

TRCC Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes

1:30-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 25, 2023

MS Teams

1) Call to Order and Roll Call

- a) Larry Krantz called the meeting to order
- b) Roll Call and brief introduction for all attendees was performed

2) Opening Remarks

- a) Remarks from TRCC Chair, Michael Chacon, P.E., TxDOT Traffic Safety Division Director
 - i) Not present
- b) Remarks from TxDOT – Traffic Safety, Cathy Kratz, TxDOT – Traffic Safety Division Deputy Director
 - i) Cathy welcomed everyone and thanked them for attendance
- c) Remarks from TxDOT - Behavioral Traffic Safety, Letty von Rossum, TxDOT - Behavioral Traffic Safety Section Director
 - i) The TxDOT Behavioral Traffic Safety Request For Proposals for FY25 will be posted on November 10, 2023 and trainings will be held on November 15, 2023. All submissions must be received by January 4, 2024.
- d) Remarks from NHTSA, Becky Walker, Regional Program Manager, Region 6
 - i) NHTSA is in the project oversight period between 3HSP season, AGA season, and annual reports.
- e) Remarks from FHWA, Ed Burgos-Gomez, Safety/Traffic Operations Specialist
 - i) Not present
- f) Remarks from TRCC Moderator, Larry Krantz, TxDOT Traffic Records Program Manager
 - i) Approval of May 2023 TRCC Meeting Minutes
 - (1) Cpt Jodie Tullos motioned to approve the meeting minutes; Jim Markham seconded the motion. All approved. No opposed. Minutes were approved as presented.

3) TRCC Member Roundtable

- a) Citations Database (Cpt Jodie Tullos, TxDPS)

- i) Versaterm (new software) is now fully deployed across the state. Analysts are working on setting up automated dashboards, which will eventually be public facing to increase visibility.
 - ii) Using newest roadway inventory data as part of calculations to determine coverage needed for Troopers.
- b) CRIS Database (Jim Markham, TxDOT)
- i) Receiving good feedback regarding CRIS user interface from law enforcement at Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) conference
 - ii) Testing rollout of the map in crash module, which will allow law enforcement to click on a map interface and pinpoint the location of a crash. Up to fourteen fields will subsequently be populated based on the location selected.
 - iii) The [AASHTOWARE Safety](#) platform has been procured and is currently being tested
- c) Driver License Database (Valery Wakefield, TxDPS)
- i) State-to-state data sharing initiative went live 9/1/23
 - ii) Working with a grant that will allow courts to electronically report their submissions through a portal to decrease rate of errors and be in compliance with federal regulations. Several staff are educating courts on processes and compliance.
- d) EMS & Trauma Registry (Jia Benno, DSHS)
- i) Program has been moving to new EMS & Trauma Registry System, which will include the rollout of the Universal Unique Identifier (UUID). The team has been training EMS agencies and hospitals about the changes and what to expect with the new systems.
 - ii) Surveillance lags continue to be addressed through technical assistance (TA) provided to agencies experiencing delays. This TA has resulted in notable increases in the number of agencies submitting data and the number of records received.
 - iii) Preparing for upcoming EMS conference that take place in November. There will be a focus on child passenger safety, including how to safely transport children in an ambulance.
- e) Roadway Database (Jeremy Rogers, TxDOT)
- i) Since March (the last update), the roadway inventory data has been updated and the annual report was posted. Multiple years of data are available on the TxDOT website.
 - ii) RIVaL Project, which stands for the Roadway Inventory Video and Lidar: TxDOT is contracting with vendor to drive most roads in Texas (over 120,000 drivable miles). This project will obtain 360-degree imagery and Lidar, similar to Google Street View. There will be tools allow users to derive measurements for things like lane width, curve radius, etc. The vendor will extract out some assets and TxDOT will adhere that data to the roadway

network. The solicitation has been posted and will close in the next week or two; hoping to be under contract by January.

