

**PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY TEAM**  
**Michigan State Police Headquarters**  
**333 South Grand Avenue, Lansing, Michigan**  
**September 17, 2013**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Deirdre Thompson, Laura Rowen, David Morena, Debra Alfonso, John Lindenmayer, Josh DeBruyn, Dean Kanitz, Carol Reagan, and Lynnette Firman.

**GTSAC Meeting Updates:** Parent tool kit for Level 1 drivers will be delivered on October 23, 2013, with lesson plans explaining to start with low-volume low-speed roads and progress up through freeway driving. Pedestrian and Bicycle safety is mentioned throughout the lesson. There will be a \*.PDF, Web site/e-version and Facebook page.

**Bicycle Communities:** In 2004-2005, Greg Johnson created a non-motorized advisory committee in the Metro Region. This year they started one for each region. Each event started with a ride followed with a meeting discussing non-motorized safety. This was done to bring together the communities to discuss safety and connectivity. This is a great forum to not only improve relationships but to improve facilities. *Questions/Comments:* There could be potential to work with initiatives from MDCH (Safe Kids Coordinators). Future meetings will take place in the region offices with webinar capabilities.

**Action Plan:** When and how are the action plans going to be approved for use? How are these plans going to be distributed effectively? Each MDOT region is going to be creating their own action plan. What avenues of media distribution do we have and what can be done? Mr. Chad Teachout was requested to research this media effort.

**Best Practices (Traffic Safety Summit Discussion):** Potential award nomination possibilities: Ann Arbor, Lansing, Tri-County Area, MSU, City of Detroit. Talk with Anne Readett about past awards. John and Josh to look into Detroit numbers and Deirdre into MSU. Houghton-Hancock, is also another community to research. Not all action teams are writing an award. *Questions/Comments:* Why not send areas we know have done something positive and have them submit with data and information? Due date is November 1, 2013 for award nominations.

**Legislation/Policy:** HB-4792 & 4799. This last week John Lindenmayer had a meeting about vulnerable users with the criminal justice committee. There were over twenty people who testified at this meeting and there were no comments. Mr. Lindenmayer will be meeting to talk about "safe passing" on September 18, 2013. *Questions/Comments:* Raising speed limits and what will be the impact on the national bicycle routes? Other states where US-2 runs already have higher speeds, but what are the geometrics, volume and vehicle cross-sections?

**Focus Communities:** It would be good to provide a certificate or award to communities making progress through their policies and projects in reducing ped/bike crashes. Looking to quantify change by putting in facilities, are we effecting change?

**Pedestrian Safety Open Discussion:** Time change issues to be discussed between group members before next meeting. Remaining comments and questions, please bring to next meeting.

**Safe Passing Distance Open Discussion:** LMB is interested in still developing a clear definition of what a safety distance is and how to perform the maneuver of passing with a vehicle. Three foot passing is a minimum in some scenarios, but some are using four and five feet. Some agencies are looking at speed differentials but this may be confusing. There is a need to look at policies to pass in no passing zones for vehicles passing bicycles. Rep. McBroom is the key sponsor of safe passing. In a few weeks, MDOT will be making a new bicycle safety video.

**Traffic Safety Summit Awards:** Suggestions for people and/or communities, please submit by the end of the second week of October 2013.

**November Meeting Agenda Items:** - Pedestrian safety groups and organizations, pedestrian safety, Jeff Bagdade OPUS International, Dates and times for next year (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of odd number months for 2014), communication strategies discussion, MDOT video and radio PSA.