



**Minnesota TZD Program  
Program Team Meeting Notes  
Wednesday, July 20, 2022  
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**Participants:** Paul Aasen, Lori Blaukat, Dave Boxum, Sheila Denton, Linda Dolan, Scot Edgeworth, Girma Feyissa, Craig Flynn, Bill Hammes, JP Gillach, Joe Gustafson, Mike Hanson, Tara Helm, Kristine Hernandez, Melissa Hjelle, Ken Johnson, Sue Johnson, Mark Kinde, Lisa Kons, Katy Kressin, Annette Larson, CJ Lindor, Shonette Micco, Scott McConkey, Meredith Mills, Becky Putzke, Cheryl Salo, Jessica Schleck, Frank Scherf, Joanie Somes, Brian Sorenson, Karen Sprattler, Bill Van Koevering, Jasmine Wangen and Julie Witcher (also an Emily (no last name) may be new CPS team member/she dropped off early)

**Welcome, introductions, and review agenda**

Lisa welcomed the group and mentioned there would be introductions a part of the round robin.

**Upcoming TZD Events**

Linda Dolan reported on several upcoming TZD events:

- 2022 TZD Statewide conference will be held in St. Cloud at the St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center. If you are a speaker, don't make a hotel reservation until you receive an email from conference staff. If you are going to be a general attendee, you can make your hotel reservations now. To see a list of hotels check the [2022 TZD Statewide Conference website including Accommodations](#)
- Format will be in-person (\$125) and virtual (\$125)
- The two plenaries/general sessions will be live streamed as well as 15 concurrent sessions.
- Registration opens up August 23<sup>rd</sup>
- All 40 concurrent sessions are set
- TZD Traffic Safety Hotdish webinar (formally Stakeholder Breakfast webinar) will be on August 17 from 9-10:15a.m. CST. The topic is Safe Systems and new funding.
- The final 2022 webinar on November 16<sup>th</sup> will be Utah's .05 process
- TZD Scholarships for conference are full
- Looking for sponsors and exhibitors. For more information, [visit the sponsor and exhibitor webpage](#).

**2022 Legislative Update**

**Bike and Pedestrian**

No update at this time.

## **CPS**

No update at this time.

## **Commercial Motor Vehicles**

No update at this time.

## **Distracted Driving**

No update at this time.

## **EMS**

No update at this time.

## **Engineering**

Unfortunately none of the proposed legislation passed in 2022.

## **Fitness to Drive**

Lessened requirements for all drivers regarding diabetics

## **Impaired Driving**

We were surprised by the cannabis legislation that was passed at the end of the session. This legislation legalized THC laced edibles. It is our understanding that the THC must come from MN cannabis, no more than 5mg of THC per serving (which is still high), that there is no prohibition for a minor to possess one of these edibles or consuming them and no regulation on what it should be transported in or if it is illegal to be chewing on an edible when driving.

There is a substantial lack of information and lot of work to do to address the issues/problems that this will cause.

They expect to introduce roadside oral fluid testing in 2023 again.

## **Motorcycle**

No update at this time.

## **Railroad**

No update at this time.

## **Seatbelt**

No update at this time.

## **Speed and Speed Limits**

- There was legislation introduced to move authority of setting speed limits in Ramsey County.
- NHTSA had a press conference in L.A. yesterday on speed including Col. Langer. [Speeding and Aggressive Driving Prevention | NHTSA](#)
- There is a speed pilot program in Maryland with multiple Es. They felt it was effective but do not know if results will be sustainable.

## **Teen Driving**

No update at this time.

## Workzones

MnDOT is in the process of implementing practices identified in the Work Zone Speed Management Study prepared for the legislature earlier this year. We are actively looking for projects to implement the Speed Safety Vehicle. There are active work zone projects using Electronic Work Zone Speed Limits.

## Stakeholder Introductions and round robin discussion

### Mike Hanson

- Rural road safety event by Scot McConkey and team
- OTS Fully staffed
- Working on policy initiatives and budget requests
- Idea solicitation is open

### Paul Aasen

- Is there more education we need to be doing outside the metro area?

### Annette Larson

- Joyride is up and running.
- At FarmFest this year
- Multiple outreach events in South Central

### Scot McConkey

- Organized a project when officers are not on a service call, go to an identified troubled area (for example, highway 14, 19, etc.) 2022 was the 6<sup>th</sup> year of doing this successful project.
- Start Friday before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and go to various routes.

### Becky Putzke

- Speed is a significant issue in northern Minnesota
- [With just a chief and one other officer, Morris will disband its police - StarTribune.com](#) City of Morris had a police department for 140 year history and now police department disbanding
- Sherburne, Wright, and Stearns county deputies and MSP going to each other's areas and focus on specific areas. It's been very successful.

