



South Louisiana Chapter
New Orleans

**Safe Community Coalition Meeting Minutes
(LHSC Grant / NHTSA Model
Combined GNO Traffic Safety Committee)
January 19, 2011**

The meeting was held Regional Transportation Management Center, NOLA. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Steve Strength, Coalition Chairman, at about 12 noon. Mr. Chris Laborde led the group in the Invocation and Mr. Strength led the Pledge of Allegiance. Self introductions were held and the following were present:

Jamie Ainsworth, LA Highway Safety Commission, jamie.ainsworth@dps.la.gov
Jamie Andrepont, East Jefferson YMCA jamiea@ymcaneworleans.org
Jacob Benfield, Alliance Transportation Group ibenfield@emailatg.com
Del Bosarge, Jefferson Parish Traffic Engineering dbosarge@jeffparish.net
Norma Broussard, Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office, nbroussard@jpda.us
Warren Broussard, Greater Baton Rouge Safe Community Coalition koolhog1@cox.net
Kevin Brown, Radio Disney Kevin.a.brown@disney.com
Richard Brown, KPBA, richardbrown02@hotmail.com
Ellis Cattan, Kansas City Southern Railroad & Operation Lifesaver illiscattan@yahoo.com
Bridget Gardner, LSU Trauma Center bgardn@lsuhsc.edu
Jeff Haydel, Motorcycle Awareness Campaign, hayjeff1967@yahoo.com
Beth Inbau, National Safety Council, South Louisiana Chapter beth@metrosafety.org
Dan Jatres, Regional Planning Commission djatres@norpc.org
Dan Kiff, LSU Trauma Center dkiff@lsuhsc.edu
Chris Laborde, Regional Planning Commission, claborde@norpc.org
Amanda McInnis, East Jefferson YMCA amandam@ymcaneworleans.org
Michael McKenzie, 34 Ways Foundation mikemckenzie@34waysfoundation.org
Larry Ourso, Department of Public Safety larry.ourso@dps.la.gov
Don Redman, AAA dredman@aaamissouri.com
Scott Reed, Walmart streed@wal-mart.com
Ed Reeder, TRI-SOW (Sober on Wheels, Sober on Water, Speak Out Why) edreeder@ymail.com
Karla Sibille, LA Department of Transportation & Development, karla.sibille@la.gov
Sgt. John Simmons, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office jms_6896@yahoo.com
Luke Strack, East Jefferson General Hospital EMS, lstrack@eigh.org
Steve Strength, LA Department of Transportation & Development steve.strength@la.gov
Betsey Tramonte, Federal Highway Administration betsey.tramonte@dot.gov
Bill Triay, Mayor's Military Action Committee, bt@actionpress.com
Michelle Killian-Tuggle, Motorcycle Awareness Campaign, michelle.killian@clearchannel.com

A draft of the minutes from the November meeting was distributed. A correction was suggested to refer to intersections such as Causeway & Veterans as "high crash locations" or "intersections of interest". Same correction was made to the 1/19/11 agenda. Mr. Strength submitted the DOTD Agency Report for 1/2011, which will be included in the minutes.



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ACTION ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

-Commodities

-*Ms. Inbau said that estimates for the buckle up key chains are being collected.

-High Crash Intersections

-*Mr. Strength asked that the Road Safety Assessment be postponed until the road construction in the area is completed.

-Child Safety Seat Technician Training

-*Ms. Gardner said that the training in Houma was completed last week and she will send notices of upcoming training dates and locations. She added that the fitting station is open at Troop B on Wednesdays from 1 – 4 pm, rain or shine. She said that if someone needs an appointment, have them call 504-471-2775. She said that 13 other fitting station events are scheduled and that a flyer will be sent electronically to Mr. Maher so it can be distributed to the Coalition.

-Capt. Saizan added that he has been meeting with area fire chiefs to encourage them to train their fire fighters so fitting stations can be located throughout the area at fire stations. He has received lots of interest.

-*Ms. Killian-Tuggle suggested that businesses may pay to advertise/sponsor people to attend the technician training. She and Ms. Gardner agreed to meet about the idea.

-*Mr. Bertholot was not in attendance to report on the PSAs about fitting stations.

-Mock Crash Handbook

-Ms. Gardner said she delivered the flash drive containing the handbook she developed to Troop B for Mr. Maher to pickup. However, Mr. Maher has been out of the office.

-*Mr. Maher will send it to Mr. Triay to get a quote on printing.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES OF THE COALITION

-Friday, 4/29/11, Safety Night at Zephyr Field. Mr. Haydel described the upcoming event. 12 tables will be available to distribute literature. Anyone interested should contact him. Discounted tickets to the game may also be available.

REPORTS

-SELA DWI Task Force. Ms. Broussard reported on the upcoming LDAA/SELA training on 1/20/11. It will be an all-day seminar. Over 100 have already enrolled. She also reported that Mr. J.J. Williams stepped down as chair of the Task Force and a new chair has not been named.

-Aggressive Driving Task Force. Ms. Inbau reported that the group has not met since its initial meeting.

-Speed Workshop. Capt. Saizan reported that another workshop is scheduled for March. He added that the LSP is now using air patrols on I-55 and US 61. Plans include expanding to I-10 from New Orleans East to the north shore. Signs are posted.

