



Texas Statewide Pedestrian Safety Forum

Austin, Texas – Norris Conference Center
July 12, 2018



The Texas Statewide Pedestrian Safety Forum is intended to improve pedestrian safety through information sharing, collaboration, and education and outreach to the Texas Statewide Pedestrian Safety Coalition members, to pedestrian safety stakeholders, and to citizens of Texas.



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| 8:00 - 9:00 | On-Site Registration | Red Oak Ballroom |
| 9:00 - 9:10 | Welcoming Remarks | Red Oak Ballroom |
| 9:10 - 9:40 | Pedestrian Safety Perspectives in Texas
<i>Pedestrian safety is a priority in the State of Texas. Panelists will discuss the activities that are happening at the state level and how the Strategic Highway Safety Plan can be used to guide pedestrian safety initiatives in Texas.</i>
<i>Terry Pence, Texas Department of Transportation</i>
<i>Robert Wunderlich, Texas A&M Transportation Institute</i> | Red Oak Ballroom |
| 9:40 - 9:50 | Stakeholder Updates
<i>Pedestrian safety stakeholders will provide 1-minute presentations highlighting pedestrian safety initiatives/projects.</i> | Red Oak Ballroom |
| 9:50 - 10:50 | Planning for Pedestrian Safety in a Community
<i>From large regions to small cities, pedestrian safety planning is taking place throughout the State of Texas. Panelists will share lessons learned, challenges and other key takeaways from their experience developing pedestrian safety plans for their communities.</i>
<i>James Robertson, Lee Engineering / College Station</i>
When Your Urban Core Arrives, University Drive in College Station, TX
<i>Laura Dierenfield, City of Austin</i>
The Making of Austin's Pedestrian Safety Action Plan
<i>Kevin Kokes, North Central Texas Council of Governments</i>
Pedestrian Safety in North Texas | Red Oak Ballroom |
| 10:50 - 11:00 | Stakeholder Updates
<i>Pedestrian Safety Stakeholders will provide 1-minute presentations highlighting pedestrian safety initiatives/projects.</i> | Red Oak Ballroom |
| 11:00 - 11:15 | Break/Networking | |

11:15 - 11:45	Keynote Speaker <i>Pedestrian safety activities not only occur in Texas but also in the surrounding region and across the United States. Our keynote speaker will share information about NHTSA's pedestrian safety approach as well as discuss NHTSA led activities and projects within NHTSA Region 6.</i> <i>Maggi Gunnels</i> Region 6 Director, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	
11:45 - 12:45	Lunch/Networking	Red Oak Ballroom
12:45 - 12:55	Stakeholder Updates <i>Pedestrian safety stakeholders will provide 1-minute presentations highlighting pedestrian safety initiatives/projects.</i>	Red Oak Ballroom
12:55 - 1:55	Approaches to Pedestrian Safety <i>Each of the following breakout sessions focuses on an important aspect of pedestrian safety. In each breakout, panelists will each present for 7-10 minutes and the last half of the session will feature a moderated discussion with the audience.</i> <i>Innovative Data Use for Pedestrian Safety</i> <i>Shawn Turner, Texas A&M Transportation Institute</i> Latest and Greatest Methods to Measure & Monitor Pedestrian Travel <i>Carly Haithcock, Toole Design Group / City of Austin</i> Using Data to Move from Reactive to Proactive about Pedestrian Safety <i>Minh Le, Texas A&M Transportation Institute</i> Findings from Dallas District Pedestrian Crash Analysis	Red Oak Ballroom
	<i>Engineering and Design Countermeasures for Pedestrian Safety</i> <i>Elizabeth Hilton, Federal Highway Administration</i> Every Day Counts: Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian (STEP) <i>Karen Lorenzini, Texas Department of Transportation</i> Engineering Pedestrian Safety on I-35: Step-By-Step <i>Heyden Walker Black, Black + Vernooy</i> Urban Design Principles for Safety	Live Oak Room
	<i>Policy, Laws and Legislation Affecting Pedestrian Safety</i> <i>Greg Griffin, Texas A&M Transportation Institute</i> Activity-Friendly Communities: If You Build It, Will They Walk? <i>Sergeant Michael Barger, Austin Police Department</i> Right or Wrong, the Pedestrian Loses and the Driver will Live with Guilt <i>Diane Dohm, Houston-Galveston Area Council</i> Policies and Pedestrians	Cypress Room
1:55 - 2:10	Break/Networking	Red Oak Ballroom

