Register for our Next Coalition Meeting June 28

The next Road to Zero Coalition meeting takes place from 1-4 p.m. (note new afternoon time to include our west coast members) June 28 at the National Transportation Safety Board Conference Center, 420 10th St. SW, in Washington, D.C. Chairman Robert Sumwalt, National Transportation Safety Board, will provide the opening remarks. This will be followed by a discussion of the new multi-modal safety data initiative presented by a representative of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

We will then talk about lessons learned from local to international levels. Marc Shotten of the World Bank will share lessons learned from the Decade of Action for Road Safety and the Sustainable Development Goals that create lasting impact. Next, some of the Road to Zero first year grant recipients who are wrapping up their grants will share news of their efforts and successes. We’ll also be hearing from The Ray, an 18 mile innovative interstate roadway outside of Atlanta serving as a testing ground for future transportation infrastructure. There will be a Q&A following the conversation.

The meeting will wrap up with Debbie Hersman on the long term vision of achieving zero roadway fatalities outlined in the Road to Zero report. You can register here. The meeting will also be available via webcast.

Exciting Update from a 2017 Grantee

We’re excited to share an update from one of our 2017 grant recipients. Through the Safe Streets Academy, a first of its kind technical assistance program funded by the Road to Zero Coalition, the National Complete Streets Coalition has been working with three cities - Lexington, KY; South Bend, IN; and Orlando, FL - to build skills in safer street design, tactical urbanism, and community engagement. After several planning workshops, all three cities applied these skills with on-the-ground demonstration projects that test techniques to slow down driving speeds and make their streets safer.

We look forward to seeing the results of these projects. We congratulate the National Complete Streets Coalition on its success thus far and best of luck with future projects!
Road to Zero Visits IIHS

We had 60+ Coalition members and transportation safety advocates take part in our visit to IIHS in May, where we had the opportunity to hear from new IIHS president, David Harkey. Coalition members toured the facility, learned about crash test dummies, child car seats and boosters, and had the opportunity to test new safety technology including automatic front and rear braking and self-parking. We even got to witness a front overlap crash of the new Hyundai Kona. Thank you to IIHS and all who attended!

Share Your Knowledge

We would like to introduce an opportunity for the coalition to get involved with the next generation of transportation safety professionals in partnership with Project Lead the Way (PLTW), a K-12 curriculum stem program which empowers students to step into the role of engineer through problem-based learning. DENSO, a Coalition member, is launching a high school engineering competition focusing on road safety for students enrolled in PLTW’s Engineering courses. Participating students will use engineering concepts to address a road safety concern affecting them. The competition will run September through November 2018 with winners announced in December 2018. The winning schools will receive grants from DENSO.

We are asking our Road to Zero coalition to serve as mentors to provide guidance to student teams on engineering, road design, policy, etc. based completely on your availability as needed from September through November. Additionally, would you please consider serving as a judge of the program via an online system to rank/review the projects at the end of November – you will have two weeks to review the projects? If your organization has college chapters, this may be an excellent opportunity to help them get involved with growing the next crop of road safety professionals. Email roadsafety@denso-diam.com for more information on the competition and serving as a mentor or judge.
Protect Police Officers on the Road

Though police officers are tasked with enforcing laws to protect road users, it is just as vital for us to take steps to keep officers safe. Motor vehicle-related incidents are a leading cause of on-the-job deaths for law enforcement officers in the U.S. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), working with the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, recommends several ways police officers can prevent crashes and injuries while driving on the job, including always buckling up and staying focused on the road. Check out this resource to learn more.

And, save the date for our September Coalition meeting where we will feature a panel discussion on the role of law enforcement in eliminating roadway fatalities. The meeting will take place September 13, from 1-4 pm, at 20 F Street NW Conference Center in Washington, D.C.

News from the Hill

The House Appropriations Committee approved the fiscal year 2019 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) funding bill on a vote of 34-17. The legislation includes funding for the Department of Transportation, including FHWA, FMCSA, and NHTSA.

In total, the bill reflects an allocation of $71.8 billion in discretionary spending – $1.5 billion above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level and $23.8 billion above the request. The allocation reflects the second year of the bipartisan budget agreement, and allocates funding to rebuild infrastructure, support transit and rail and other modes of transportation. Several safety priorities are reflected, including minor increases to highway safety grant funding in NHTSA, increased attention to automated vehicles, and instructions to proceed with a rulemaking on truck underrides. Opposition to the legislation was due in part to “riders” to the bill on high speed rail, safety items and labor provisions. Additionally, the final 302(b) allocations were not made public before the THUD bill was released, and the minority opposed this.

In the Know

Road to Zero Coalition members are working to save lives on our roads. Here are some of the latest updates, findings and news from your fellow members.

We can feature your news as well. To submit news, announcements or updates for inclusion in the Road to Zero newsletter, email your message to roadtozero@nsc.org.

Include all relevant details, links, names, etc. and any special notes regarding the announcement. We look forward to sharing your news and keeping the entire Road to Zero coalition updated on the latest from their fellow members.

This month we have several announcements:
1. **State and local agencies across the country are advancing the Every Day Counts initiative on automated traffic signal performance measures (ATSPMs).**

The Alabama Department of Transportation, city of Tuscaloosa, University of Alabama, and FHWA are partnering to deploy ATSPMs at 85 intersections in the Tuscaloosa area. The project includes installation of 85 dedicated short-range communication (DSRC) radios on four main routes. The goal is for the DSRC radios to enrich the dataset for signal performance and establish a foundation for future connected autonomous vehicle testing.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is building organizational capability in tandem with ATSPMs to ensure the ability to sustain long-term active management. The agency deployed ATSPMs in all of its districts to log high-density data. After testing the ATSPMs system, FDOT will configure additional intersections and identify locations to enable additional reports, such as turning movement counts and arrivals on red lights.

