

Final



**South Louisiana Chapter
New Orleans**

Traffic Safety Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, March 19, 2008

The meeting was held in the 2nd floor Training Room in the ISH Bldg., 4713 Utica St., Metairie, LA. Complimentary lunch was served at 11:30 am. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Del Bosarge, Committee Chairman, at about 12:10 pm. Self introductions were held and the following were present:

Del Bosarge, Jefferson Parish Traffic Engineering, dbosarge@jeffparish.net
Paul Breaux, Gillis, Ellis, Baker Ins. Co., pbreaux@gillis.com
Dan Champagne, ISH, dan.champagne@ish1.com
Nick Danos, Broadmoor LLC, ndanos@broadmoorllc.com
Sgt. Monte Davis, Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office, davism@opcsso.org
Marc Ducote, Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, mcducote@bellsouth.net
John Exnicios, Krebs, LaSalle, Lemieux Consultants, exnicios@klconsultants.com
Terry Fairchild, Naval Support Activity, terry.fairchild@navy.mil
Beth Inbau, National Safety Council, South LA Chapter, beth@metrosafety.org
Dan Jatres, Regional Planning Commission, djatres@norpc.org
Deborah O'Quinn, NSC Instructor, lpndeborah@cox.net
Sgt. John Pollard, St. Charles Sheriff's Office, jpollard@stcharlessheriff.org
Sgt. Antoine Rodrigue Jr., Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office, antoine-rodrigue@lpsso.net
Karla Sibille, DOTD, LAOL, karlasibille@dotd.la.gov
Steve Strength, LA Dept. of Transportation & Dev., stevestrength@dotd.la.gov
Fred Terluin, Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, fterluinj@cox.net
Betsey Tramonte, Federal Highway Administration, Betsey.tramonte@fhwa.dot.gov
Lawrence Williams, Naval Support Activity, Lawrence.williams1@navy.mil

Minutes and notices will be posted on the website at www.metrosafety.org.

Mr. Strength reported on the Luling Bridge inspections, which will cause lane closures and on the Huey P. Long Bridge work. He also reported on the I-10 work near Bonnebel, which is scheduled to be completed by 10/08. The Causeway interchange work will begin soon. He reported on the Twin Span work, which will continue for a few more years. The weigh station on the north shore westbound is now open, which will prevent over-weight vehicles from crossing the Twin Spans. He said the new Transportation Center is being built and should open in 4/09.

Mr. Strength also reported that the task force has re-convened to address the vehicles going into the canal along Airline Hwy. Their report should be available in May. Mr. Dan Magri is leading the committee.

National Safety Council, South Louisiana Chapter

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Mr. Exnicios reported that the Causeway Commission is designing safety shoulders to be added to parts of the bridge. He also reported on the need for lighting under I-10 at Rosa in Metairie. He said that a bike path was not included in the I-10 project.

Red-light-running cameras were discussed again. Mr. Strength said that the city of Gretna will not be permitted to install cameras on state roadways, contrary to recent media reports.

Mr. Bosarge reported that the company who installed the cameras in Jefferson Parish will not publish crash statistics for 18 months.

Mr. Williams reported that the military is focusing on pedestrian safety and are trying to get a motorcycle safety course. They are beginning to collect data on motorcycle crashes both on and off the bases.

Mr. Jatres reported on the Safe Routes to School grants. The event is scheduled for the first week in November. RPC is sponsoring a design workshop on 4/28-30/08 on pedestrian and bike safety. He also reported that the Louisiana Safe Kids Coalition is planning an event on 5/17/08, but he does not have the details.

Ms. Tramonte reported that she is now working for the Federal Highway Administration. She is involved in the new rural safety initiative. There are federal and other grants available. There will be a workshop on 3/25/08 to help agencies learn how to apply for the grants.

Ms. Sibille announced that she is working for DOTD headquarters. She reported that 4/7-11/08 is National Workzone Awareness week. One orange traffic cone will be displayed in front of DOTD for each person killed in LA workzones in 2006 and that a press conference will be held on 4/12/08.

Ms. Sibille also reported that Operation Lifesaver will hold a press conference on 5/14/08 about a contest among universities for the best public service announcement.

Sgt. Pollard reported that a motorist was inching across a train track against the warning signs and was not severely injured in the crash.

Mr. Bosarge also reported that the Terry Parkway lane closures should be completed by Thanksgiving.

The meeting adjourned at about 1:15 pm.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, April 16, 2008**, 11:30 am for lunch.

Submitted by: Beth Inbau, NSC President & CEO

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