

RACINE COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Summary Minutes – May 10, 2018

Public Works & Development Services Conference Room
Ives Grove Office Complex
14200 Washington Avenue,
Sturtevant, WI 53177

Members Present:

David Maack - Racine County Emergency Management
Michael Payne - Racine County Medical Examiner
Sgt. Tim Koetting – Racine Police Department
Lt. Dan Klatt – Racine County Sheriff’s Office
Sgt. David Stroupe - Mount Pleasant Police Department
Sgt. Gary Larsen - Caledonia Police Department
Chief Matt Johnson – Town of Waterford Police Department
Sgt. Bill Jeschke- Town of Waterford Police Department
Allison Blackwood - WisDOT, DTSD *
Kwame Amegashitsi – WisDOT, DTSD *

Also Present:

David Prott, Racine County Public Works & Development Superintendent of Highways & Parks
Jacqueline Bratz – Racine County Communications Director
Rick Olig, BOTS Law Enforcement Liaison

Members Excused:

Capt. James Weidner - Racine County Highway Safety Coordinator
Julie Anderson - Racine County Public Works & Development Services Director
Chief Sean Marschke - Sturtevant Police Department
Tom Knitter – TRIAD

Members Absent:

Erin Donaldson - Safe Kids Coordinator
Michael White - District Attorney’s Office
Lt. Dan Adams – Racine County Sheriff’s Office
Sgt. John Schneider - Racine Police Department
John Barnes - Retired Caledonia Police Department

* It was noted that Allison Blackwood is now assisting with Foxconn development. Although she will continue to attend TSC meetings, Kwame Amegashitsi will replace her as the State representative to the TSC for the safety section.

1. Call to Order

David Maack called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Minutes of the February 8, 2018, meeting

PROTT MOVED, seconded by Payne, to approve the February 8, 2018, minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Fatalities since the last meeting

Lt. Dan Klatt reported two fatalities.

(a) 04/20/2018, 09:20 a.m. / I-94 /SB

- One-unit accident in which a car struck an excavator and burst into flames.
- Driver killed his girlfriend prior to this incident – unknown if he purposely went off the road. A witness said they saw a tire fly off the vehicle; however, this was not supported by evidence on the scene.
- Toxicology report still pending
- Result of death: blunt force trauma

(b) 04/29/2018, 09:25 p.m. / 17200 block of Durand Avenue (STH 11)

- One-unit accident involving a motorcycle
- Operator of motorcycle had been drinking at a bar; a friend tried to talk the victim into not driving before deciding to follow him home to make sure he got home safely
- The victim swerved on a curve, went off the road and flew quite a distance. He was taken to Froedtert where he died a day or two later.
- Decedent was not wearing a helmet and sustained blunt force injuries to head and torso.
- Toxicology report still pending; it's anticipated that intoxication will be the cause of death.

A fatality occurring on 04/10/2018 in Burlington was mentioned by Rick Olig.

Payne stated that the decedent apparently either jumped or was thrown from a car. The person died at Froedtert; autopsy findings are pending. This may be a homicide and not a traffic accident. Payne stated that charges (specifics unknown) have been filed with District Attorney's Office.

4. Upcoming construction projects

Prott indicated that although there have been some issues with the bedrock on CTH "MM", project work is on schedule for the most part.

Blackwood noted the following:

- STH 38 and CTH "MM" project - relocating intersection slightly to the west and signal improvements will be made
- CTH "K" roundabout is getting friction surface treatment, which hopefully will help reduce the wet weather crash trend at this location
- STH 20/CTH "C" roundabout - scheduled to be completed this Fall.
- USH 45 project- scheduled to be completed this Fall
- Ongoing work on the Interstate:
 - Interstate work from STH 142 to CTH "G", including STH 11, CTH "K", CTH "KR" interchange
 - East and West Frontage Roads on CTH "K" - traffic signal on East Frontage will be installed
 - Frontage roads between CTH "KR" and STH 20 and the road segment between STH 20 and Renaissance, both scheduled to be completed in June of this year.

- Work will then begin on the following: CTH “H”, south of STH 20; Braun Road, between East Frontage Road and CTH “H”; and extension of International Drive, south of STH 20 to 11

5. **Review of Monthly Safety Campaign**

Maack commented that the Commission members’ feedback regarding posters is appreciated. All is going with the campaign and radio interviews.

6. **Review and discussion of the Racine County Anatomy of Traffic Safety Report**

There was no discussion of the report, as it has not yet been completed.

Olig noted the following:

- The “Click it or Ticket” mobilization is May 21-June 3.
There is an option to sign up online. By completing and submitting the report (available in TraCS), indicating the type and number of tickets issued, there is an opportunity to win equipment grant money.
- A free “Designing for Pedestrian Safety” course will be offered in Madison on June 5 and 6 and in Waukesha on June 7 and 8.
- The annual Governor’s Conference on Highway Safety will be held on August 21-23. There will be crash report and TraCS report training at the pre-conference, and the law enforcement luncheon will be held at noon on August 23.
- Wisconsin Act 347: an amendment affecting law enforcement was enacted as 346.04(2t) to include obedience to unmarked police vehicles in a pursuit.

7. **Review and discussion of the Community Maps portal as presented by Rick Olig, BOTS Law Enforcement Liaison/Consultant**

Olig summarized a number of changes made to community maps. The search feature, which is accessible by the public, allows car deer crashes to be taken in and out— affects the crash numbers, if left in. The most notable changes have been in advanced features. The calendar view was improved— no longer have to manually type in dates. A crash “flag” for teen drivers who have been involved in crashes has been added. The flag automatically pulls drivers between 16-19 years of age who were involved in an accident. By selecting a county of choice, selecting the parameters (timeframes, dates, etc.), and centering on it, crash numbers at a specific location will be displayed. In lieu of doing a manual search or going back into the system, the actual crash report may be viewed. This feature may be used to do predictive analytics to foresee the likelihood of where crashes will occur. It may also be a helpful aid in determining the number of crashes occurring at a given construction site or area for which numerous safety concerns from the public have been expressed.

8. **Review, discussion and possible recommendation concerning a request from the public sector to reduce the speed limit on County Trunk Highway (CTH) G, between Three Mile Road and Four Mile Road, bordering the Village of Caledonia and the Village of Wind Point**

Pratt stated that County Engineering staff is investigating this area of public concern. Larsen commented that Village of Caledonia PD hasn't received a lot of complaints about accidents at this location; the biggest complaint has been that the Wind Point PD is continually enforcing this area.

LARSEN MOVED, seconded by Pratt, to receive and file the information. No further action from the Commission is necessary.

9. Around the Table

Blackwood stated that she has enjoyed working with the Commission and will continue to attend Racine County TSC meetings. She noted that her job with Foxconn will primarily involve connected vehicles and autonomous vehicles on Wisconsin roadways.

Olig noted that he attended a GM session regarding autonomous vehicles that had no steering wheels and, consequently, didn't provide an option for one to take over the driving manually.

10. Next meeting: September 13, 2018

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Maack adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m. .