Illinois Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Minutes
October 23, 2018

TRCC Attendees	
Mehdi Nassirpour, Jenni LeSeure, Mark Blankenship, Jessica Keldermans Viraj Perera, Raj Konduri, Rebecca Dieken, Dan Wilcox, Sandy Walters, Sharen Kelly, Stephanie Stoverink, Cynthia Watters, Bablibile Seck Birhame	IDOT
Donna Cooper, Jeff Clines, Andy Simmons	SOS
Tim Icenogle	Cass County Highway
Cheryl McKnelly	Illinois State Police
Ruth Kafensztok	Loyola University Chicago
Stephen Laffey	Illinois Commerce Commission
Kim Kolody	Jacobs (IDOT Consultants)
Greg Piland, Alan Ho	FHWA
Parry Frank	CMAP
James Hall, Dan Leonard	University of Illinois in Springfield

Welcome/ Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM by Mehdi Nassirpour. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions. Minutes from the April 17, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Brief Report from NHTSA and FHWA

Lyn Warren of NHTSA reported that NHTSA has published the national and state-level traffic fatalities for 2017 (https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812603). Overall there were 37,133 fatalities in the U.S., a decrease of 1.8% from 2016. Highlighted relative to 2016 were an increase in fatalities associated with crashes of large trucks (16.0%), and decreases in motorcyclist (3.1%), pedestrian (1.7%), and pedalcyclist (8.1%) fatalities. She also mentioned that Illinois saw an increase in fatalities from 1,078 in 2016 to 1090 in 2017 (1.1%).

Separately, Lynn noted that states may use one of three options for the next traffic records assessment, next due for Illinois in 2021. The options are:

- The state performing their own independent assessment, or hiring a third party, basing the review on the previous NHTSA assessment.
- NHTSA self-assessment worksheet, using a set of 328 questions.
- NHTSA peer assessment, requiring less questions to be completed and including two on-site visits by facilitators with expertise in traffic records systems. Note that this third option incurs no cost to the states who select it.

Greg Piland of FHWA reported that a safety data capability assessment is coming up for Illinois. The recently completed Roadway Data Improvement Program (RDIP) assessment will be useful in responding the safety data capability questions.

Illinois will use the FHWA Data Governance Assistance Program to facilitate IDOT's data governance efforts.

Roadside hardware process review was discussed. Districts with downed roadside hardware seek to communicate the problem quickly so repairs can take place sooner. Methods to take advantage of electronically reported crash records were considered. (At this time, 81% of all Illinois crash records are submitted electronically). Jessica mentioned that they might start completing those crashes earlier that other crashes

The FHWA Division Administrator is retiring this year, with a new administrator likely to be appointed in January 2019.

In discussion, it was noted that Illinois State Police (ISP) is reporting100% of their crash data electronically, with citation data also being captured in the TraCS system (Traffic and Criminal Software) used by ISP. All the hardware data, such as damaged guard rails or cable barriers available in a timely fashion.

New Business (Status Report on the following Items)

Mehdi briefly discussed the important of the SHSP implementation process and pointed out the role of the committee in focusing on the proposed objectives and strategies listed under the Information System section of the SHSP.

Cynthia Watters reported that the 9 working groups, covering the 16 areas of the SHSP, have met at least twice. The groups also met in cross-collaborative workshops preceding the Illinois Traffic Engineering and Safety (ITES) Conference on October 16, 2018. The focus now be on action items and assignment of tasks in follow up. Kim Kolody of Jacobs Consulting noted that the goal is to prepare action plans by spring 2019, with identification of high priorities to be addressed in the first six months to one year.

Roadway Data Improvement Program (RDIP) Final Report
Mehdi reported that the final report of the Roadway Data Improvement Program Assessment (RDIP) had been distributed. The Office of Planning and Programming will be involved in implementing recommendations.

