

1 **Minutes**

2 Kankakee County Safety Committee

3 Audio/Video/In-person Meeting

4 **Wednesday, May 3, 2023 @ 9:30 AM**

5 **2<sup>nd</sup> floor – Conference Room**

6 **Kankakee County Administration Building**

7 **189 E. Court Street, Kankakee, IL 60901**

8 Members in attendance: Scott O’Brien – Manteno Fire Department & Chair (temporary), Brett Barrie –  
9 Bourbonnais Police Department, Greg Heiden – Kankakee County Highway Department - Delbert  
10 Skimerhorn – Kankakee County Planning Department.

11 Staff members in attendance: Rob Fischer & Michelle Sadler.

12 **Call to Order:**

13 The meeting was opened by Chairman O’Brien at 9:33AM.

14 **Public Comment:**

15 None at this time.

16 **K (fatal) and A (Incapacitating Injury) Crash Discussion 2023:**

17 Rob Fischer presented the group with a map featuring data indicating where fatal (K) and incapacitating  
18 (A) injuries have occurred in Kankakee County over the last 16 months, going back to the beginning of  
19 2022. Fischer told the committee the goal of the presentation is to start a quarterly tracking of accidents  
20 throughout the county, in order to accumulate both quantitative and qualitative data on the number and  
21 cause of accidents throughout the county. Delbert Skimerhorn told Fischer that perhaps the mapping data  
22 should feature fatal accidents and incapacitating accidents on separate maps. Chief Scott O’Brien  
23 discussed with Fischer and the committee his department’s narratives on such accidents, and suggested  
24 that those write-ups would be helpful in tracking causes of accidents. Officer Barrie gave insight into the  
25 writing of accident reports as well. He also touched on tracking data that does not necessarily qualify as a  
26 “K or A” accident with the rest of the committee. Skimerhorn added that there could be an opportunity  
27 to pursue grant money, upon accumulation of the data. Public outreach efforts and a manor in which to  
28 convey the dangers of reckless driving were also discussed.

29 The committee agreed that this update and data accumulation would be beneficial to determining ways  
30 to further reduce accidents and discussed parsing data into more categories as the exercise continues into  
31 the future.

32 **IDOT Vulnerable Road Users (VRU) Safety Assessment Tool:**

33 Mr. Fischer introduced the committee to the IDOT’s Vulnerable Road User Assessment Tool. Fischer  
34 demonstrated the tool and told committee members they have access to the tool. He showed the  
35 committee how to input data into the tool, as it pertains to geographical areas of concern where  
36 pedestrians and cyclists could be in harms way. Other categories on the tool that Fischer pointed out to  
37 the committee included a data input for determining areas where handicapped road users are at risk, as  
38 well as areas that are underserved by public transit. The discussion is ongoing.

39 **Local Road Safety Projects:**

40 A roundtable discussion for member to discuss local safety projects in their own jurisdictions was brought  
41 to the table. At this time, further discussion on 12000N at Route 50 was brought up, but no other  
42 significant projects were highlighted. This topic will be on future agendas as well.

43 **Discussion: Illinois 50 at 12000N:**

44 Manteno Fire Chief Scott O'Brien discussed safety measures and the state of auto accidents at the  
45 intersection of 12000N and Route 50.

46 He added that the yellow lighting and an enlarged stop sign, which have been added to the intersection,  
47 have seemed to have a positive impact on curtailing future accidents.

48 When "rumble strips" came up in the committee's conversation, as a mechanism to slow traffic, O'Brien  
49 added that township commissioners do not like them, as they impede snow removal processes. A 3<sup>rd</sup> lane,  
50 used for turns on 12000N, had been discussed as well.

51 The intersection will continue to be discussed in future safety committee meetings.

52 **New Business:**

53 There was no new business

54 **Old Business:**

55 There was no old business. Please see "Illinois 50 at 12000N" for a continuation of that discussion.

56 **Other business:**

57 There was no other business.

58 **Next Meeting date:**

59 The next Kankakee County Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for August 2nd, 2023 at 9:30AM, in  
60 the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room of the Kankakee County Administration Building.

61 **Adjournment:**

62 Chairman O'Brien adjourned the meeting at 10:15 AM with a secondary motion, after a primary  
63 adjournment motion from Greg Heiden.