2:10 - 3:30 Identifying Activities to Improve Pedestrian Safety

This session offers an opportunity for participants to provide further input into the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) by joining together to discuss the actions necessary to implement the countermeasures listed below.

Strategy 1: Improve driver and pedestrian safety awareness and behavior

Red Oak Ballroom

1D- Reduce crashes involving impaired and distracted pedestrians.

1E - Implement a campaign about drugged, drunk walking. Identify alternatives to impaired walking.

Strategy 2: Reduce pedestrian crashes on urban arterials and local roadways

Live Oak Room

2D - Use leading or exclusive pedestrian intervals at signalized intersections, at high pedestrian use signaled intersections, and pedestrian push button locations.

2F - Disseminate information and training on effectiveness and appropriateness of pedestrian traffic control measures.

2G - Disseminate information on the connection between urban form and safety outcomes. Encourage incorporation into local land use planning and review.

2H - Disseminate information on FHWA's Every Day Counts Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian for countermeasures for improving pedestrian safety.

Strategy 4: Improve pedestrian networks

Cypress Room

4B - Develop policies to analyze pedestrian levels of service, delay, and network connectivity as part of project development.

4C - Ensure opportunities for crossing arterials/highways safely. Consider the overall pedestrian network and travel desire lines.

4D - Create connected pedestrian networks and remove barriers to pedestrian travel.

Strategy 5: Improve pedestrian involved crash reporting

Red Oak Ballroom

5A - Work to include crash typing in the pedestrian crash reporting. Use the Pedestrian Crash Analysis Tool (PBCAT) for categories on crash typing.

Strategy 7: Develop strategic pedestrian safety plans tailored to local conditions

Red Oak Ballroom

7b - Develop a Statewide Pedestrian Safety Action Plan in conjunction with the Texas Statewide Pedestrian Safety Coalition.

3:10 - 3:30 Report Out

Participants will "report out" findings from the previous breakout session.

3:30 Adjourn

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Speaker Bio's

Terry Pence, Texas Department of Transportation

Terry Pence has worked for the Texas Department of Transportation, Traffic Safety Program for over 36 years. He is currently the Traffic Safety Section Director in the Traffic Operations Division. Terry previously served as Programs Director, Planner, and Program Manager in the Traffic Safety Section. Terry represents TxDOT on a number of task forces and committees including the Strategic Highway Safety Plan Management Team, State Child Fatality Review Team, AASHTO Committee on Safety, and the Texas Impaired Driving Task Force. Terry has a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management from the University of Texas.

Robert Wunderlich, Texas A&M Transportation Institute

Mr. Wunderlich is the Director of the Center for Transportation Safety at the Texas A&M Transportation Institute. In that role, he is responsible for leading the Center's efforts in traffic safety research, policy analysis, education, and outreach. Over the past three years, much of Mr. Wunderlich's work has focused on understanding the factors associated with traffic fatalities and injuries at the state and national levels and finding ways to lower them. He was a researcher on NCHRP 17-67, *Identification of Factors Contributing to the Decline of Traffic Fatalities in the United States* and led an analysis of the lives saved and return-on-investment for safety projects and programs in Texas. He is currently leading TTI's work in assisting TxDOT with developing and implementing the Texas Strategic Highway Safety plan.