One RDIP recommendation concerned local agency data access. To help with this access, a presentation was made at the TES by Tom Casson, County Engineer for the Menard County Highway Department, and Doug Keirn, IDOT Programming Engineer, particularly regarding use of the Safety Portal. The presentation materials will be distributed to TRCC committee members to share with local agencies.

Safety Analyst Software

Mehdi reported that the Bureau of Information Processing (BIP) has installed Safety Analyst on a number of user workstations, and training will be scheduled.

Data Governance Technical Assistance

Mehdi reported that, as noted previously, the FHWA Data Governance Assistance Program will facilitate IDOT's data governance efforts. Data governance can lead to a more comprehensive IDOT data warehouse. The meeting will be held during the first week of December 2018.

National Governors Association Learning Lab Project

Mehdi reported that the National Governors Association (NGA) is working to facilitate data linkage projects that support the reduction of traffic fatalities and injuries. NGA may particularly help with establishing the authority for IDOT to access health care data for linkage on a routine basis. As an example of linkage work, Dan Leonard reported on a TES presentation that used linked crash and hospital records to compare KABCO injury severity coding to a standard hospital injury severity score (the Major Abbreviated Injury Scale). Opportunities to improve the accuracy of KABCO coding relative to hospital severity were identified. The presentation will be distributed to TRCC committee members.

New iPad for Collecting Safety Belt Data

Mehdi reported on the purchase of iPads to facilitate collection of observational data on safety belt usage. A programmer at Purdue University has developed an app for working with these data.

Update on Legislation on Releasing Crash Data to the Public

Mark Blankenship reported that the proposal regarding charging for IDOT crash data has been submitted to the office of the Chief Counsel. The proposal included a cost schedule for for-profit entities such as Carfax.

Report from the Chair of the Data Quality Subcommittee

The next Data Quality Subcommittee meeting is pending.

Update on 2019 SR 1050 Crash Report Form Rewrite

Jessica Keldermans reported that the form rewrite has been finalized with approval for printing obtained last week. Paper forms should be received by the end of November with distribution to follow in the first two weeks of December. Agencies that submit their records electronically have received templates and instruction booklets. Webinar training sessions are planned for November and January.

In discussion, it was noted that ISP and Chicago had no problems with the changes to their systems for electronic submission. Also, it was note that the capture of distracted driving data should improve when using the modified form.

Status Report on the TRCC Projects:

Traffic Records Coordinator and Data Scientist Positions

Mehdi reported that the traffic records coordinator position should be posted soon.

Trauma Registry Data

Mehdi reported that IDPH is in the process of selecting a vendor to develop a new trauma registry.

Data Governance

Dan Wilcox reported that a strategy is being developed for using grant funding to obtain external assistance for this project.

Safety Analysis and Vehicle Probe

A subcontract has been signed with the University of Maryland CATT Lab to implement components of the Probe Data Analytics Suite. Meetings took place with the contractor last week.

Imaging Enhancement

Andy Simmons of SOS reported that this funding continues to support the work of a contractual employee in processing imaging enhancement.

State to State Verification System

Andy reported that connections with this system should begin in 2019.

Chicago Electronic Reporting project (CDOT/CPD)

Jessica reported that all Chicago records are now reported electronically, with no issues. In discussion, it was noted that Chicago records are still geocoded at IDOT. Chicago maintains its own internal location coding and collects address information.

Electronic Reporting System

In additional discussion, it was noted that ISP maintains a state license for the TraCS system. As a result, is it possible for other Illinois agencies to use TraCS via this license, provided they cover support and maintenance costs. ISP may seek funding to prepare policies and related materials to facilitate access for other agencies. This would include a component for capturing citation data.

It was noted that IDOT will seek to make electronic reporting mandatory in 2020. This affects agencies that still rely on paper submission as well as agencies that are not satisfied with their current vendor for electronic submission and are considering going back to paper.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM

The next meeting will be on January 22, 2019.