



**Minnesota TZD Program
Program Team Meeting Notes
Wednesday, July 22, 2020
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Participants: Paul Aasen, Adam Bald, Dave Boxum, Martin Broyles, Gina Calistro, Sheryl Cummings, Sheila Denton, Vijay Dixit, Linda Dolan, Scot Edgeworth, Craig Flynn, JP Gillach, Dorian Grilley, Joe Gustafson, Bill Hammes, Mike Hanson, Tara Helm, Kristine Hernandez, Melissa Hjelle, Kammy Huneke, Nancy Johnson, Sue Johnson, Irene Jones, Mark Kinde, Katie Knutson, Lisa Kons, Holly Kostrzewski, Katy Kressin, Jane Landwehr, Annette Larson, CJ Lindor, Patti Loken, Stephanie Malinoff, Scott McConkey, Tom Nixon, Kristen Oster, Chelsea Palmateer, Gordy Pehrson, Mark Peterson, Becky Putzke, Frank Scherf, Jessica Schleck, David Sheen, Joanie Somes, Brian Sorenson, Karen Sprattler, Meredith Terpstra, Scott Wasserman, and Julie Whitcher

Welcome, introductions, and review agenda

Lisa welcomed the group and asked each person to introduce themselves and what organization they represent.

Lisa discussed that even though there are fewer vehicles on the roads due to COVID-19 and stay-at-home orders, vehicle fatalities are up from 2019 (177 vs 170). There is still much work to be done.

TZD events calendar

Linda reviewed the second half of the 2020 TZD events calendar. **Members are asked to send Linda any changes to the calendar. If there are changes to the calendar, Linda will send out to the TZD Program Team.**

2020 Legislative Update/Review

Lisa asked attendees what legislative update they have from the 2020 legislative session. Below is a highlight of these updates:

CPS – No legislative update.

Commercial Vehicle – No legislative update.

Distracted Driving – No legislative update.

EMS – No legislative update.

Engineering – Brian Sorensen had 4 topics.

1. Automated Enforcement in work zones. An advocacy group for safe work zones worked with legislators to introduce a bill this past session that would allow for a pilot project to conduct automated enforcement in work zones. We expect this bill to be reintroduced as part of next year's session.
2. Speed limits . Speed limits are a constant issue at the legislature. Last year, a bill was passed allowing cities to set their own speed limits. This year, bills were introduced (but not passed) that would have allowed townships and counties to do the same. MnDOT State Aid is facilitating a taskforce set up to help understand Minnesota's speed limit laws and if there is any need for a new approach to setting speed limits.
3. A recent research study in St. Cloud explored signal preemption for snowplows. The law would need to be changed to allow for this statewide.
4. Marijuana update – Budgets have been negatively impacted and are looking for additional revenue streams. Marijuana might be brought up in the next legislative session to help with budgets and we need to be prepared. Paul Aasen mentioned he spoke with Rep. Winkler and they are currently not looking at changing policy or starting to change policy. We should, however, as Brian mentioned, be prepared because we may have only a 45 day turnaround to influence the conversation.

Bicycle and pedestrian – No legislative update.

Older Driver – No legislative update.

Impaired Driving and Drugged Driving – The DWI Taskforce is looking at having more people on Ignition Interlock by removing some of the existing barriers. Mike Hanson mentioned that they are also working on unifying the language for all vehicles (motor vehicles, boats, atv's, etc.) There is also a Roadside Fluid Pilot Project being conducted (breath test for anything without alcohol).

Motorcycles – No legislative update.

Railroad – Effective August 1st of 2019 motorists have an obligation to yield to on-track equipment like they do for trains at road grade crossings. This will not change company policies on approaches to road grade crossings for those operating the equipment, but it will prevent operators of on-track equipment from being held criminally or civilly liable in the event of an accident where the motorist fails to yield. <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2019/1/Session+Law/Chapter/3/?fbclid=IwAR3TuncBPwdzI4dYwRokhmBhZ8ptqbxzJmXQQjISYCLYaBqrZDpqYqkOZ1g> Statute is # 169.28 and I was given a screenshot/image of it, attached.

Seat belt – No legislative update.