James Robertson, Lee Engineering (formerly with City of College Station)

Dr. Robertson has over 9 years of cumulative experience in transportation research, municipal traffic engineering, and engineering consulting. Dr. Robertson's areas of expertise include transportation safety, active transportation, human factors, traffic signal systems, signs and markings, and transportation planning. He specifically enjoys solving problems related to the safety and operation of facilities that include people walking and people bicycling. Dr. Robertson is a 2010 Eno Fellow, 2012 Eisenhower Fellow, and 2015 Leadership ITE Graduate. He has a BA in psychology from the University of Notre Dame (2007), a BS in Civil Engineering from Michigan State University (2008), and a MS/PhD in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University (2011 and 2014).

Laura Dierenfield, City of Austin

Ms. Dierenfield leads the Austin Transportation Department's Active Transportation and Street Design Division with a focus on improving mobility for everyone in Austin by providing safer and more comfortable options for bicycling, walking and access to transit. She brings 17 years of experience in transportation planning, public policy and community-based non-profit organizational leadership. Her team delivers quick build multimodal street design on the order of 30-40 projects per year. Recent successes in the past year include completion of over 68 safer pedestrian crossings and 30+ more miles of the city's bicycle network. Ms. Dierenfield's team has also ushered in dozens of new community-based events and classes that educate and encourage the use of active modes such as weekly walking programs, learn to ride classes and transit training in partnership with Capital Metro. The Division focuses on delivering a combination of active transportation infrastructure improvements and with encouragement and education intended to contribute to a virtuous mobility cycle that facilitates a shift of single-occupant motor vehicle trips to walking, bicycling, transit and shared car, resulting in a more capacity for moving people and goods safely and reliably in a growing and thriving city like Austin.

Kevin Kokes, North Central Texas Council of Governments

Mr. Kokes is a Principal Transportation Planner with the Transportation Department of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG). NCTCOG serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the 12-county Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area with a current population of 7.2 million and is forecasted to grow to 11.2 million by 2045. At NCTCOG, Mr. Kokes oversees regional Active Transportation planning activities with extensive coordination with local governments throughout the metropolitan area. Significant programs and projects currently underway at NCTCOG include several active transportation planning studies, oversight of alignment and preliminary engineering activities for several multi-jurisdiction Regional Veloweb trail corridors, active transportation funding programs and MPO call for projects, regional safety and education programs and workshops, quarterly meetings of the regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), ongoing pedestrian-bicycle traffic monitoring (count) program, a FTA funded study of pedestrian connections to twenty-eight Dallas Area Rapid Transit light rail stations, and the preparation of a regional Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, which is now underway.

Maggi Gunnell, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Dr. Gunnells is Associate Administrator for Regional Operations and Program Delivery at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and is the Acting Regional Administrator for NHTSA Region 6 (that includes Texas!). Dr. Gunnells came to the United States Department of Transportation in 2002, after working more than fifteen years in clinical care, emergency and trauma program administration, and in academia, in Texas and Oregon. Dr. Gunnells has served more than a decade in the Federal Senior Executive Service. Her strong interest in pedestrian safety dates back to her doctoral work in Oregon about twenty years ago – where she explored social and environmental factors for pedestrian injury using GIS methods (the first version of GIS!). Dr. Gunnells resides in Texas with her family, and enjoys wildlife photography, kayaking and outdoor adventure.

Shawn Turner, Texas A&M Transportation Institute

Mr. Turner is a Senior Research Engineer at the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, where he has conducted applied research for over 26 years. Mr. Turner has done research in pedestrian and bicyclist transportation related to usage monitoring, data collection and quality assurance, planning methods and tools, and safety and behavioral evaluations.

Carli Haithcock, Toole Design Group

Ms. Haithcock is a street designer with Toole Design Group. She works on-site with the City of Austin's Active Transportation and Street Design Division. She assists city staff in designing and implementing the bikeways, pedestrian, Safe Routes to School, and transit improvements funded by the 2016 Mobility Bond. Ms. Haithcock also served the on the City of Austin's Pedestrian Advisory Council.

