Don’t Miss the December Meeting

Be sure to join us for our December Road to Zero Coalition meeting by registering here. Hurricane Florence canceled our September meeting, so we will feature the role of law enforcement in roadway safety with the help of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in December. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 4, from 9 a.m. to noon (EST) at 20F Street NW Conference Center in D.C., near Capitol Hill and Union Station. This event will also be available live via webcast. You will receive a link 48 hours prior to the event for the webcast. There is no charge to attend.

Also on Dec. 4, following the coalition meeting, the Road to Zero will hold a meeting to take a deeper dive on distracted driving. It will begin at 1 p.m. in the same location as the coalition meeting, 20 F Street, NW. Please make plans to attend.

While we were disappointed about the cancellation of the September meeting, we know that keeping everyone safe at home rather than being on the road during a storm was the safe thing to do.

Protect Pedestrians

Pedestrian deaths are on the rise across the country. To help eliminate these deaths and learn more about steps cities can take to protect pedestrians, the National Transportation Safety Board has released a new Pedestrian Safety Investigative Report in the form of an interactive website that gives readers access to summary information of 15 investigations into pedestrian fatalities.

The report also highlights the most up to date data on pedestrian fatalities and historical trends to put these recent numbers into perspective. Look through the report to learn more about some of the biggest risks to pedestrians and see what can be applied to your city.

Engage Your Community
We know that in order to eliminate deaths and injuries on the roads, we must have more than the facts and figures. To accomplish this goal, we must get everyone involved and have the support of local communities. As part of this effort, the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), a Steering Group member, and the Better Bike Share Partnership have released Strategies for Engaging Community, a practitioner’s guide to building meaningful and effective relationships with constituents and historically underserved communities.

This guidance, developed by and for cities, community-based organizations, and shared active transportation operators, outlines strategies to engage with communities and offers examples and best practices for implementation of mobility initiatives. The report focuses on bikeshare programs and groups engagement efforts into three broad goals – increasing mobility access, getting more people on bikes, and increasing bike share awareness and support. See the full report for more information.

News from the Hill

The past month has seen a flurry of activity on automated vehicles from the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT).

On October 4, 2018, U.S. DOT published Preparing for the Future of Transportation: Automated Vehicles 3.0 (AV 3.0). This latest revision of the Department’s AV Guidance is another step in the development of a framework for multimodal automation. The policy document lays out the federal government’s role in integrating safety into surface transportation automation, the federal role in automation research, best practices and considerations for state and local governments, implementation strategies and more. Coalition members and other members of the public are invited to submit comments on this document.

Also published for comment:

- California’s Meal and Rest Break Rules – FMCSA is requesting comments on a petition from the American Trucking Association that Federal law preempts the State of California’s meal and rest break rules. Comments are due October 29.
- Field Study of Newer Generation Heavy Vehicle Automatic Emergency Braking (AEB) Systems – NHTSA has published notice of an information collection to assess the benefits of crash avoidance technologies for heavy trucks that include Automatic Emergency Braking (AEB) to prevent fatalities, injuries, and property damage in crashes involving heavy vehicles. The information collection will be in the form of a field study of commercial vehicle drivers equipped
with specific AEB, forward collision warning and adaptive cruise control technologies. Comments are accepted through October 25.

- **Pilot Program for Collaborative Research on Motor Vehicles with High or Full Driving Automation** – NHTSA is seeking public comment on the near-term and long-term challenges of Automated Driving Systems (ADS) testing, development and eventual deployment. Specifically, NHTSA seeks comments on the factors and structure that are appropriate for the Agency to consider in designing a national pilot program that will enable it to facilitate, monitor and learn from the testing and development of the emerging advanced vehicle safety technologies and to assure the safety of those activities. Comments are due November 26.

### In the Know

Here are some updates, findings and news from your fellow Road to Zero Coalition members and the transportation industry:

1. The National League of Cities, a Steering Group member, is hosting its City Summit this week in Los Angeles. City Summit provides unique opportunities for elected and staff city officials to learn about the issues affecting local governments and expand their professional network. The conference also provides education for leadership development, meaningful discussions on common local-level problems and new best practices to address the trends affecting cities. There’s still time to register and attend. Get more details here.

2. Steering Group member AAMVA recently released a fact sheet on cars damaged by flood waters, including those caused by Hurricane Florence. According to AAMVA, based on past experiences with flood-damaged vehicles associated with other hurricanes, it is very likely that many states – including those not directly affected by Hurricane Florence – will see flood-damaged vehicles enter their used vehicle markets for sale, titling or registration. Take a look at the full fact sheet to learn more.

3. A new survey from IIHS shows that certain teen driver safety systems could be catching on. The survey found that a majority of parents whose vehicles were equipped with such a system were aware of it and many already were using it or planned to use it in the future. This is good news, as these systems can help reduce the risks facing new drivers. Still, many parents claimed their teen was trustworthy and did not need the help, while others were unaware of the safety system. To make the biggest impact on road safety, we’ll need even more awareness and use of these sorts of systems. Learn more about the survey and this technology from IIHS.

4. We all face risks on the road, especially those who work on our roadways. Being struck by motorists is a leading cause of death for waste and recycling collection employees, but we know these deaths are entirely preventable. The Slow Down to Get Around campaign from the National Waste & Recycling Association reminds us to drive more carefully near waste and recycling collection vehicles and is an excellent example of how communities can make a difference for those particularly at risk. Learn more about the campaign.
5. Looking for free resources to help keep your employees safe on the road? Coalition member Our Driving Concern: Texas Employer Traffic Safety regularly shares videos, tips and printable handouts you can share with your workers. You can follow along with them on Facebook and Twitter.

6. The National Complete Streets Coalition has announced three new Safe Streets, Smart Cities Academy winners. The three winning cities will have opportunities to learn from national experts, collaborate with one another, and discuss best practices in engineering, tactical urbanism, creative placemaking, community engagement, and emerging technologies. Each city will then use what they’ve learned to test physical changes to their streets with temporary demonstration projects. See which cities won and learn more about the program.

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.

Stay Safe on Winter Roads

As winter approaches, many of us hope for decent weather but brace for snow, slush and ice. Winter weather can pose many hazards to roadway users, including slick roads and limited visibility. To stay safe, everyone – from drivers to pedestrians – must take extra precautions.

Every driver should have their vehicle inspected to be sure the tires, battery, brakes and other systems are ready for winter weather. Drivers should also stock up their vehicle emergency kits with items including a shovel, warm clothes and nonperishable food.

It is also always a good idea to check the weather before you go and share your driving plans with a friend. Pedestrians should be prepared with the right clothing, including winter shoes and coat, and be especially cautious around icy roads where drivers may lose control.

Winter driving may seem routine to some of us, but we can never take safety for granted. Make sure you and your loved ones are prepared to stay safe on the roads this season.