Speed and Speed Limits – As mentioned above, speed limits can now be set by cities, etc. There is a taskforce set up to help understand the law and if there is any need for a new approach to setting speed limits in these areas.

Teen Driving – Gordy reported on three legislative items but he is unaware of the current status.

1. Minnesota is considering introducing a road test waiver where guardians can say my child is a good driver and doesn't need to take the road test. Currently several states have this law including Wisconsin.

Current State Driver's-Education Requirement:

- 25 states elective/not required
 - 5 state online
 - 17 states classroom required under age 18
 - 3 state classroom required under age 17
2. There is interest in introducing 3rd party testing where any business can administer a road test
3. There is also interest in introducing Online Driver's Education in Minnesota where they give 30 hours of online instruction instead of in-person. There is concern, however, that there is no research on whether states who offer online driver's education, have lower or higher crash rates among younger drivers in those states.

SHSP Overview

Paul Aasen discussed the following policy planning matrix. Paul suggests that a team be formed of interested individuals within the next four months to discuss policy planning and keeping the conversations open between the Arenas listed below plus Federal.

Policy Planning – When knowledge and commitment meet opportunism and effort.

Arena	Device	Outcome
Legislative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State• County• City	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authority• Funding• Permission
Administrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rules• Official Plans (ex. SHSP)• Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authority• Public Expression• Permission
Judicial	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enforcement of existing law• Precedent• Legal Interpretation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responsibility• Redirection• Clarity
Rhetorical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Campaigns• Policy positions• Public Statements & Testimony	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education• Advocacy• Intent

Paul also proposed that we take the topics in the SHSP to help with the planning process. Is there an arena for each of the tactics in the SHSP? This would be similar to a gap analysis.



Nancy Johnson mentioned that the Taskforce discussed Hands-Free and feels there are some problems with dismissed tickets (because drivers go to court and say they were holding the phone not using it). She was wondering if the language in the law needed to be changed. Members urged caution when tweaking language to laws because additional, unwanted changes could also be introduced.

Stakeholder Round Robin Discussion

Lisa Kons – They are working on the one year anniversary for the Hands-Free law with education material, PSA, Videos. They will be at the virtual events for FarmFest and UMASH (Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health <http://umash.umn.edu/event/umash-online-expo-a-20-20-look-at-ag-health-safety-and-wellness/>). They will be having a virtual booth at UMASH.

Jane Landwehr – They are working on an update on Implied Consent. In 2020 so far there has been 12,269 compared to 2019 15,117. The DWI All-Star game was canceled and an alternative is still being determined.

Vijay Dixit – The 2020 Raksha Walk will be virtual. They are gathering short video messages from key spokespersons including Mike Hanson, Col. Langer, Mr. Harrington. They hired 15 summer interns to assist with developing new creative pieces, videos, work on a broadcast channel (Col. Langer was recently a guest) and other teen/distracted driving information. They are working with MIT again to develop an app for distracted driving for distant learning. They are moving to a new technology which is better video based.

Mark Peterson – No update. Asked Jane to keep him posted on the Minnesota Twins event, AAA might want to partner.

Joanie Somes – She has been working on the EMS older driver grant. The LELs helped her reach out to 200 officers to introduce them to the DOSCI tool. They are working on how to get older drivers home safe and alternatives to driving. They use the term “pivot” to indicate they are not meeting in person. South St. Paul will be participating in the Unite to Reunite evening on August 3 or 6. She will be presenting nationally to over 50,000 EMS regarding her older driver initiatives.

Irene Jones – CPS has two grant opportunities. One for the Northern CPS Liaison and the other for a Hospital CPS Liaison. If you would like more information, contact Irene. National CPS trainings will be in August. She is working with communications and Shannon Grabow for new CPS marketing materials. The “Don’t Skip A Step” brochure is available.

Kristine Hernandez – Pedestrian campaign has yard signs available (one side message to motorists, other side message to pedestrian). They are working on Hands-Free social media efforts. The old Safe and Sober signs are being replaced with 125 new signs with a “phone down” message. There are also Hands-Free pavement stencils available. Also, there will be a Ted Foss Move Over Law Enforcement publicity event on August 31.

