

BALTIMORE REGIONAL SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE

Thursday, September 28, 2023

10:05 - 11:32 A.M.

Virtual meeting

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Debbie Jennings, Chesapeake Region Safety Council (CRSC), called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M. She said some fond words about Mr. Bala Akundi after his recent passing.

2. APPROVAL OF MAY 2023 MINUTES

Ms. Cindy Burch, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC), asked for any comments or changes to the minutes from the May 25, 2023 Baltimore Regional Safety Subcommittee meeting. Receiving none, the minutes were accepted into the record.

3. IMPAIRED DRIVING WORKSHOP UPDATE

Ms. Jennings shared information about an ongoing project run through the Chesapeake Region Safety Council in partnership with the Baltimore County Police Department and other safety partners. The Cannabis Workshops aim to inform and educate law enforcement and employers about signs of impairment and promote open dialogue between the patients and safety partners. Sgt. Tom Morehouse, Baltimore County Police Department, shared that there are plans to do more classes in 2024. He noted the growth in cooperation between the patients and the law enforcement trainees.

Mr. Barry List, Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA), asked for a review of the cannabis-related workplace accident and traffic crash statistics.

[PowerPoint: Cannabis Workshop]

4. FEDERAL SAFETY UPDATE

Mr. Frank Enko, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), updated the group on Pedestrian Safety Month activities at the federal level and shared outreach campaign

materials related to Move Over laws (www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov). He also related the outreach efforts to the National Roadway Safety Strategy and the Safe System Approach.

Ms. Jennings asked about media support for the Operation Crash Reduction weekend (October 6-9, 2023) and Mr. Enko noted that state highway safety offices are working on media resources.

[PowerPoint: Pedestrian Safety Month]

Mr. Breck Jeffers, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), discussed Equity in Roadway Safety and shared several resources from FHWA's efforts to address [equity](#). He also recommended a [webinar series](#) from FHWA.

Ms. Burch inquired about any effect a government shutdown may have on federal programs. Mr. Enko and Mr. Jeffers both noted that the current budget discussion would not affect NHTSA or FHWA. Mr. Fritzen Royer, Baltimore County Department of Public Works & Transportation, asked about using the Operation Crash Reduction materials on the county websites and Mr. Enko encouraged everyone to do so. Ms. Cynthia Spriggs, MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration's Highway Safety Office (MHSO), shared a link for the [state resources](#) and encouraged everyone to subscribe to the distribution list.

Mr. Jeffers shared information about the Vulnerable Road User Assessment recently undertaken at MDOT SHA.

[PowerPoint: FHWA Equity in Roadway Safety]

5. STATE SAFETY UPDATES

Ms. Julie Kwedar and Mr. Michael Bomgardner, Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration's Highway Safety Office (MHSO), presented the Carfit program. That is a free program to help mature drivers understand how to properly position themselves to operate a motor vehicle. There are opportunities to become a Carfit technician or arrange for an event with MHSO.

[PowerPoint: Carfit Program]

6. LOCAL STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANS

Ms. Burch shared a brief update on the local SHSPs in the region:

- In Anne Arundel County, the Vision Zero team continued working to develop an action plan and have a draft ready by Thanksgiving.
- Baltimore City is utilizing funding from the first round of Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) funding and has applied again in the second round.
- Baltimore County applied for SS4A to continue implementing the Local SHSP.
- The Carroll County team earned some press when the Sheriff's Office purchased speed signs and the Strategic Traffic Safety Plan (STSP) was part of the announcement.
- The Harford County Traffic Safety Advisory Board continued to meet and work on an evaluation of the previous plan.

- The Howard County team continued working on the fatal and serious injury crash infrastructure reviews on county-maintained roadways.
- Queen Anne's County has applied for SS4A funding to build a local SHSP.

7. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON NEW MEMBERS FOR SUBCOMMITTEE BUSINESS

This topic was deferred due to time constraints.

8. OTHER/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Spriggs shared some information about a Look Alive Twitter/X chat and other upcoming events in Pedestrian Safety Month. Ms. Jennings also shared the sources for the data she shared. Ms. Burch will send out all information in a follow-up email to the group.

Ms. Burch asked the group to consider the makeup of this committee, she will send out the roster in a message for everyone to comment.

No other discussion was had and Ms. Jennings adjourned the meeting at 11:32 A.M.

Attendance:

Kim Auman – National Study Center for Trauma & EMS
Michael Bomgardner – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Motor Vehicle Administration's (MVA) Highway Safety Office (MHSO)
Becca Drayer – Crash CORE
Frank Enko – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Michael Farrell – Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Lori Hippensteel – Baltimore County Police Department
Shay Hobbs – Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T)
Petronella James-Okeke – Morgan State University
Breck Jeffers – Federal Highway Administration
Debbie Jennings – Chesapeake Region Safety Council
Tim Kerns – MHSO
Julie Kwedar – MHSO
Barry List – MDOT State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA)
Tom Morehouse – Baltimore County Police Department
Shayna Rose – Baltimore City Department of Transportation
Fritzen Royer – Baltimore County DPW&T
C. Siler – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
Cynthia Spriggs – MHSO
Kenna Swift – Sherry Matthews Group
Tracy Whitman – Maryland Department of Health
Jennifer Woo – Howard County Department of Public Works
Jay Zheng – MDOT SHA

Staff:

Cindy Burch – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Shawn Kimberly – BMC
Eileen Singleton – BMC