

PEDESTRIAN FATALITY REVIEW BOARD

AUGUST 18, 2015

10:00 A.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Capt. Eric Walker, Chair
Michael Ryan, Vice Chair
Violet Poe
Elaine Lucas
Nigel Floyd
Rob Ryals
Lt. Brad Wolfe
Dr. Chris Tsavatewa
Sam Henderson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Earnest Queen, Facilities Management
Sarah Hunt, Citizen
Nancy White, Health Department
Megan Chapman, Health Department
Stephanie Hyman, Health Department
Dave Oedel, Mercer University

The meeting was called to order by Captain Eric Walker, Chair, followed by introduction of Board Members.

Captain Walker advised that the Board was formed to address pedestrian fatalities. Captain reviewed with the Board pedestrian death cases in the Macon-Bibb County from 2012 to 2015. He advised that contributing factors were intoxication, dark clothing, crossing outside crosswalks and suicide.

The Board discussed different strategies and initiatives that could help reduce pedestrian deaths:

Better lighting to increase pedestrian visibility and safety
Make sure all property is safe for pedestrians (Public and Private)
Educational Strategies
Calming Zones
Art in the Streets
Safe Routes to Schools Program

Elaine Lucas moved, seconded by Nigel Floyd, to form subcommittees for more in-depth study and make recommendations. **APPROVED.**

Education Subcommittee:

Chris Tsavatewa
Violet Poe
David Gowan, Bibb County Board of Education

Pedestrian Safety Audit Subcommittee:

Nigel Floyd
Earnest Queen
Rob Ryals

Law Enforcement Subcommittee:

Captain Eric Walker
Lt. Brad Wolfe

Chris Tsavatewa informed the Board that Health Department applied for a grant 6 months ago from the State of Georgia Office of Injury Prevention e to look at opportunities for improvement based on data from 2008 to 2012. The grant will fund a Statewide Program Manager and a Part Time Assistant position to look at statewide pedestrian safety with the initial pilot program in Bibb County. Mr. Tsavatewa advised that Macon was significantly ranked amongst the highest in State on pedestrian fatalities. Mr. Tsavatewa further advised that they should hear from State on the grant by the end of September.

Elaine Lucas reported that the Community Foundation of Central Georgia and the Peyton Anderson, Knight Foundation have possible education grant available.

Nigel Floyd advised that he will provide the Board with a copy of the Federal Housing Administration Manual on Pedestrian Road Safety Audit Guidelines. Mr. Floyd advised lot of fatalities and accidents occur on State routes and they limited as to what improvements can be made as far as signage, cross walks and lighting. He suggested a local representative from the State Department be an advisor to the Board. He further advised that he serve on the MATS Committee and he will invite Mr. Greg Brown to the next Board meeting who works in conjunction with the Macon Transit Authority.

Elaine Lucas suggested that the Board of Health educators be advisors to the Board and Mrs. Sarah Hunt who has a radio program on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. Elaine Lucas also advised that she also has a radio show on Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m.

Nancy White suggested that the Age Friendly Group serve as advisors to the Board.

The next meeting of the Board will be September 15, 2015 with the following agenda items:

Report from Chris Tsavatewa
DOT/MATS Report
Age Friendly Group Report
Macon Transit Authority Report

ADJOURNMENT.