Texas Impaired Driving Task Force Meeting
Meeting Minutes | October 8, 2020 at 9:00 AM

WELCOME
- Paige Ericson-Graber welcomed everyone to the virtual TxIDTF meeting; provided a brief Webex Tutorial

NEW BUSINESS
- **Alcohol Impaired Driving Crash Data**
  - Created new infographic
  - Working on new processes with TxDOT to obtain data. TxIDTF Admin can no longer provide data, but the data is available through TxDOT. Referenced May Newsletter that discusses how to obtain crash data
  - Will distribute new NHTSA report on alcohol crashes and how they have been impacted by Covid-19
- **2021 Texas Impaired Driving Forum**
  - Will be virtual
  - Date is still TBD but aiming for February date, as in previous years
- **2021 Impaired Driving Technical Assessment**
  - Was postponed from FY 2020 to FY 2021
  - Date is TBD but aiming for a Summer 2021, after the Texas Legislative Session
  - Planning for in-person assessment as of right now but that could change depending on health and safety needs at that time. The Assessment drives the Texas Impaired Driving Plan.
- **Preliminary Overview of DWI State Task Forces – Emmy Shields**
  - Follow-on to an activity conducted two years ago to better understand how other state DWI task forces operate. States we're attempting to interview have similar constraints to Texas: don't have high level of government membership and can't lobby. Attempting to interview 10 states. So far:
    - FL: Spends time working on model legislative language. Meet four times a year. Rely on individual members to promote task force to legislatures, including putting their model legislative language on their website. FL uses smaller group to draft legislative language and then brings it to the larger group. There can be some dissent or disagreement over language, but the smaller subcommittee has final say on language.
    - TN prefers breakout groups during the meeting. Create strategic plan over a 3-day workshop.
  - Both use NHTSA assessment to drive agenda
  - Evaluate success by amount of turnover, attendance, growth of membership, productivity accomplishing items on plan, number of assessment recs they can implement
  - Best Practices: Shorter more frequent meetings, model legislative language, involving all members in strategic planning process
  - See attachment for PPT slides

- o   Will distribute final report once more states are interviewed

- **TRCC Data Hub – Jon Graber & Marcie Perez**
    - o   The Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC) is developing a "data hub" of publically available traffic and public safety data. The project came about after realizing (1) many agencies and programs have data and are willing to share it, and (2) other agencies do not realize what data is collected and available.
    - o   There are 3 goals: What data can you share, what data do you want to see included, what features do you want?
    - o   Marcie demonstrated the mapping tool and showed different types of data examples. Reiterated that the tool won't share raw data. Emphasized this is just a pilot. Could be used to help write traffic safety grant proposals, develop infographics for your programs, etc.
    - o   Next steps: Adding multiple years of data, how best to layer, obtaining other data sources.
    - o   If you're interested in sharing your program data, contact Jon at j-graber@tti.tamu.edu.

TXDOT UPDATE – Terry Pence and Allison Rounsavall
- Allison reviewed that in-person outreach has been suspended since March. Many programs have been able to adapt their trainings, outreach, and events to an online format. She discussed some examples platforms and how some programs have gone to an online format (see attachment for full notes). She encouraged others who have struggled moving online to reach out to these other programs to learn best practices. TxDOT can also help transition to an online format.
- Terry commented that TxDOT programs have been in the process of ending FY 2020 and starting FY 2021. Reminded everyone to submit final PRs and RFRs
- Terry anticipated that the 2022 RFP is expected to be released Nov. 6th (could change to the 13th). E-grants will send out a system message letting everyone know the RFP has been released.
- Terry thanked everyone for getting their programs, outreach, and trainings online. In-person outreach through TxDOT grants is still suspended through October. This will continue to be reevaluated month to month.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES
- **Legislative Subcommittee Updates – Clay Abbott**
    - o   No one is sure how this Legislative Session will run. No bills filed yet. Funding will be the biggest issue. There could be multiple special sessions due to budget issues. Focus on funding may limit discussion on non-budget items and laws. There are a couple of ignition interlock-related bills that may get filed. There is a push from criminal justice reform/defense people to push ways to limit law enforcement's contact with the public.
    - o   Ned: Reviewed Governor's executive orders. Waived provisions for vehicle registrations and driver's licenses cannot expire until 60 days after state of disaster is lifted. We are still under a state of disaster. This may impact reasonable suspicion for traffic stops.
    - o   Nicole: There has been an executive order that has reduced regulations around sale of alcohol. Specifically related to alcohol to go. Some effort to make alcohol to go permanent.

