

BALTIMORE REGIONAL SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE

Thursday, December 15, 2022
10:00 to 11:35 A.M.
Virtual meeting

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Officer Lori Hippensteel, Baltimore County Police Department (BCoPD), called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2022 MINUTES

Ofc. Hippensteel asked for any comments or changes to the minutes from the September 22, 2022 Baltimore Regional Safety Subcommittee meeting. Receiving none, the minutes were accepted into the record.

3. STATE SAFETY UPDATES

Ms. Anna Levendusky, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Motor Vehicle Administration's (MVA) Highway Safety Office (MHSO), shared information about outreach campaigns related to new Move Over legislation and the updated Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Law. A question was posed about specifying vehicles with flashing lights in the Move Over materials. The state is using a general message to protect any motorists on the side of the road unable to engage flashing lights. Further discussion about the child safety seat graphics and how two digital ad networks (GumGum and Google Display Network) were used to direct the public to the zerodeathsmd.gov website. Average time spent on the CPS pages was longer than average time on the main page, inferring that people are taking time to read and understand the material.

Ms. Levendusky then explained the Lyft-GHSA-Responsibility.org campaign through the holiday season. She also noted that FY 2024 MHSO grant applications will open January 9, 2023 then close on February 24, 2023 and the annual Highway Safety Summit will be held on April 12, 2023.

[PowerPoint: MHSO Communications Update]

Mr. Chris Diaczok, MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA), presented the Vision Zero Implementation Law and associated fatal crash review process. A question was posed about

involving local partners, including local SHSP teams, in the review process and it was stated that it will be managed by the MDOT SHA District Offices. A follow-up question about the ultimate outcome of these reviews and if an agency other than the roadway owner should take the lead, but the law was written specific to MDOT SHA. Involvement of behavioral safety partners was suggested even though the law was written as an infrastructure review. Lastly, it was noted that official notification of a fatality, to initiate the review, will be receipt of the report from Maryland State Police.

[PowerPoint: MDOT SHA Vision Zero Implementation]

4. REGIONAL PROGRAM UPDATES

Ms. Charlene Mingus, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC), shared information on active transportation projects underway in the region. She discussed Bike to Work Week, several consultant projects, and the Transportation Alternatives Program. A question was posed about eligibility for Transportation Alternatives funding, such as a safety village for children.

[PowerPoint: Active Transportation]

Ms. Nicole Waldheim, Burgess & Niple, shared information about the ongoing Safe System Approach project. She provided an overview of the scope of work, steering committee, and format of local workshops. A suggestion was shared to include guidance on developing comprehensive systemic safety programs in the Safe System Approach process at the local level.

[PowerPoint: Safe System Approach Project]

5. 2021 CRASH DATA UPDATE AND TRAFFIC SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Ms. Cindy Burch, BMC, provided an update on recently released 2021 crash data and shared a preview of the regional safety performance targets (fatalities, fatality rate per vehicle miles traveled (VMT), serious injuries, serious injury rate per VMT, and non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries). Ms. Burch shared the anticipated targets for 2019-2023 average and goal for 2030; those figures will be shared at the January BRTB meeting with a Resolution. She also shared a state website with year-to-date fatality counts that is updated monthly. (<https://zerodeathsmd.gov/resources/crashdata/>)

[PowerPoint: BRSS Safety Update]

6. LOCAL STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANS (SHSP)

Ms. Burch shared an update on the Local SHSPs in the region:

- Anne Arundel County's Vision Zero team will begin bi-monthly meetings in January 2023.
- Baltimore City is planning a Safe System Approach Workshop for January.
- Baltimore County conducted a Safe System Approach Workshop in November.
- Carroll County conducted a Safe System Approach Workshop in December.

- The Harford County Traffic Safety Advisory Board has begun utilizing a focused, data-driven approach to implementation of safety programs.
- Howard County recently passed legislation requiring reviews of all fatal and non-motorist serious injury crashes and the team has been developing a process for that requirement.
- Queen Anne's County continues to work on the foundational components of an SHSP and individual agency meetings continue.
- The City of Bel Air is going to regroup in early 2023 with the new Town Administrator.

Dr. Jay Zheng, MDOT SHA, shared that a meeting was held with MDOT SHA and MHSO to prepare for the Vulnerable Road User (VRU) Assessment required by federal law by November 15, 2023. That will become part of the state SHSP and is an infrastructure review that will include the Baltimore region due to it being a high-risk area for non-motorists. Meetings will occur in early 2023.

7. OTHER/NEW BUSINES

Ofc. Hippensteel noted the planned dates for 2023 and a poll will come out to see if a different day is better for regular meetings.

A call was also sent out for volunteers to serve as committee chairperson. Please contact Ms. Burch if interested.

No other discussion was had and Ofc. Hippensteel adjourned the meeting at 11:35 A.M.

Next Meeting – February 23, 2023, 10:00 A.M.

Attendance:

Kim Auman – National Study Center for Trauma & EMS
Jessie Bialek - Baltimore County Dept. of Public Works and Transportation (BCo DPW&T)
Michael Bomgardner – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Motor Vehicle Administration's (MVA) Highway Safety Office (MHSO)
Summer Bowman – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
Chris Diaczok – MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA)
Lori Hippensteel – Baltimore County Police Department
Breck Jeffers – Federal Highway Administration
Julie Kwedar – MHSO
Toria Lassiter – MDOT SHA
Anna Levendusky – MHSO
Barry List – MDOT SHA
Doug Mowbray – MHSO
Janie Nham – Transportation Planning Board
Andrew Orr – MDOT SHA
Tina Register – MDOT SHA
Shayna Rose – Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT)

Cynthia Spriggs – MHSO

Nicole Waldheim – Burgess & Niple

Tracy Whitman – Kids in Safety Seats (KISS)

Graham Young – BCDOT

Jay Zheng – MDOT SHA

Staff:

Cindy Burch – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

Zach Kaufman – BMC

Charlene Mingus – BMC