Brian Sorenson – Two of the three commissioners have signed the SHSP and hopefully the final signature will be in the next few days.

Mike Hanson – 2020 fatalities are higher than 2019 currently despite lower daily vehicle miles traveled. There are challenges getting to the risk takers causing these spikes in fatalities. The number one contributing cause is speed. The severity is also higher. GHSA has a speed webinar this afternoon. Currently all OTS staff is working remotely.

Annette Larson – She is working with Lisa Kons on UMASH. She is also working with Sheila Denton on CPS video and lunch bag messages. They are also creating a subcommittee in her region to work on a SHSP action plan.

Holly Kostrzewski – She is working with DHS and Tara as well as prioritizing issues in the SHSP. She is working with school districts and getting traffic safety messages out to the schools. NE is also working on marketing materials for local bars.

Bill Hammes – Metro agencies are re-engaging and increasing enforcement efforts.

Jessica Schleck – Many of the individuals working on the SE coalitions are from public health and are busy with COVID-19 work. Despite this, all eleven coalitions are meeting and having some TZD presentations. They are also developing a subcommittee to work on a SHSP action plan.

Sheila Denton – They are conducting emergency car seat check (some public health individuals are doing this). They are also distributing some car seats but only in emergencies. There will also be some upcoming car seat technician classes.

Chelsea Palmateer – There will be a virtual Traffic Records forum in two weeks and registration is free. <https://trafficrecordsforum.org/>

Dave Boxum – There will be a news conference on July 30 for the one year anniversary of the Hands-Free bill. There is a new Drive Smart landing page (DriveSmartMN.org).

Nancy Johnson – Minnesotans for Safe Driving are conducting impact panels via Zoom and they are going well.

Sheryl Cummings – Minnesota Operation Lifesavers is participating in the UMASH event. Sept. 21-27 is International Rail Safety Week. They are working with law enforcement partners and want to highlight the importance of their work.

Sue Johnson – Working on updating the Teen Handbook and will share with partners

Stephanie Malinoff – The CTS Research Conference will be held virtually on November 5. More information will be available later in the summer. The TRB conference will also be virtual in 2021 with over 13,000 participants.

Martin Broyles – Indiana was added to the state in our region. NHTSA has a new campaign to Prevent Hot Car Deaths www.nhtsa.gov/campaign/heatstroke. The FARS data indications our crashes so far in 2020 are down nationally.

Scot Edgeworth – The metro region continues to engage stakeholders and working with School Bus Stop Arm Violation and Older Driver topics.

Scott McConkey – He continues to encourage, visit and listen to local law enforcement. Highway 14 is a high priority, especially regarding speed. There is a taskforce organized and had one saturation with 536 stops which resulted in 165 speeding citations. The saturations are having law enforcement be visible and not using overtime, only on-duty time.

Dorian Grilley – With stay-at-home orders, we have seen increased amounts of walking and biking. Unfortunately, we have also seen an increase of unsafe behavior. Safe Routes to School still in bonding bill. Unfortunately, there was a tragic SUV-bicycle crash resulting in the death of a 14-year old and seriously injuring another teen.

CJ Lindor – They are working on a new Walk Bike Fun education campaign. They are awaiting the MDE guidelines for schools this fall and will be working with schools based on the decision from MDE. They are also working on Cycles for Change which focuses on teaching new bikers how to bike safely. Many of these new bikers are immigrants.

Frank Scherf – He continues to work on short reports and they continue to report numerous drivers driving over 100 mph.

Julie Whitcher – There is an open solicitation for 2023-24 railroad grad crossing improvements. If you area has any railroad crossing concerns, they should submit their improvement ideas here... <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/ofrw/railroad/safety.html>

Linda Dolan – The TZD Statewide Conference is moving to a virtual format. There will be 12 webinars featuring the 4 E's (education, enforcement, engineering and EMS) as well as CPS and webinars that cross cut over multiple disciplines. More information on the TZD website here.... <http://www.minnesotatzd.org/events/webinarseries/> Additional details and registration will be available at the end of August.

Message from Lisa Kons ... *"Hold your head high!"*

Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.