- **Education Subcommittee Update – Amber Trueblood**
  - New iteration of school reference book was finished last year and is available. Still working on a condensed version that can be given to school administrators that gives them the most important information. The full book can then be referenced if they need the more specific details.
- **Website Subcommittee Update, Paige Ericson-Graber**
  - Worked to make the website for accessible and user friendly. Showed several before and after screenshots. Encouraged members to check out the changes. While these changes may seem small, the thought is the changes make the website easier to use and navigate. Following these changes, the subcommittee has agreed to disband now that all objectives have been met.
  - Showed social media guide. Details everyone member's social media accounts so members can tag each other in posts and share content. (See attachment)
- **Awards Selection Subcommittee, Lisa Robinson**
  - Lisa thanked everyone for continuing to grow this subcommittee and its ability to recognize people around the state for their efforts to reduce ID. Asked everyone to review the recommendations for award recipients and for TxIDTF to accept the award recommendations as is.
    - Paige shared the nominations via chat box (See attachment)
  - Cecil: Discussed the nominees and mentioned many were not TxDOT subgrantees and are still making a difference.
  - There was a motion to take a vote during the meeting instead of sending a survey later.
    - Paige confirmed there were no issues in the bylaws with voting style. Members were asked to review recommendations during break and oral vote would be taken afterwards.
- **Research Subcommittee. Troy Walden**
  - Troy filled in for Tara Wright, who was unable to attend
  - Relatively new group. Looking to identify and disseminate to the TxIDTF new research related to impaired driving. Looking at reports, peer and non-peered reviewed articles/journals, international sources, etc. Email Tara, WrightT3@uthscsa.edu or Paige, p-ericson@tti.tamu.edu, if you would like to participate.
  - Have already reviewed two articles and in progress with two more.
  - Reviewed findings from some of those reviewed articles/papers. Findings were previously shared with TxIDTF via email. Working to get the findings on the website.
  - Clay: Lots of TxIDTF members represented in different areas. If you see an article of interest, please forward to the subcommittee.
  - Question: Subcommittee was asked to consider sending summaries back to the authors so that they can receive critical feedback
    - Clay: Recommendation will be sent back to subcommittee worth discussion. May start fights but could also makes sure subcommittee is getting summaries correct.

AWARD RECIPIENTS VOTE
- Paige motioned to accept subcommittee's award recommendations as was submitted to the TxIDTF
  - Clay moved and multiple seconds to move forward with the subcommittee's recommendations of 1 Safety Champion and 3 Difference Makers were received.

- o Motion passed unanimously.
- TxIDTF Admin will work in conjunction with Awards Subcommittee to notify nominators and move on with next steps

GROUP DISCUSSION: RESULTS FROM INTERNAL METRICS SURVEY
- Paige emphasized due to federal funding requirements, a core task of the TxIDTF will continue to be the updating of the Texas Impaired Driving Plan. Also, TxIDTF cannot lobby. With that being said, the struggle has been on how best to move beyond the Plan.
- Paige thanked all those who provided feedback. Will not discuss results to all questions but will provide a summary report later.

   Question: What is the primary purpose of the TxIDTF?
- Primary Purpose of the TxIDTF: "Network of communication and cooperation among various stakeholders" received most votes. "Problem identification" was second by just one vote. We already do a pretty good job of this and this topic has been discussed previously so I don't want to spend too much time discussing again. Might consider more small group discussions.
- Problem Identification was second. Want to spend most of the time discussing this since this is a new discussion. If problem identification is one of our primary purposes, then:
   - o Who do we identify problems for? (i.e., For TxIDTF? For TxDOT? For larger impaired driving safety community? For legislators?)
   - o How do we identify problems? (i.e., We want to be data-driven, but does any problem a member brings up get addressed? How do we know an identified problem is a true problem?)
   - o After a problem is identified, what is the objective? (i.e., We just want to identify problems, give the list to TxDOT, and have programs work through traffic safety grants to solve the problems? Or, is the TxIDTF addressing the issue?)
- Sub-question 1: Who do we identify problems for?
   - o Further incorporating police departments and law enforcement. Providing location specific information of impaired driving crashes. Making sure that departments not just individuals understand the importance of traffic enforcement and the problem of impaired driving.
   - o Internally represented groups such as law enforcement, judges, etc. Outside groups such as public (we aren't good at) or legislature (lobbying issues) pose problems.
   - o Ultimately, we are trying to save lives by changing behavior so we should be reaching out to the public.
   - o The Impaired Driving Plan helps qualify us for federal funding.
   - o We work with the public. The plan gives us leverage that maybe the TxIDTF can't tackle some issues, but as an individual organization, we can use the Plan to take on those issues. Raises the Plan when talking to the public and legislators.
   - o Another way of saying it is we educate the TxIDTF who then educates the public
   - o If our goal is to identify problems, then that relates back to the other purpose of networking and communication.
   - o Networking helps identify problems. As a prosecutor, I may not understand a certain issue is a problem for someone else's field of expertise. We can then collaborate to solve those problems.
   - o Annual Plan helps tie it together. Plan gives structure for all these interactions.

