

Cooper Jones Active Transportation Safety Council (ATSC)

June 24, 2020

10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Attending Participants: Alexandria Alston, WA Bikes; Barb Chamberlain, WSDOT; Dongho Chang, Seattle City Traffic Engineer; Charlotte Claybrooke, Safe Routes to Schools; Chris Comeau, Bellingham City Planner; Josh Diekmann, Tacoma Transportation Engineer; Eric Edwards, Richland Police; David Jones; Jon Pascal, Kirkland City Council; Julia Reitan, Feet First; Eveline Roy, Region 12 Target Zero Manager; Portia Shields, Yakama Nation; Harold Taniguchi, Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs; Scott Waller, WTSC; Kerri Wilson, Intercity Transit; Anna Zivarts, Rooted in Rights.

Special Guests: Walt Bowen, President of Washington State Senior Citizen's Lobby; Kirsten York, Family Services Director for Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason, and Thurston Counties

Facilitator: Pat Hughes, Trillium Leadership Consulting

Meeting Summary Report

1. Welcome and Introduce new folks!

Recruitment and membership: Comings and goings – review membership matrix, Scott to continue to reach out and add to membership

2. Action Team status updates

Outcome: Knowledge about ongoing Action Teams

A. **OpEd/Communications Plan:** Scott review items in a Comms plan – most important are dates; Barb: Start with the WHY, then the WHAT, then the HOW
WHY do we Communicate: that we exist, push out why we're here, what we're working on and what we're learning, we'll get interest, questions, requests which create work for us? As we put out info about barriers and blocks to decreasing fatal and injurious accidents, we'll get more info. Our reports seed legislative action, build legislative contact, inform agencies. Get public to change behaviors or opinions.

Ask the group: What are priorities – put in chat. If you have a comms staff, can you add to our Action Team?

- My priority would be to use communication for public change and or support transportation and other safety professionals to make changes

- Interested in how similar councils communicate. This might provide some ideas for us.
- Thoughts on "Why" - To first let people know that the group exists and its purpose (to legitimize us), and then on what we are learning to help affect change in society and at local agencies.
- Get the general public's buy in on transportation safety
- Get general public to change their opinions or behaviors +1
- Get perspectives from people who haven't had a voice and are disproportionately impacted by our policies/laws/resource investments. Especially people of color.
- Send additional thoughts to Barb, she will collate
- Add Alex to the Media Action Team please

B. **Speed update** – Charlotte – meeting, in progress

C. **Automated enforcement** – Tune ups, done? Add demographics and economics of children involved in crashes around school zones. Raise hand for vote “is it done” – YAY.

D. **RCW 46.61.250** –Dongho gave background: two versions of the law, problematic during COVID, did a scan of other states.

- Sample language revision: “Any city, town, and county may, by ordinance, regulate the use by pedestrians of streets and highways under its jurisdiction.” Chris reached out to MRSC for best practices/examples. “
- "Highway" is defined to refer to the public right-of-way, so it includes county roads and streets in many places. Where they mean state routes, it refers to "state highways".
- Here's the code section:
[https://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=46.61.250#:~:text=Pedestrians%20on%20roadways%20\(as%20amended,and%20upon%20an%20adjacent%20roadway.](https://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=46.61.250#:~:text=Pedestrians%20on%20roadways%20(as%20amended,and%20upon%20an%20adjacent%20roadway.)
- Reach out to State Patrol to understand their resistance in the past
- NCSL legislative database resource:
<https://www.ncsl.org/research/transportation/state-traffic-safety-legislation-database.aspx>

3. Action Team Selection Process

Outcome: Update Selection Process to include urgent/emergent issues, with checks and balances to process

