Pedestrian Safety Advisory Council

Meeting 12 Summary

May 24, 2017, 10 am – 2:30 pm

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| In Attendance: | Marc Anderson, Dongho Chang, Charlotte Claybrooke, Aimee D’Avignon, Josh Diekmann, David Delgado, Mike Dornfeld, Will Hitchcock, Staci Hoff, Heidi Keller John Nisbet, Paul Taylor, Scott Waller, Karen Wigan. |

The Council reviewed 5 low speed crash cases, identified the modifiable contributing factors, and generated a list of potential recommendations that will be more thoroughly vetted for the annual report. Summary begins on page 2.

The Council also reviewed the 2017 meeting calendar and acknowledged that some topic areas will need to be pushed into 2018. See the updated calendar on page 4.

Confirmed this order for the data deep dives:

1. Low posted speed crashes (25 mph or less) – *Completed*
2. Turns at intersections – *June & July*
3. Pedestrians crossing the roadway (legally, illegally, same or opposite direction) – *September & October*
4. Older road users – pedestrians and drivers 65 and older – *Move to 2018*
5. Equity – *2018*
6. Land use considerations – *2018*

**Next meetings:**   
June 28, 2017, 10 am ­ 2:30pm, WTSC, Olympia  
July 26, 2017, 10 am ­ 2:30pm, WTSC, Olympia  
August 23, 2017, 10 am ­ 2:30pm, WTSC, Olympia  
September 27, 2017, 10 am ­ 2:30pm, WTSC, Olympia  
October 25, 2017, 10 am ­ 2:30pm, WTSC, Olympia  
November 22, 2017, 10 am ­ 2:30pm, WTSC, Olympia  
December 27, 2017, 10 am ­ 2:30pm, WTSC, Olympia

Case Review: Low posted speed crashes (25 mph or less)

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| Cross Cutting Themes | Potential Recommendations |
| Age and disability make people more vulnerable and impacts the ability to survive a low speed crash.   * Very young children (body weight) * People over age 80 (fragility, reaction time, medications, e.g. blood thinners) * People with disabilities (reaction time, inability to move out of the way of oncoming vehicle) | Amend RCW 46.61.250 to be more protective of vulnerable and disabled pedestrians.  Assure curb cuts are available in both directions so people with wheelchairs don’t have to enter the road in order to cross the street in the direction that they are traveling.  Fund pedestrian amenities – like traffic circles, curb cuts, bump outs – that shorten the distance required to cross the street. |
| Driver distraction and impairment | Provide education, then enforcement, re: the new distracted driving law.  Speedier warrants for blood draws. |
| Driver loss of visibility associated with left turns | Take advantage of tech solutions that aid in the identification and protection of pedestrians, e.g. side cameras, auto breaking.  Require more frequent driver education/continuing education reflecting new knowledge, e.g. driver side pillar blocking vision in left turns. |
| Lack of illumination/Poor illumination | Develop an illumination standard for pedestrian safety. |
| Clutter in the right of way that impedes pedestrian ability to move out of the way of oncoming vehicles | Prohibit “clutter” in the right of way, such as landscaping, fences, signs, mailboxes, that impede pedestrian ability to move out of the way of vehicles. |
| Culpability: drivers and pedestrians | Enact driver presumptive liability in pedestrian crashes.  Identify pedestrian actions that contribute to crashes. |
| Improve pedestrian data | Require crash reconstruction detailed report on every “scene fatal” crash, especially speed calculations. |
| Education | Pedestrian defensive actions:   * Establish safe walking routes (not just the direct route if it isn’t safe) * Children: Understand it doesn’t matter that you have the right of way; make sure the driver sees you * Older road users: how age and medications can affect the ability to survive a crash   Drivers:   * Left turn blind spots * How to handle conflicts when you are approaching a pedestrian and another vehicle where there is no room for the pedestrian to get out of the way * Be aware/take extra precautions with older and disabled road users |