- o Is the legislature a second target audience? Survey feedback indicated majority of TxIDTF was in favor of inviting them to meetings/starting to educate legislators; no respondent indicated they would stop participating in the TxIDTF, but a few were unsure of participation.
  - o If there is concern adding a legislature or staffer to be on TxIDTF, then maybe we can invite them to as a guest to have round table discussion. We need a path to get our work in front of them. Multiple members agreed with the approach of inviting as guests not as members
  - o Maybe not appropriate at the meetings themselves, but maybe as a separate roundtable for those who want to participate. Multiple members agreed
- Sub-question 2: How do we as a group decide this is a problem?
  - o Potential issues come from TxIDTF members, but it must be supported by data showing it is a statewide issue, not localized, and be supported by the full task force before we decide to investigate it further.
  - o Prioritization is a mechanism we need. Also need to be a solvable problem.
  - o Once the general items or primary problems have been identified, we can develop white papers using language agreed upon by the TxIDTF.
- Sub-question 3: After a problem is identified, what is the objective?
  - o We might be able develop subcommittees to help support the development of white papers, and then invite legislators to a round table to discuss the white paper/provide a presentation? Are there issues inviting legislators or aides?
  - o TxDOT would need to work closely with TxDOT Legislative Affairs Office before TxIDTF can do roundtables.
    - Can you push that forward and give us an update in Feb?
    - Terry: Yes.

   Other survey results:
   - o In favor adoption of zero highway fatalities by 2050.
   - o In favor of increasing the number of meetings.
     - Motion is to meet three times in FY 2022 (add June meeting) and allow for phone participation. Meetings would be 1.5 – 2 hours instead of all-day long.
   - o Internal Metrics:
     - Majority have visited website
     - Majority have NOT visited social media platforms, namely because they don't use social media in their everyday lives
     - Majority have read newsletter
     - Majority have submitted revisions to the Plan
     - Majority promoted Safety Awards with others
     - Majority invited someone to the Forum
     - Majority attended the Forum
     - Majority served on a Subcommittee
     - Majority shared information with colleague/network
   - o We'll use this feedback as a starting place to evaluate the work of the TxIDTF each year. Full survey feedback will be shared in a summary report later.

CLOSING & ADJOURNMENT
- Next TxIDTF Meeting: Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021 | Virtual Meeting @ 9:00 AM
- Toward end of 2020, TxIDTF communication will come from Emmy Shields, e-shields@tti.tamu.edu.

ACTION ITEMS
- TxIDTF Admin to:
  - Distribute draft meeting minutes by 10/16
  - Send calendar meeting invite for next meeting by 10/16
  - Draft summary of internal survey metrics by 10/31 (to TxDOT); to TxIDTF shortly afterwards
  - Provide updates concerning Forum Date (Anticipated 10/31)
  - Provide updates concerning Assessment (Anticipated January/February 2021)
  - Continue interviewing other State DWI Task Forces and provide summary by 11/30 (to TxDOT); to TxIDTF shortly afterwards
  - Send survey to identify potential impaired driving safety problems that TxIDTF would want to develop white papers/briefings for legislators by 10/31
    - Send follow-up survey (Nov/Dec timeframe) asking for prioritization of those items
    - Send prioritized list to TxIDTF no later than 1/31/21 so members have time to review before 2/25/21 meeting
- TxIDTF Members to:
  - Follow up with Jon Graber, j-graber@tti.tamu.edu if you have program data you'd be willing to share for the TRCC Data Hub
  - Anticipate TxDOT RFP to be released in Texas Register in early-to-mid-November
  - Awards Subcommittee
    - Notify nominees of award status by 11/30
    - Draft Press release, develop congratulatory letters, film spotlight video by February 2021
  - Legislative Subcommittee
    - Expected to meet in early December (watch for Doodle Poll) – briefly for 30 mins or so
  - Research Subcommittee
    - Send articles for review that you'd like Subcommittee to consider
    - Add Meeting Agenda Item: Consider sending feedback to the authors?
    - Continue reviewing 2 current articles
    - Post 2 completed articles online (Admin)
  - Education Subcommittee
    - Provide feedback on "condensed" reference book
    - Begin working on new iteration of full reference book for FY 2021
- Terry to confirm with TxDOT Legislative Affairs Office if TxIDTF can hold roundtable discussions with State legislators by February 2021