

Lee-Russell Regional Coalition Meeting 1

Boykin Community Center, Room 505
Auburn, Alabama
April 7, 2016 1:00 PM

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees

Name	Organization/Agency
Waymon Benifield	ALDOT
Ben Bumester	Auburn University
Bennet Carpenter	East AL EMS
Josh Dantoff	Auburn Fire Department
Doc Dorsey	Columbus Consolidated Government
Danena Gaines	Cambridge Systematics
Kathy Gregory	The Sixfifty Company
Linda Guin	FHWA AL Division
Terry Henderson	ADECA
Jon Kennedy	Opelika Fire Department
Brantley Kirk	ALDOT
Jay Lindly	University of Alabama
Alex Maistros	Cambridge Systematics
John McCarthy	Retired
Sam Meriwether	ADECA
Angel Moore	Phenix City
Luana Ozelim	University of Alabama
Rod Turochy	Auburn University
Stephanie Vereen	University of Alabama
Lynn Wilman	ADECA

1. Welcome and Introductions- Stephanie Vereen (UA) led the room through introductions of all meeting participants and the project team.
2. Purpose and Need- Stephanie Vereen reviewed the purpose and need for the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) and the time line and development of the regional safety plans. Dr. Vereen reminded the group that the Lee-Russell Regional SafetyPplan is one of four regional plans currently being developed alongside plans for the Greater Birmingham, Top of Alabama, and Tombigbee regions. These regional plans will be the basis of the 2017 update of the statewide SHSP.
3. Survey Results- Luana Ozelim (UA) reviewed the results of the survey made available to the coalition members through the Safe Home Alabama website (www.safehomealabama.com).
 - a. Safe Home Alabama Overview

- i. How to get to the survey? Go to the website and navigate to the SHSP Update page. Click on the Lee-Russell picture at the top of the page. The survey link is along the left side of the page.
 - ii. The purpose of the survey is to determine the regional transportation safety problems in the region and how they may be improved.
- b. Survey review
 - i. 28 total responses

Ranking	Emphasis Areas
1	Distracted Driving
2	Impaired Driving
3	Aggressive Driving
4	Roadway Departure
5	Unrestrained Occupants
6	Intersection
7	Speeding
8	Young Drivers
9	Bicycles
10	Pedestrians

- ii. The Top 5 priority emphasis areas based on survey results are:
 - 1. Distracted driving
 - 2. Impaired driving
 - 3. Aggressive drivers
 - 4. Roadway departure crashes
 - 5. Unrestrained occupants
 - iii. List of “other response” includes:
 - 1. Texting, lighting, MUTCD, Roadway improvements/ widening
- 4. Crash Data Presentation- Danena Gaines (Cambridge Systematics)
 - a. Priority Emphasis areas based on crash data
 - b. Why are fatalities and serious injuries used to determine emphasis areas?
 - i. Reducing fatal injuries is the purpose of the SHSP
 - ii. Serious injuries are often close to being fatal, and therefore are important to address.
 - c. It was mentioned that speeding related and impaired driving related crashes seemed too low to group, go back and check the data/ numbers.
 - i. The project team will review the data and send out corrected table if there are any discrepancies.
 - d. Based on the numbers within the city of Auburn, the percentage of younger drivers would probably be higher.
- 5. Selection of Emphasis Areas- Danena Gaines (CS)
 - a. Dr. Gaines asked the group how they felt emphasis areas should be determined and if their thoughts changed at all after seeing the survey and data results.

- b. Dr. Gaines made the point that in selecting the emphasis areas, the group should consider emphasis areas that are specific to the region and have the coverage to address multiple types of crashes.
 - c. Some meeting participants indicated the crash data seems to be in stark contrast from survey results. More inclined to believe the survey data.
 - d. Three separate polls were conducted where all 14 members of the meeting were asked what the number one, two, three emphasis areas should be. After voting and some discussion it was determined that the emphasis areas for the region will be
 - i. Distracted Driving
 - ii. Impaired Driving
 - iii. Young Drivers
 - iv. Bicycles and Pedestrians
- 6. Effective Countermeasures- Danena Gaines walked the group through an introduction to effective countermeasures.
 - a. At a minimum, countermeasures should be
 - i. Proven effective
 - ii. On scale with the coalition's abilities
 - iii. Focused on reducing fatal and serious injury crashes for the specific emphasis area
 - iv. Leverage the resources of the region
- 7. Next Steps- The next step for the group will be to convene and develop action plans for each of the selected emphasis areas. The group decided that in-person meetings would be more effective. As such, the Project Team will coordinate a time and location for the action planning with the group.