-Impaired Driving Emphasis Area. Ms. Sibille and Ms. Broussard reported that an action plan was developed by the group but they are considering adding drugs. Therefore, another meeting will be planned soon. Ms. Broussard announced that the “No Refusal” program is now full-time in Jefferson



Parish. Program enhancements include training jail staff to draw blood so that hospital/EMS personnel will not be required. She said that no additional legislation is needed to spread the program state-wide and the Governor's DWI Task Force will meet tomorrow to discuss plans. She added that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration used Louisiana's "No Refusal" model to encourage other states to develop programs. Capt. Saizan reported that sobriety checkpoints are manpower-intensive, requiring 20-30 people. However, they are planned all over the state by LSP and local law enforcement agencies.

-Young Drivers Emphasis Area. Ms. Sibille reported that the group's action plan has been submitted.

-Distracted Driving Task Force. Ms. Tramonte reported that LSU is planning to analyze data for all the emphasis areas and task forces and she will ask them to make a presentation at an upcoming Who Dat meeting or the Traffic Safety Summit planned for 6/15/11.

Mr. Strength encouraged increased involvement of Who Dat members on these task forces and groups. He added that the New Orleans Police Department data submission to the state is still problematic. The lack of accurate crash data prevents N.O. from receiving funds (grants and infrastructure funds) to address deficiencies.

CONTRACTURAL SERVICES / MINI-GRANTS

-*Parents' Guide: LA Laws Effecting Juveniles. Ms. Inbau reported that Mr. Ron Harris is still interested in revising and printing the guides. However, she had not received a revised contract. The group asked her to pursue the contract so the guides would be available for the Summit in June.

NEW BUSINESS

-*Mr. Berthelot was not in attendance to discuss plans for WHNO-TV to submit a mini-grant request.

-St. Stephen Lutheran Church Family Safety Day. Ms Inbau announced plans for the event scheduled for Saturday, 1/22/11, from 10 am – 1 pm. Who Dat organizations already committed were MAC, Operation Lifesaver, LA State Police, National Safety Council, Office of Injury Prevention, Child Passenger Task Force.

-*Ms. Inbau requested help in setting up Facebook and Twitter for Who Dat. Mr. Brown agreed to help.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Mr. Ourso distributed information about the motorcycle safety training which includes a 5-hour classroom component and 10 skills tests. His group will provide the motorcycles for those who do not have them. However, he is looking for locations. He needs about 220 x 150 ft unobstructed paved area for the skills. Visit www.lsp.org for dates and locations of training.

-Mr. Brown invited anyone interested in recording an episode of "Kids Concern" on Radio Disney to meet with him. The show airs at 6:30 am on Saturdays, but the interviews are pre-recorded at their studio in Metairie.



-Mr. Reeder announced that he lost his son to a drunk driver in 2002 and that he developed a 20 minute presentation. He established TRI-SOW (Sober on Wheels, Sober on Water, Speak Out Why).

-Dates for upcoming Who Dat meetings: 2/16/11, 3/16/11, 4/20/11, 5/18/11, Traffic Safety Summit 6/15/11, 7/20/11, 8/17/11, 9/21/11, 10/19/11, 11/16/11, no December meeting.

-School Bus Meeting. Today, following the Who Dat meeting. Mr. Strength announced that the City of Kenner and citizens who received tickets from cameras in school buses have expressed concern about buses stopping on busy streets such as Airline Highway and Williams Blvd. Anyone wishing to attend can stay.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at about 1:15 pm. The next Who Dat meeting will be Wednesday, 2/16/11, 11:30 am, at RTMC. Lunch will be provided free to those who RSVP.

Action items (remaining & new) indicated by “*”.

Submitted by Beth Inbau, National Safety Council



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South Louisiana Chapter
New Orleans

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

ENGINEERING AGENCY REPORT

MONTH JANUARY YEAR 2011

DOTD District 02 Traffic Operations / New Orleans RTMC

Significant Projects – Huey P. Long Bridge Lane closures and bridge closures continue as structural work progresses. Shifting of traffic to the final configuration on the West Bank approach around LA 18 is taking place this month, and demolition of the East Bank overpasses has begun with Jefferson Highway traffic being handled at ground level with reconfiguration of three traffic signals and addition of two more.

I-10 / Causeway ramp work continues. Northbound exit Causeway to I-10 West has been reopened and the new Westbound to Northbound ramp over Veterans is in operation as well as the temporary entrance to westbound I-10 at Severn. Several weekend closures of Causeway to hang girders are scheduled in the coming weeks.

Striping maintenance project along US 90B (Crescent City Connection) included the reconfiguration of lakebound expressway lanes to give the Superdome entrance its own entrance lane occurred on December 19. This will have a significant positive effect on safety for traffic entering from Claiborne or the Superdome area.

I-10 Twin Span work continues with the connection of approaches on the new westbound span. Three lanes will be available in each direction beginning in July.

Significant Operations Activities – Ongoing meetings with US Army Corps of Engineers regarding truck operations for levee repair, upgrade work. Area has reached peak of 5000+ dump truck trips per day as of November 2010. Permit work to raise levee near Irish Bayou on I-10 is approximately 2/3 complete.

Significant Safety Achievements – Participated in training for Highway Safety Manual implementation in October and December 2010. Participated in 9th Conference on Access Management in Natchez in October 2010. Ongoing meetings with SHSP Implementation Team. LTAP Speed Management Workshop was held September 10 at the RTMC with another scheduled in St. Martinville in early spring 2011.

Scheduled Events – Deep South ITE meets February 24-25 in Baton Rouge (TTEC). Southern District ITE Annual Meeting in Lafayette (Hilton) April 10-13. www.sdite.org

Steven C. Strength, PE, PTOE

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