

MINUTES

KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 @ 9:30 A.M.

Member in Attendance

Chief Scott O'Brien and Adam McCurdy, Manteno Fire Dept; Trooper Verkler, Illinois State Police; Steve Blanchette, Kankakee County Highway Dept; Sgt. Sam Miller, Kankakee Police Dept; Dave Luhrsen, Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School; Cortney Koning, METRO; Rick Lalumundre, Olivet Nazarene University; Therese Shultz, Aquinas Academy; Chief Ed St. Louis, Bourbonnais Fire Dept.; and Dave Tyson, City of Kankakee.

Others Present

Geoff Olson, Kankakee County Planning Department.

Call to Order

Chairman Tyson called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Chief O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. McCurdy. Motion carried.

2016 Second Quarter Serious Injury Crash Data

Mr. Olson gave a presentation to the committee about the preliminary 2016 second quarter serious crash data. The presentation contained second quarter data for 2012 – 2016 and this year has higher A-injuries and fatalities than last year. A roadway breakdown showed more heavily traveled roads had more injuries. The presentation also included a section on performance measures that the MPO will be required to address in the coming months, which include rolling averages and rates for fatalities and A-injuries and a combined fatal and A-injury rolling average of pedestrians and bicyclists. The goal is to reduce those metrics as a means of making roadways safer.

Report On Hands Free Cell Enforcement Issue

Chairman Tyson asked if there were any updates on the enforcement of hands free cell phone use. Chief O'Brien said that police officers are enforcing the law and that there is a greater issue with the citations being dismissed. He also recommended everyone read a book title "Traffic" by Tom Vanderbilt. Sgt. Miller said he thinks non-hands free cell phone use is gradually going down and that it doesn't seem as bad as previously.

Traffic Safety in the Media

Chairman Tyson asked if there were any topics recently in the news worth discussing. Mr. Olson said some vehicle manufacturers have begun implementing driving reports that the car sends to parents of teen drivers to see how safely they are driving. The car reports things like speeding and lane changing without a signal and issues a grade. The State of Illinois legislature passed a law that required bicyclists be given the same rights as motor vehicles. The news has reported on federal traffic safety data that fatalities are up nationwide over last year. This is thought to be due to drivers traveling more miles due to the mild winter, nice weather, and low cost of fuel.

New Business

None.

Other Business

Chief O'Brien thanked Mr. Blanchette for his work in Deselm and the coming implementation of a 4-way stop at 9000N Road and 5000W Road. He also said work is being done at 12000N Road and IL-50 because eastbound traffic is not stopping at the stop sign. Chairman Tyson said the County Highway Dept. has put temporary striping down at IL-102 and 3000W Road and 5000W Road as was part of the road safety review in March.

Next Meeting

The committee decided to combine the elements of the Crash Subcommittee in with the regular Safety Committee and will continue to meet every other month. As a result the October and December meetings will be cancelled. The next meeting will be November 16, 2016, at 9:30 AM at the Bourbonnais Fire Station Training Room.

Adjournment

Chairman Tyson asked if there was any more business to discuss. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 10:07 AM.