Low Posted Speed Crashes: Modifiable Contributing Factors

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| Case #1 | Case #2 | Case #3 | Case #4 | Case #5 |
| Driver inattention | Driver inattention | Driver with high BAC level and checkered driving history. System failed getting this driver off the road. | Driving on suspended license; checkered driving history. | Left turn   * “A Pillar” blocked vision * Traffic circle would have helped |
| Illumination: No standard for pedestrians | No sidewalk. No shoulder. |  | Mixed use road (children play) | Poor illumination |
| Intersection Clutter:   * Garbage Cans * Mailboxes * “For Sale” Sign | Landscaping in the right of way: rocks, fences, shrubs |  | No parents on site | Pedestrian age/medical history/medications |
| Mailbox Location; requires users to cross the road, stand in bike lane to get mail | No place to move out of the roadway   * RCW 46.61.250 does not serve vulnerable users * Allows parking on both sides of the road |  | Possibly 30 in a 25 | Pedestrian just outside the crosswalk |
|  |  |  | THC detected by blood draw |  |

Updated 2017 Meeting Calendar

All meetings at WTSC

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| May 24  10 am – 2:30 pm | June 28  10 am – 2:30 pm | July 26  10 am – 2:30 pm | August 23  10 am – 2:30 pm | September 27  10 am – 2:30 pm | October 25  10 am – 2:30 pm | November 22  10 am – 2:30 pm | December 27  10 am – 2:30 pm |
| Case Reviews:  Low Speed Crashes | **Aggregate Data Presentation:**  Turns at intersections  **Discussion:**  Case selection parameters | **Case Reviews:**  Turns at intersections | **2017 Work plan**  1.3 Provide legal protection for city & county pedestrian safety plans | **Aggregate Data Presentation**:  Pedestrians crossing the roadway  **Discussion:**  Case selection parameters | **Case Reviews:**  Pedestrians crossing the roadway | Finalize Recommendations for 2017 Annual Report | Finalize 2017 Annual Report |
| Modifiable contributing factors | **2017 Work plan**  2.1. Establish funding for public education to increase pedestrian & driver awareness of risk & defensive behaviors | Modifiable contributing factors | **2017 Work plan**  7.1. Develop an Inclusion strategy | **2017 Work plan**  3.4. Explore land use policies that support pedestrian safety | Modifiable contributing factors |
| Potential Recommendations | Potential Recommendations | Potential Recommendations | Potential Recommendations | Potential Recommendations | Potential Recommendations |

Potential Recommendations Running List

**Impaired pedestrians and drivers (February 2017 Meeting)**

* Make involvement in a fatal or serious injury crash probable cause for getting a warrant for blood draw.
* Initiate a D.O.L. warning letter to drivers involved in fatal crashes that have “checkered” driving records.
* Increase public/driver awareness of pedestrian generators such as homeless encampments.
* Conduct more research on the combined effects of alcohol and marijuana.

**Photo Enforcement (March 2017 meeting)**

* Change current budget proviso language that limits expansion to previously authorized pilot sites. The pilot has been successful. Authority should be extended to other sites.
* Propose legislation that revenue from these technologies shall be dedicated to the improvement of walking environment, e.g. better count down signals, curb cuts, pop up enforcement locations, better information for the driver.
* Propose legislation for a statewide program that requires revenue to be used for safety. Roll it out as a new safety tool. Split revenue between local jurisdiction and statewide grant program to provide startup funding for additional sites, prioritized based on collision data and financial need.
* Expand the legal use of photo evidence (e.g. crashes, criminal activity)

**Low speed fatalities (May 2017 meeting)**

* Amend RCW 46.61.250 (Pedestrians on Roadways) to be more protective of vulnerable and disabled pedestrians.
* Assure curb cuts are available in both directions so people with wheelchairs don’t have to enter the road in order to cross the street in the direction they are traveling.
* Fund pedestrian amenities – like traffic circles, curb cuts, bump outs – that shorten the distance
* Provide education, then enforcement, re: the new distracted driving law.
* Speedier warrants for blood draws.
* Take advantage of tech solutions that aid in the identification and protection of pedestrians, e.g. side cameras, auto breaking.
* Require more frequent driver education/continuing education reflecting new knowledge, e.g. driver side pillar blocking vision in left turns.
* Develop an illumination standard for pedestrian safety.
* Prohibit “clutter” in the right of way, such as landscaping, fences, signs, mailboxes, that impede pedestrian ability to move out of the way of vehicles.
* Enact driver presumptive liability in pedestrian crashes.
* Identify pedestrian actions that contribute to crashes. [*Placeholder language to reflect pedestrian liability]*
* Require crash reconstruction detailed report on every “scene fatal” crash, especially speed calculations.