyone who has a specific area of traffic safety concern for this Committee should also bring it to the attention of the same three people. Mr. Tyson asked people to present items for the Agenda at least three weeks before the meeting date to be included on the Agenda. Mr. Blanchette asked if vision or mission planning for this Committee will be on future agendas. Mr. Lammey stated that it would.

RESOURCES FROM IDOT

Mr. Ernat from IDOT District 3 announced that IDOT will review any site or segment of roadway that shows to be a crash problem area and do a Roadside Safety Assessment to help identify needed improvements. Mr. Ernat then discussed three hand-outs:

The National Association of Counties Rural Road Safety Resource Center website:
<http://www.naco.org/PROGRAMS/CSD/Pages/RuralRoadResourceCenter.aspx>

The Federal Highway Administration Local Roads Safety Resource CD, which can be ordered at:

http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/local_rural/training/resourcecd/

(Note: The website to order the CD on the FHWA brochure was incomplete, this one works!)

and the website for FHWA Safety Program:

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/>

PRESENTATION ON ALL-RED & ALL-YELLOW TIMING ON SIGNALS & PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK TIMING

Mr. Fred Ranck of Highway Traffic Safety Services was introduced to the Committee to give a presentation on his findings concerning traffic signal timing in Kankakee County. His presentation handout will be available with these minutes. Mr. Ranck pointed out current MUTCD (http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno_2009r1r2.htm) requirements state signal timing ***shall*** be determined using engineering practices, by December 31, 2014, or when timing adjustments are made (***whichever occurs first***).

Of the 100 traffic signalized intersections in Kankakee County, 81 are IDOT controlled signals and 19 are local jurisdiction signals. Only 10 of the 100 have adequate Yellow, All-Reds and Pedestrian clearance timings. 8 of the 10 are IDOT controlled signals and 2 are local controlled signals. Of the 100 signalized intersections in Kankakee County, 25 are identified as excess injury crash locations in the study of 2007 – 2010 crashes. Of these, 4 are local jurisdiction and 21 are IDOT signal intersections.

Adjusting Yellow and All-Reds clearance interval timing resulted in an 8% decrease in total crashes, a 9% decrease in multi-vehicle crashes, a 12% decrease in injury crashes and a 39% reduction of pedestrian crashes in a NY state study. Adjusting pedestrian clearance interval timing resulted in a 39% reduction of pedestrian crashes in a NY state study. In a San Francisco study of 579 signalized intersections, the installation of countdown pedestrian indications (which IDOT is doing at all of their signals) reduced pedestrian crashes by 25%. Traffic signal coordination (as is done on Court Street in Kankakee) has been shown to reduce crashes by 12% to 38% in other areas.

Someone asked if the coordinated signals such as Court Street are affected by the use of emergency vehicle pre-emption devices. Mr. Ranck replied that they are thrown out of coordination, but they should be back into coordination after three complete cycles of the signals. This also may occur when a pedestrian button activates an on-demand pedestrian crossing signal, which may increase the length of the green light to accommodate the time needed to cross the intersection.

HSIP SAFETY GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Lammey reported on the current HSIP Safety Grant Application that had been filed with IDOT District 3. IDOT has declined to be the lead agency on the grant application. Kankakee City, Bourbonnais and Bradley have sent letters to IDOT stating they will proceed with their portions of the grant as their own lead local agency. IDOT District 3 has decided to not move forward with the recommended improvements on their system, citing conflicts with their established policies and procedures.

REQUEST FOR PRESENTER FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Chief Ed St. Louis has agreed to give a presentation on emergency response activity for the next meeting, and will host the meeting in the Bourbonnais Fire Department Training Room.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT TRAINING CERTIFICATION

Chairman Tyson reminded all Committee Members and those who wish to become members, that they must complete the Open Meetings Act training and provide a copy of their certificate to Mr. Lammey or Mr. Greenstreet.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on August 14, 2013 at 9:00 AM, at the Bourbonnais Fire Department Training Room.

OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Chief Gerard reminded law enforcement departments that this coming Monday is the deadline for hire-back grant programs through IDOT.

Mr. Lammey pointed out the use of radar camera enforcement in Washington, D.C., where one camera unit has identified violations totaling \$8,000,000 in potential fines. These are not legal to use at this time in our area.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tyson adjourned the meeting at 9:57 AM