- Hand vote “Yes” to add emergent/urgent items to Selection Process
- Keep a running list of Actionable Items – check in on most urgent (every urgent and good idea cannot become an Action Team (AT) at the expense of longer-term review of ideas)
- As we refine the WHY we communicate, it will help us prioritize
- Some AT’s have an ongoing nature (Comms), and some will be time limited
- Sometimes urgency is created externally (not by our own list) – like COVID
- Support for AT need to be balanced with Scott’s workload; some can be more self-organized
- Each AT to have a dedicated liaison in the Exec Committee
- Add a threshold: before ATSC approves a new AT, clarify who is supporting it and their bandwidth, charge an AT only when we have staff support
- Pat will update the Selection Process document and send with the notes

Bio Break

4. Safety Discussion

Outcome: Discuss what we mean by Safety; create temporary task force to bring back a draft definition/list in July

What do we mean by the “S” in ATSC? Goal is to define safety more broadly -

- What’s in our statute – RCW defines it as “transportation system” - can we more broadly define without changing the RCW?
- Fundamental definition: How do we keep people from getting hit by a car?
- Definition of safe streets - bike lanes, debris getting kicked up, increased police enforcement, bona fide community engagement to address needs and concerns instead of going with a solution pre-assumed – to advocate for community engagement?
- Self-enforcing streets?
- Safe from pollutants and toxins?

- Intersects with equity and access issues of transportation, and the impacts of safety on people
- Recommendations should not create explicit or implicit harm. How do we agree on a definition of harm, and in our recommendations – What questions do we ask? how do we make sure harm isn't done?
- Be able to defend our recommendations, definition alone might not do it
- “Super Temporary Task Force” – Harold, Alex, Barb, David to self-organize, meet, and bring a draft in July

5. Approval Process for ATSC Recommendations

Outcome: Understand significance of a new (in process) approval recommendation process to the Legislature

How do we know when we're “done” – when do we make a report about it?

- ATSC take formal action/vote

Do we publish annual report without vetting through the agencies? Or have independent status.

- Need not be limited to state agencies and timelines, make it more expansive.
- If do so, could miss out on their input and making the work more effective, or if vet, could hold ATSC back from what we really want/think.
- We are making recs that go to Leg and agencies, they might not support those (yet) if we're suggesting a change
- Could release it to affiliates and general public
- Budget flows through WSCOT, can we say we're neutral, not part of that agency's budget request
- Scott to bring new draft back next month; send concerns to Scott

6. Wrap Up and Reflection

- Actions/Decisions review
- One-word reaction to meeting: interesting, lots of info, progress, gratitude, thoughtful, moving forward, busy, Walt: pleasantly informed and excited – so many people committed, glad to get seniors involved; productive, full, substance, learned

- Items for July that groups are bringing back:
 - Action Team Update
 - “WHY we communicate” summary from Barb
 - Draft “Safety” definition and discussion (Harold, David, Alex, Barb)
 - Approval of updates to Selection Process (Pat)
 - Review new draft of Recommendation Approval Process (Scott)

June 24, 2020 Decisions and Actions to Take:

1. Membership:

- Scott to continue to reach out; confirm participation/representation from new folks

2. Action Teams in Process:

- Send additional thoughts about “WHY ATSC should communicate” to Barb and she will collate and bring back in July
- Add Alex to the Media committee please
- RCW AT will continue to work; will reach out to State Patrol to understand their perspective
- Automated Enforcement Action Team - add demographics and economics of children involved in crashes around school zones; with that addition, raise hand for vote “is it done” = YAY. Bring back in July for final review.

3. Action Team Selection Process:

- Vote of “YES” to add emergent/urgent items to Action Team Selection process, and checks and balances
- Each AT to have a dedicated liaison in the Exec Committee
- Add a threshold - before ATSC approves a new AT, clarify who is supporting it and their bandwidth, can charge an AT only when we have staff support
- Pat will update the document and send with the notes

4. Safety:

- “Super Temporary Task Force” – Harold, Alex, Barb, David – self organize and bring something back next month, thanks
- Pat to send supporting docs; CC and Equity Lens

5. ATSC Approval Process

- Scott will make changes to and bring back in July