Minh Le, Texas A&M Transportation Institute

Mr. Le is an Associate Research Engineer and the Dallas Program Manager with the Research and Implementation Division of Texas A&M Transportation Institute. He received his B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering from University of Minnesota and Arkansas, respectively. He has a broad background in traffic engineering and transportation planning at TTI and from his previous experience as a consultant and at an MPO. Mr. Le works on mobility performance measures, roadway detector monitoring programs, and safety analyses including pedestrians, truck-lane restrictions, HOV/managed lanes, variable speed limits, and adaptive traffic signals. His interests include traffic operations, intelligent transportation systems, traffic modeling, performance measures, access management, and safety.

Elizabeth Hilton, Federal Highway Administration

Ms. Hilton is a geometric design engineer in the Federal Highway Administration's Office of Infrastructure where she provides technical expertise on geometric, bicycle, pedestrian and accessible design. Ms. Hilton is a former chair of TRB's Design Section and Geometric Design Committee and represents FHWA on the AASHTO Technical Committee on Geometric Design.

Karen Lorenzini P.E., Texas Department of Transportation

Ms. Lorenzini serves as the Mobility35/I-35 Program Manager for the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District. Six I-35 projects in the Austin Metropolitan Area are currently in construction, three completed, one substantially complete, and two additional projects beginning construction in winter 2018/2019. Over 30 additional projects are envisioned based upon the Mobility35 Implementation Plan completed in 2014. Previously, Ms. Lorenzini served as an Associate Research Engineer at the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) in the Austin office. Prior to TTI, she worked in the private sector supporting a variety of public agencies, primarily TxDOT. Ms. Lorenzini lives in Austin with her husband and two girls, and she works actively to improve public spaces in her neighborhood.

Heyden Walker Black CNU-A, Black & Vernooy

Ms. Black Walker is an urban planner with Black + Vernooy, former teacher, and mother of two young adults in Austin, Texas. She co-founded Reconnect Austin, a community-based call to lower and cover the main lanes of I-35, creating a vision for a multimodal corridor that reconnects communities. Ms. Walker Black holds a Masters in Community and Regional Planning from UT-Austin and serves on the City of Austin Pedestrian Advisory Council, Multimodal Community Advisory Committee, Bond Corridor Focus Group; the Congress for the New Urbanism; VisionZeroATX; and Walk Austin. Ms. Walker Black is a member of the Statewide Pedestrian Safety Coalition and is a 2016 Fellow of the National Walking College.

Greg Griffin, Texas A&M Transportation Institute

Mr. Griffin is an Assistant Research Scientist with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, researching active transportation and public engagement in planning. He is also a PhD candidate in Community and Regional Planning at The University of Texas at Austin, and Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Graduate Fellow. Mr. Griffin started working as a planner in Central Texas in 2002, and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Sergeant Michael Barger, Austin Police Department

Sergeant Barger has been in Law Enforcement for the last 27 years. Early in his career, he served as a Crash Investigator and responded to fatality crashes that occurred throughout the city of Austin. Many of the crashes that he handled have been pedestrian vs. vehicle crashes. Sergeant Barger has been assigned to the Austin Police Department Highway Enforcement Command for the past three years, where he has attempted to assist in the mitigation of pedestrian dangers. During the three years that Sergeant Barger has been assigned to the Highway Enforcement Command, he has observed that the number of pedestrian fatalities in the Austin area is unacceptably high.

Diane Dohm, Houston-Galveston Area Council

Ms. Dohm is a Senior Planner at the Houston-Galveston Area Council, where she manages the pedestrian and bicycle planning program. Ms. Dohm has experience with active transportation planning at the regional, county, and city levels. Prior to H-GAC, she worked at ChangeLab Solutions where she developed model policies, fact sheets, and guides for local and state entities across the U.S.