The Montana Department of Transportation developed a draft concept of operations document for its statewide traffic signal system. The proposed system combines existing traffic signal software with deployment of an ATSPMs system. A pilot project will test the concept of operations and its ability to collect and use data to maintain the signal system efficiently.

2. **Naturalistic Driver Behavior Study**

It’s likely that semi-autonomous vehicles will have more of an impact in the next five to 10 years than fully autonomous cars. There is already a research study with naturalistic driver behavior data underway. A recent blog post by Jeffrey Blecher, Chief Strategy Officer at Agero, outlines efforts to do just that. Blecher and Bryan Reimer, MIT Research Scientist and Associate Director of the New England University Transportation Center at MIT, started discussing the topic back in 2013. With combined backgrounds in connected vehicles, human factors studies, and usage-based insurance, they became determined to understand this issue through a scientific research lens. In 2015, Agero became one of the founding members of the MIT Advanced Vehicle Technology Consortium, comprised of automakers, insurance companies, tier-1 suppliers, and consumer advocate groups. The study has now collected over 7,146 days, 78 drivers, 275,559 miles, and 3.48 billion video frames worth of data. Details about the collected data are available in the MIT Autonomous Vehicle Technology Study.

3. A new report from NHTSA, the 2015 National Survey on Distracted Driving Attitudes and Behaviors, assesses the extent to which drivers are distracted by various activities. The third in a series of telephone surveys, the results will contribute to the development of countermeasures and interventions to reduce distracted driving on our nation’s roadways. Read the full report to learn more.

4. GHSA’s latest spotlight report, *Motorcyclist Traffic Fatalities by State: 2017 Preliminary Data*, projects a 5.6% decrease in motorcyclist fatalities from 2016 to 2017. Despite this decline, the report finds that motorcyclists remain significantly overrepresented as a proportion of all traffic deaths. Download the full report to learn more.

5. A new study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety shows pedestrian deaths have jumped 46 percent from their lowest point in 2009, to a total of 5,987 pedestrians killed in 2016. According to the study, the increase has mostly been in urban or suburban areas and in the dark. Crashes were also increasingly likely to involve SUVs and high-horsepower vehicles. Check out the full study to learn more.
6. June is National Safety Month and the National Safety Council is asking everyone to take just one simple step to prevent injuries and deaths. The final week of National Safety Month, running from June 24-30, is all about staying safe on the roads. Get free resources to take part and help protect your fellow road users.

7. Early-bird registration is now open for the NETS 2018 STRENGTH IN NUMBERS® Annual Conference in Frisco, Texas. Join your peers at the only conference focused exclusively on employer road safety where you can share road safety case studies, new research and emerging issues to help keep your coworkers safe on the road. Learn more and register now.

8. The FHWA Office of Highway Policy Information is sponsoring a National Household Travel Survey (NHTS) Data for Transportation Applications Workshop August 8-9, 2018 in Washington, D.C. The workshop will announce the arrival of the new NHTS dataset, which contains information on one full day of travel for 130,000 households. The workshop will include roundtables and hands-on opportunities for analyzing the data and discussing visions for moving forward with future data programs. Registration is open.

9. As experts from all areas of road safety, Road to Zero Coalition members can share their knowledge to help protect others. With that in mind, we’re excited to present an opportunity for Coalition members to contribute. NHTSA, on behalf of the Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services (FICEMS) is seeking comments on improving prehospital trauma care. We know from the Road to Zero report that this is a crucial area for saving lives: of all crash fatalities, about half survive the initial crash but later die from their injuries. With enhanced emergency medical personnel capabilities, these numbers can improve. Learn more and submit your input here.

10. Be sure to reserve your space for an upcoming webinar on the 2018 national Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over enforcement mobilization, which focuses on stopping drunk drivers through a combination of law enforcement efforts and public awareness. In this webinar, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) will update attendees on ongoing and upcoming law enforcement initiatives as well as share its media plan and accompanying materials. The session will also highlight the Road to Zero Coalition’s work and share its vision and strategies for reaching zero traffic fatalities by 2050.

Featured speakers include:

- Jennifer Davidson, Highway Safety Specialist, NHTSA Impaired Driving Division
- Glaceria Mason, Marketing Specialist, NHTSA Office of Communications and Consumer Information
- Jane Terry, Senior Director of Government Affairs, National Safety Council

The webinar takes place Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. EDT. Register now!

Stay Safe on the Roads this Summer
Summer can be a deadly time on the roads, especially the summer holidays. The three summertime holidays – Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day – typically claim over 110 lives each day, the highest average per-day fatality rates.

To stay safe on the roads this summer, follow these safety tips:

- Practice defensive driving
- Avoid impaired and drowsy driving
- Always buckle up, every passenger on every ride
- Inspect your vehicle regularly and especially before long road trips
- Avoid distractions and always be attentive behind the wheel, particularly in areas with an increased number of pedestrians
- Share the road with motorcycles, bicyclists and walkers
- If using a rental car, take a few moments to look through the manual and understand the vehicle’s safety features before driving

Practice these tips all summer long so we can all make it to our barbecues and beach outings safely!