- f) Registration & Titles System (Patricia Ueckert, TxDMV)
 - i) If anyone has needs or expectations from the system, please let Tricia know.
- g) LEADRS (Brian Grubbs)
 - i) LEADRS is a program that originated in 2003 to streamline the DWI arrest process for law enforcement. 73% of DWI cases across Texas are alcohol-related only; 27% are drug related. The majority of people arrested for DWIs are white males between the ages of 21 – 39 years old. LEADRS tracks a variety of data, including the reason for traffic stops, make of vehicle, and agency and officer data.
 - ii) LEADRS does all the data capturing and analytics for the Texas Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) program. The program trains officers to determine if someone is under the influence of a drug other than alcohol, determine the drug category and develop enough probable cause to arrest subject on DWI. Data shows that DRE students have tested over 800 subjects and that in 99% of instances, DRE are correct in identifying a subject is under the influence of a drug and select the correct drug classification. 76% of individuals are positive for marijuana, 68% are positive for methamphetamine.
 - iii) There are about 600,000 crashes a year, of which approximately 25,000 are DWI-related. CRIS currently has toxicology results for 13%.
 - iv) LEADRS data captures reason for traffic stop and data shows that reasons for stopping those under influence of marijuana or central nervous system stimulants are similar to reasons for stopping those under the influence of alcohol. However, upon observation, the signs that the person under the influence is exhibiting are very different for those who've used alcohol and those who've used central nervous system stimulants. Officers can be trained to recognize these various signs.

4) TRCC Business

- a) STRAP Requirement Update (NHTSA)
 - i) Tom Bragan presented on the current STRAP requirements. The last STRAP assessment conducted in Texas occurred in 2018 and the requirements have since changed. States used to have to assess each traffic records system every 5 years to maintain eligibility for 405c funds. STRAP assessments are no longer required but NHTSA call still help states assess specific traffic records system.
 - ii) Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), Texas can undergo any of the following:
 - (1) Traditional assessment in STRAP
 - (2) NHTSA's self-assessment tool

- (3) State-designed self-assessment
- (4) “Choose Your Own Adventure” in STRAP (NHTSA’s customized assessment that would be tailored to Texas)
- iii) STRAP offers assessments in the following topics: crash, driver, vehicle, roadway, citation and adjudication, injury, TRCC management, strategic planning and data integration. States can choose any number and combination of topics.
- iv) Data and documents from the 2018 assessment are readily available for use in completing the upcoming questions. Over 90% of questions from the 2018 assessment are still included in the current assessment.
- v) Once Texas identifies what modules to be assessed (if any) and the desired timeline, TxDOT will submit documentation to NHTSA. Letty von Rossum and Becky Walker will coordinate and determine next steps.
- vi) The assessors are subject matter experts from other states. Two assessors are assigned for each question; the two assessors must agree on the response.
- b) Letter of Authorization process (Shipp)
 - i) Emily Martin will email representatives of the core traffic databases and ask them to complete the annual Letter of Authorization through Qualtrics (same process as last year).
- c) TSIS Timeline/Process Reminder (Shipp)
 - i) Eva Shipp and Emily Martin will meet with representatives from each core traffic database to discuss their sections of the TSIS document. Representatives will be provided with a template to complete and TTI will compile all the new data into a document for TxDOT.
- d) Reminder: TRCC Newsletter (Shipp)
 - i) If you have content for the newsletter, please let Eva Shipp or Emily Martin know. This can be information on projects your agency is working on or highlight work being done by other states.

5) Demonstration of Crash Narrative Deidentification Tool (Ramezani)

- a) Mahin Ramezani gave a demonstration of a new tool developed within the Crash Analytics program at TTI to automatically de-identify sensitive information (names, addresses, driver license numbers, etc.) in the crash narrative of the CR-3 Crash Report.
- b) The tool is functioning well but needs to continue to undergo testing to ensure the tool de-identifies all desired information and inserts the proper tag to indicate the type of data removed.
- c) The hope is that this tool can be shared with TxDOT and other users who have access to crash data.

6) Adjourn

- a) Next TRCC Meeting is at 1:30 p.m. on February 28, 2024
- b) Cpt Jodie Tullos motioned to adjourn the meeting. Valery Wakefield seconded the motion. All approved, no opposed.