



MEMORANDUM

TO: TPB Technical Committee
FROM: Jon Schermann, TPB Systems Performance Analysis Manager
SUBJECT: Safety Recommendations
DATE: May 29, 2020

This document describes the approach and provides a summary of the safety recommendations that will go to the TPB in June. Work on these recommendations is ongoing and feedback from the Technical Committee will be incorporated into the materials before they are submitted to the TPB. Also included in this document is an update to the schedule provided in last month's memo for Technical Committee Item 4.

DISCUSSION

Over the last several months, the Technical Committee has received briefings on the findings of the TPB regional roadway safety study led by Cambridge Systematics. This study has uncovered a complex set of factors that are contributing to the unacceptably high numbers of fatal and serious injury crashes in the region. It was also discovered that the types of actions that must be implemented to reduce the number of deaths on our roadways are numerous and fall under the auspices of many different agencies and levels of government. While the TPB can directly implement a few of these actions, most of them are outside the TPB's direct control. For these actions, the TPB must play a supporting and encouraging role. It is also clear that bending the curve in the right direction will require sustained effort over a long time period.

TPB ADOPTS A RESOLUTION

The recommendation is for the TPB to adopt a resolution that reaffirms road user safety as a top priority and commits to working individually and/or collectively to implementing any or all safety measures developed as part of the study. An addendum to the resolution (under development) will provide a concise list of all the countermeasures identified in the study and through outreach. This addendum is currently under development.

The resolution will also call for initiating a Regional Roadway Safety Program to develop/implement/evaluate/otherwise assist (such as enhancing safety planning capability) its member jurisdictions and the region implement projects, programs or policies targeted to improve safety outcomes for all roadway users. The program will be loosely modeled on the Transportation Land-Use Connection (TLC) program with assistance from the three state DOTs. Roughly \$250,000 is available for fiscal year 2021.

Types of projects that could be funded through the regional safety program could include:

- assisting jurisdictions with crash data analysis;
- providing consultant services to facilitate local road safety audits;

- supporting additional “Street Smart-like” activities with street teams and Virtual Reality car for member jurisdictions;
- supporting more sobriety checkpoints;
- supporting increased enforcement of DUI, distracted driving, speeding, and seat belt laws;
- supporting or sponsoring a regional “safest driver” contest (along the lines of what San Antonio did in 2018);
- supporting jurisdictional level roadway safety plans; and
- facilitating educational outreach on safety, among others.

In addition, the TPB will support continued regional collaboration to improve roadway safety through consideration of additional ideas to improve roadway safety including:

- encouraging member jurisdictions to adopt Vision Zero policies;
- encouraging member jurisdictions to develop local roadway safety plans;
- encouraging adoption of primary seat belt legislation in each member state;
- encouraging more widespread use of ignition interlock devices for impaired driving offenders;
- encouraging increased DUI testing;
- encouraging continued provision of late-night transit options at local and regional levels;
- supporting or enhancing alternative transportation programs like Sober Ride; and
- facilitating/conducting regional safety peer exchanges and/or training programs.

UPDATED SCHEDULE OF SAFETY BRIEFINGS TO THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AND THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

Table 1 shows the current schedule for when the safety study results as well as other safety-related agenda items (such as the next round of annual regional highway safety targets) will be presented to the TPB and the Technical Committee.

Table 1: Tentative CY 2020 Safety Agenda Items

Month	Technical Committee	Transportation Planning Board
June 2020	Draft Final Safety Recommendations	Safety Recommendations
July 2020	Safety Resolution Update	Adopt Safety Resolution
September 2020	Methodology for PBPP Highway Safety Targets State DOT Safety Target Updates	
October 2020	State DOT Safety Target Updates Staff Proposed Regional Safety Targets	
November 2020	Staff Recommended Regional Safety Targets	Staff Recommended Regional Safety Targets
December 2020		Adopt Regional Safety Targets

It is anticipated that the schedule outlined above will be updated based on feedback from the Technical Committee and TPB members.