

MINUTES

KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Training Room, Bourbonnais Fire Department,
1080 Armour Road, Bourbonnais, IL

Wednesday, March 9, 2016 @ 9:30 A.M.

Member in Attendance

Chief Scott O'Brien, Manteno Fire Dept. Lt. Lo Coco, Illinois State Police; Steve Blanchette and Diane Redwitz, Kankakee County Highway Dept; Roger Blakley, IDOT District 3; Tom Caldwell, IDOT Urban Planning; Sgt. Sam Miller, Kankakee Police Dept; Chief Jim Travis, Bradley Fire Dept.

Others Present

Geoff Olson, Kankakee County Planning Department.

Call to Order

Chairman O'Brien called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Lt. LoCoco made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Blanchette. Motion carried.

2015 Serious Injury Crash Data

Mr. Olson gave a presentation to the committee about the preliminary 2015 serious crash data, during which committee discussion periodically ensued. He explained there were 116 crashes that resulted in 9 fatalities and 157 A-injuries during the year. It was also the first year since 2006 that there were no fatalities on I-57.

Mr. Olson said he wanted to find out if there was a difference in the number of fatal crashes where the driver of unit 1 on the crash reports was a resident of Kankakee County or not. The presentation shows slides for all roads in Kankakee County, and a breakdown of local roads, state roads, and Interstate 57. In the data shown for 2012-2015 fatal crashes, on local roads and state roads, it appeared more crashes were caused by drivers with residency in Kankakee County. However, along I-57, fatal crashes listed a non-resident of the county as the driver of unit 1.

Another analysis Mr. Olson did was looking to see if there were any crash locations that remained consistent over the last nine years that data has been collected for. There was only one location that appeared to have a steady number of crashes through the entire period. In addition, Mr. Olson pointed out locations that have seen a current increase in crashes. However, Mr. Olson reminded everyone that the total number of crashes at each locations are relatively small

because the data is confined to fatal and serious injuries.

Mr. Blanchette asked if there has been an increase in crashes in January or February compared to previous years due to such a mild winter. Mr. Olson said he had not had a chance to collect data for 2016 yet.

HSIP Grant Application

Mr. Olson told the committee that the Crash Analysis Subcommittee has decided it should work toward a Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Grant application. Mr. Olson said he has been working with Mr. Blakley and that three areas have been selected. They are intersections of U.S. 45/52 at IL-102, IL-102 at 3000W Road. Mr. Olson presented the types of crashes occurring at the intersections and said a road safety review was planned to be done by the end of the month.

Report On Hands Free Cell Enforcement Issue

Chairman O'Brien asked if there were any updates on the enforcement of hands free cell phone use. Mr. Olson reminded members there was discussion at the previous meeting about removing this item from the agenda, however he decided to leave it on so if there is future discussion, it can act as a prompt.

Traffic Safety in the Media

Chairman O'Brien asked if there were any topics recently in the news worth discussing. Mr. Olson mentioned a recent article in the newspaper indicating an increase in pedestrian fatalities in the first half of 2015. He said he looked at the current data for Kankakee County and there were no pedestrian fatalities for the entire year.

Other Business

None.

New Business

None.

Next Meeting

The next Safety Crash Subcommittee will meet again on April 13, 2016, at 9:30 AM at the County Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room.

The next Safety Committee will meet May 11, 2016 at 9:30 AM at the Bourbonnais Fire Station Training Room.

Adjournment

Chairman O'Brien asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Chief Travis motioned, seconded by Mr. Blakley. Motion carried. Chairman O'Brien adjourned the meeting at 10:15 AM.