### Bill Hammes

- Lost several law enforcement grantees including U of M and Minneapolis
- 70 citations were written for a group of street racers in Anoka County
- Safe summer nights for St. Paul (Thursday nights at various parks)
- Anoka County Fair (Ramsey crash car and seat belt convincer)
- Richfield's distracted driving truck has been a huge success
- Blaine, Anoka County Sheriff and others are looking at purchasing their own truck

### Bill Van Koevering

- Multiple outreach events including Crow Wing County fair
- Shreya R. Dixit Intern program on youth education program

### Brian Sorenson

- Work Zone Speed Mgmt Study [Legislative Reports - Government Affairs - MnDOT \(state.mn.us\)](#)
- Traffic Safety Advisory Committee language for legislators
- TZD 2.0 three additional staff-TZD Co-Chairs working on this since we do not have dedicated funding to fund these positions
- Working on a Minnesota Speeding Behavior Research Study with a consultant (survey to research risky behavior motivations) 12 month RFP they hope to start Fall 2022
- MnDOT district and county safety plans (peer exchanges and workshops)
- BIL Federal act includes safety elements and policy implications

### Cheryl Salo

- Going to be doing CarFit training as a pre-conference event and a St. Cloud event on October 13 from 1-3pm

### CJ Lindor

- Traffic safety youth programing. Curriculum has been revised for bike and pedestrian safety.
- Designed a program called Cycles for adults learning to ride bike (how to ride and maintenance, rules of the road, etc.)

### Craig Flynn

- NHTSA assessment went well and are reviewing results

### Jasmine Wangen

- TV spots on leaving kids in cars during hot weather
- Getting two new instructors to train car seat technicians
- Updating CARS program

### Jessica Schleck

- Lots of outreach events
- Thursdays in downtown Rochester (Traffic Safety Education)
- TZD first responders event
- Safe City Nights (6 of them)
- Responsible Beverage Server Training

### Joanie Somes

- Older driver (recognition with cognitive development with law enforcement and talking with older drivers)
- Senior Expo this fall
- Submitted Journal of Emergency Nurses about older drivers and presenting multiple places

### Joe Gustafson

- County safety plan
- County fair

### JP Gillach

- Nothing to report

### Julie Whitcher

- Commercial vehicles are building an inspection building in Red River and hopefully in St. Croix and others in the future
- Action plan in February (pedestrian crossings over represented in grade crossings)
- IJA funding for grade crossing elimination program (corridor study near Hinckley)

### Karen Sprattler

- New report releasing on Tuesday on Cannabis and safe driving
- Next project includes enforcing underage drinking/delivery to underage individuals

### Katy Kressin

- Fatality numbers not down in West Central
- Ongoing public engagement including across the border with Vision Zero in North Dakota

### Kristine Hernandez

- Incident Responder week (theme is "Respecting our Roadside Heroes") Minnesota will mirror national campaign in November (overhead message laws, light up bridge, etc.)
- Asked to speak at GHSA as one of the panelists for "Traffic Safety Culture Change: Working Towards a Newer Norm"

### Melissa Hjelle

- Farm Fest (seat belt convincer, impaired and drowsy driving, engineers will talk about J-turns especially with farm equipment, snow fences, car seat checkup)
- Car Seat Check Event at FarmFest will be from 10-1
- Southwest is looking at expanding CarFit (starting with two counties)
- Seat belt convincer will be at eight county fairs
- Stop the Red campaign in August (may table to 2023)

### Meredith Mitts

- Pushes for fall/winter
  - Shifting Gears – ShiftingGears.com – Marijuana impairment
  - AAA Promise – Revamped to focus more on impaired driving and distracted driving – AAA.com/PROMise – January/Feb to order free toolkits
  - AAA.com/Student – Our online resources for teachers broken down by age group. It provides lesson plans
  - School Safety Patrol – Will continue to push this
- Upcoming campaigns
  - New Slow Down Move Over campaign in the works
  - School's Open Drive Carefully
- Events
  - Touch a Truck – Burnsville, October 1st – promotes slow down move over and traffic safety touch points
  - Up to \$1,000 Mini Grants (primary focus is primary focus on drug-impaired driving, roadside responder safety [Slow Down, Move Over], and school zone Safety) – Due August 26th

### Scot Edgeworth

- Auto Show 500 people used seat belt convincer and persuader
- University of Minnesota research funding for school bus stop arm research funding

- OTE for four different speed trailers and collecting data
- Multiple outreach

#### Scott McConkey

- Nothing more to report

#### Shonette Micco

- Expanding partnership with St. Paul Police Department and getting car seats to families
- St. Paul Safe Summer Nights
- Seat belt convincer must need to be 4' 9" high...maybe consider using a booster seat for younger person

#### Sue Johnson

- Teen conference, prom events, multiple outreach events
- Bike and safety events

#### Tara Helm

- Stop at Red campaign...Stopping at stop signs, stop lights, and railroad crossing
- Various car seat checks and other outreach events
- SHSP committee

#### Vijay Dixit

- Internship program going on this summer with many students
- Raksha 5K Vigil on Aug 6 in Eden Prairie [https://mailchi.mp/8d9edb9a3986/register-for-the-raksha-walk-on-august-6<sup>th</sup>](https://mailchi.mp/8d9edb9a3986/register-for-the-raksha-walk-on-august-6th)

#### Lisa Kons

- Updating NETS website (more interactive and engaging)
- Webinar Wednesdays
- Safety matter expert blog spot
- Interactive traffic safety calculators
- Hands on resources and tools for employers

#### Sheila Denton (per email)

- Car Seat Check Event at FarmFest will be from 10-1. We have several technicians coming to help.
- Working with a Somalian Population that has moved to Mankato from Eden Prairie area. They were told by "a man in their community" that kids did not need a seat after the age of 4. In 3 weeks, I did education and distribution with these families.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.