

Cooper Jones Active Transportation Safety Council

July 9, 2025

Generated by AI. Reviewed by ATSC facilitator Patricia Hughes for accuracy and length.

Welcome and Introductions

- **Meeting Start:**
 - Meeting called to order at 10:32 AM by ATSC Program Manager Jessie Knudsen, WTSC
 - Shelly Baldwin, WTSC Director, will join later.
- **New Tool Introduction:**
 - Microsoft 365 Copilot will be used to generate meeting notes. This tool helps capture important points and action items more effectively.
- **Minutes Approval:**
 - Minutes from the previous meeting (June) were distributed prior to the meeting. No additions or changes proposed; minutes adopted.
- **Roles:**
 - Erin Roman is helping with tech support today as Abby has moved to a new role within WTSC.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Attendance:** Quorum confirmed with 14 members present; 17 for meeting total.
Alan Adolf, Shelly Baldwin, Barb Chamberlain, Charlotte Claybrooke, Jennifer Dieguez, Dr. Annemarie Dooley, Sgt. Teresa Fuller, Jesse Gilpatrick, Will Habel, David Jones; Kitty Klitzke, William Lemke, Karen Messmer, Corwin Scott, Harold Taniguchi, Cpl. John Tyler, Carrie Wilhelme

Guests:

- ATSC External Facilitator: Patricia Hughes, Trillium Leadership Consulting
- Celeste Toyofuku, Target Zero; Janine Koffel, WTSC SMAC; Mark McKechnie, WTSC; Christina Fremont, WTSC; Debi Besser, WTSC

Agenda:

- **Deeper Dive Member Introductions:**
 - Teresa Fuller shared her background in traffic safety and her current role managing various traffic-related grants and programs in Spokane.
 - Will Habel discussed his work as the Regional Trails and Active Transportation Coordinator in Clallam County, focusing on the Olympic Discovery Trail and improving walkability in rural areas.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Jennifer shared details about the upcoming injury and violence prevention summit on July 23rd, including a specific block on Transportation Safety.

- Janine mentioned the "Stop the Bleed" training workshop at the Traffic Safety Summit and invited participants to join.

Recap of Future Agenda Items

Pat shared a summary of the June ATSC small group discussion, where members identified several themes to learn more about for potential recommendations. After discussion, the group coalesced on changes to the plan. Jessie and Pat will work together with the Executive Committee to execute the plan.

1. Liability vs. Safety Planning: August

- Address the issue of municipalities avoiding discussions on problems due to liability concerns, which impacts safety planning. The presentation planned for July will move to August, as our speaker got delayed in flight.
- Review the WTSC Dashboard updated data by Max Roberts; review of the Safe System Approach; summary of July Traffic Safety Summit.

2. Speed, Perception, Communication, and Language: September

- Focus on how collisions are discussed. Learn from PSA's, WTSC evolution, other members, align with the Speed Management Advisory Cooperative, possibly someone from WSDOT.
- Follow-up 2025 bills ATSC supported, identify upcoming ones for 2026.
- Plus FCR: Bikes, FCR Year-in-Review, Choose 3 topics for 2026 FCR's

3. Rural Areas and Safe Systems: Hold for October

- Discussion on affordable and faster solutions for rural areas.
- Tony Bledsoe to provide an update on the national rural Safe System Forum, possibly in October.

4. Sidewalks and Accessibility: Hold for 2026

- Addressing ADA, which also touches on liability issues.

5. Other Topics: Determine for 2026

- Funding needs, larger vehicles (with IIHS), helmets, and lighting were also mentioned as potential future discussion points.
- Some of these may align with FCR topics

Discussion on South King County Pedestrian FCR, led by Christina Fremont, WTSC

1. Scope and Data Trends:

- ☞ Review focused on pedestrian fatalities in South King County (excluding Kent) on roads with speed limits of 35-45 mph during dark conditions from 2022-2023.
- ☞ 13 fatal crashes were reviewed, with a notable increase in hit-and-run incidents.

☞ Key Observations:

☞ Safe Road Users:

- Increase in hit-and-run crashes, with 47% of such incidents occurring in the recent period.

- ☐ Most crashes involved drivers engaging in risky behavior and deliberate law-breaking.
- ☐ Pedestrians often faced multiple systemic barriers related to poverty, behavioral health, and high-risk environments.

☞ **Safe Vehicles:**

- ☐ Nine crashes involved pedestrians being struck by the left side of vehicles, suggesting issues with driver perception and visibility.

☞ **Safe Speeds and Roads:**

- ☐ Speeds were under-investigated in many cases.
- ☐ Inadequate street lighting was a common issue, with many crashes occurring on long, straight corridors with limited pedestrian safety features.

☞ **Safe Land Use:**

- ☐ Challenges in addressing safer land use after development has occurred.
- ☐ Multiple crashes occurred in areas with mixed-use development, highlighting the complexity of the environment.

☞ **Traffic Records:**

- ☐ Issues with law enforcement agencies not submitting supplemental PTCR consistently.
- ☐ Errors in Department of Licensing records, such as decedents listed as alive.
- ☐ Need for detailed reporting on bystander intervention to improve prevention strategies.

☞ **Discussion Points:**

- ☞ Importance of understanding pedestrian actions and crossing facilities.
- ☞ Debate on the role of engineering in mitigating risky driver behavior.
- ☞ Suggestions for future reviews to include proximity to destinations like bars, medical facilities, and transit stops.

Attendance

1. **Alan Adolf**, Yakima Valley Conference of Governments;
2. **Barb Chamberlain**, WSDOT Active Transportation Division;
3. **Charlotte Claybrooke**, WSDOT Active Transportation Division;
4. **Jennifer Dieguez**, WA Dept. of Health;
5. **Dr. Annemarie Dooley**, Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility;
6. **Sgt. Teresa Fuller**, Spokane Police Department;
7. **Jesse Gilpatrick**, Center for Independence;
8. **Will Habel**, Clallam County;

9. **David Jones; Kitty Klitzke**, City of Spokane;
10. **William Lemke**, WA Council on Aging;
11. **Karen Messmer**, Bike and Peds Advocate;
12. **Harold Taniguchi**, Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs;
13. **Cpl. John Tyler**, Spokane Police Department;
14. **Carrie Wilhelme**, City of Tacoma;
15. **Scott Corwin**, Commission on AA Affairs, WSDOT Title VI Compliance Specialist, Office of Equity & Civil Rights (OECR),
16. **Kitty Klitzke**, Spokane City Council

ATSC Program Manager: Jessie Knudsen, Washington Traffic Safety Commission

ATSC Program Support: Erin

ATSC External Facilitator: Patricia Hughes, Trillium Leadership Consulting

Guests:

Celeste Toyofuku, Target Zero

Janine Koffel, WTSC SMAC

Mark McKechnie, WTSC

Christina Fremont, WTSC

Debi Besser, WTSC