

BALTIMORE REGIONAL SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE

Thursday, May 26, 2022
10:00 to 11:15 A.M.
Virtual meeting

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Officer Lori Hippensteel, Baltimore County Police Department (BCoPD), called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ofc. Hippensteel mentioned an upcoming safety event in Baltimore County, a Young Drivers Safety Day that will be held in the late fall at the Carver Center for Arts and Technology.

2. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2022 MINUTES

Ofc. Hippensteel, BCoPD, asked for any comments or changes to the minutes from the February 24, 2022 Baltimore Regional Safety Subcommittee meeting. Receiving none, the minutes were accepted into the record.

3. STATE SAFETY UPDATES

MDOT SHA - Dr. Jay Zheng, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) State Highway Administration, provided an update of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) local funding. He shared what the deadline for submitting proposals was and the review process is beginning. The plan is to announce funds in August or September 2022.

MDOT MHSO - Ms. Myra Wieman, Deputy Director of the MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration's (MVA) Highway Safety Office (MHSO), shared information about recent campaigns since the Thanksgiving season in 2021. She noted increased traffic to the zerodeathsmd.gov website and plans to incorporate live actors into the *Be The Driver* campaign. She shared the success of an Uber partnership during the holiday season and the Memorial Day press event that was happening at the time of this meeting, which includes a message to boaters about the drive home afterward. Finally, the Click It or Ticket campaign began mid-May with media, then enforcement, and seat belt observation surveys will be conducted in early June.

[PowerPoint: MHSO - Communications Update]

4. HIGH SCHOOL MOCK CRASH

Ms. Debbie Jennings, Chesapeake Region Safety Council (CRSC), shared a wealth of information about a mock crash program that is available at no cost. She explained the mission of the CRSC, that it is located in Baltimore County, and how she has organized comprehensive mock crash sessions for over 20 years. She shared video and details from recent events in Harford and Calvert Counties. The programs are data-driven, specific to the areas problematic crash types, include many local partners (fire, EMS, towing, law enforcement, etc.), and have educational portions to explain injuries sustained, the severity, long-term outcomes, an impact speaker, and (potentially) a mock trial. She also noted how this program is part of several Local Strategic Highway Safety Plans (SHSP) and includes an evaluation survey.

[PowerPoint: CRSC - Mock Crash]

5. LOOK ALIVE

Mr. Bala Akundi, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC), provided an update on the Look Alive campaign and the upcoming video shoot for new/additional creative materials. Once a location is identified, information will be shared with the group if anyone would like to attend the shoot. He asked for suggested locations to include: a signal for a left-hand turn without a green arrow, a pedestrian signal box, and crosswalk and painting in good shape. He also shared that the selected consultant is the Sherry Matthews Group.

[PowerPoint: BMC - Look Alive]

6. LOCAL STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANS (SHSP)

Ms. Cindy Burch, BMC, shared an update of the Local SHSPs in the region:

- The Maryland Quality Initiative (MdQI) conference included a session on Local SHSPs with representatives from BMC, Montgomery County, and the City of Salisbury, with MHSO as moderator.
- Anne Arundel County's Vision Zero plan is final and being sent for executive endorsement.
- Baltimore City's plan is final and was endorsed by the Mayor; it is being used to apply for implementation funding.
- Baltimore County reconvened the steering committee and is working together on data initiatives and a Young Drivers Safety Day in the fall. Ofc. Hippensteel noted discussions about the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) funding within the County Executive Office.
- Carroll County has finished the Strategic Traffic Safety Plan (STSP) and is scheduling time to present it to the County Commissioners.
- Harford County is implementing the SHSP through the Traffic Safety Advisory Board and a representative recently gave the annual update to the County Council.
- Howard County continues to coordinate on data quality and accessibility and plans to reconvene the steering committee soon.

- Queen Anne's County is developing an SHSP and is close to convening a summit of local partners to identify strategies and action steps, similar to Carroll County's process.

7. OTHER/NEW BUSINES

Ms. Burch explained the Safe System Approach (SSA) and an upcoming Request for Proposals that will be released from BMC. She reminded the group of a BMC workshop on SSA that was conducted and that this upcoming consultant project will focus on implemented SSA at the local level. A plan is to utilize local SHSP teams to provide information for developing SSA guidelines and a report is anticipated by the end of FY 2023.

Ms. Burch then discussed the Safe Streets and Roads for All program that is included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). She explained the different categories of funding: to write a comprehensive safety plan, to write supplemental safety plans or improve a safety plan, and to implement projects in a comprehensive safety plan. All disciplines are eligible (education, enforcement, data, technology, etc.) and multi-jurisdictional proposals are stronger. Finally, she noted that MHSO has a roster of Local SHSP contacts and BMC is able to help with regional or local proposals.

[PowerPoint: BMC - SS4A]

Ofc. Hippensteel noted the dates of the remaining two meetings in 2022 and asked the group to consider virtual, in-person, or hybrid meetings. A survey will be sent out closer to the September meeting.

No other discussion was had and Ofc. Hippensteel adjourned the meeting at 11:15 A.M.

Next Meeting – September 22, 2022, 10:00 A.M.

Attendance:

Tanya Asman – Anne Arundel County Office of Transportation

Kim Auman – National Study Center for Trauma & EMS

Jessie Bialek - Baltimore County Dept. of Public Works and Transportation (BCo DPW&T)

Jennifer Biddle – Howard County Department of Public Works

David Cookson – Howard County Office of Transportation

Lindsay Donnellon – Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Michael Farrell – National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)

Wellington Felix – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Lori Hippensteel – Baltimore County Police Department (BCoPD)

Debbie Jennings – Chesapeake Region Safety Council

Bari Klein – Healthy Harford/Healthy Cecil

Julie Kwedar – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Motor Vehicle Administration's (MVA) Highway Safety Office (MHSO)

Tom Morehouse – BCoPD

Doug Mowbray – MDOT MHSO

Kristopher Nebre – BCo DPW&T

Janie Nham - TPB

Shayna Rose – Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT)

Nanette Schieke – MDOT MVA

Cynthia Spriggs – MDOT MHSO

Nicole Waldheim – Burgess & Niple

Tracy Whitman – Maryland Department of Health Kids in Safety Seats

Myra Wieman – MDOT MHSO

Tina Williams – MDOT MHSO

Graham Young – BCDOT

Jay Zheng – MDOT State Highway Administration

Staff:

Bala Akundi – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

Regina Aris – BMC

Cindy Burch – BMC