

1 **Minutes**

2 **Kankakee County Safety Committee**

3 **In-person Meeting**

4 **Wednesday, August 7th, 2024 @ 9:30 AM**

5 **2nd floor – Conference Room**

6 **Kankakee County Administration Building**

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

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9 Members in attendance: Dr. Mike Gingerich – Chair, Scott O’Brien – Vice-Chair, & Kenneth Mallindine –
10 Kankakee Police Department,

11 Staff members in attendance: Rob Fischer.

12 Others in Attendance: N/A.

13 **Call to Order:**

14 The meeting was then opened by Chairman Gingerich at 9:36AM.

15 **Public Comment:**

16 Therese Schultz re-addressed the committee with concerns at the intersection of River Street and Schuyler
17 Avenue in the City of Kankakee. She told the committee that a “right turn only” lane for traffic heading
18 Eastbound on River Street, while attempting to turn South, would be beneficial to address the flow of
19 traffic at that intersection. She told the committee that she has been in contact with Dave Baron, Mike
20 O’Brien, and other City of Kankakee officials regarding the intersection. She reiterated that the
21 intersection was redesigned, it gets backed up enough at points that right-hand turns become difficult.
22 Schultz also addressed the committee at the May 1st meeting with this concern.

23 **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

24 The minutes from the May 1st, 2024 Safety Committee meeting were not approved as there was no
25 quorum in attendance.

26 **2022 Kankakee County Comprehensive Summary Crash Report:**

27 Rob Fischer presented a summary and analysis of IDOT’s 2022 Kankakee County Comprehensive Summary
28 Crash Report to the committee. The Committee reviewed the 2022 Crash Report, which provides a
29 comprehensive analysis of traffic incidents in the county. The report, based on data from the Illinois
30 Department of Transportation, highlights key findings such as 2,332 total traffic incidents, resulting in 14
31 fatalities and 574 injuries, with 4,122 vehicles involved, impacting 5,185 individuals. Crashes were most
32 frequent on Fridays, particularly during noon and afternoon hours.

33 The highest number of crashes occurred in clear weather (1,828) and on dry road surfaces (1,710), with
34 turning incidents (440) and front-to-rear collisions (411) being the most common types. Drivers aged 25-
35 29, especially males, were significantly involved in crashes. Pedestrian and cyclist incidents were also
36 noted, with 20 pedestrian and 8 cyclist crashes reported. Notably, 487 crashes involved traffic signals, 396
37 involved stop signs, and 1,287 occurred without any traffic control devices.

38 The report underscores the need for enhanced road signage, targeted driver education, and regular
39 infrastructure assessments to improve road safety. Key recommendations include improving visibility and

40 clarity of road signs, implementing educational campaigns for high-risk groups, and conducting regular
41 evaluations of road conditions.

42 **New Business:** The committee examined two June reports, both involving fatalities. Officer Kenneth
43 Mallindine provided a detailed account of one incident, a recent pedestrian crash fatality. He explained
44 how the use of cameras was instrumental in apprehending the suspect. The cameras, focusing on the
45 suspect's description, allowed authorities to narrow down the vehicle's location, ultimately leading to the
46 suspect's capture.

47 **Old Business:** The committee discussed recent improvements at the intersection of County Line Road and
48 Illinois Route 50.

49 **Other business:**

50 There was no other business.

51 **Next Meeting date:**

52 The next Kankakee County Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for November 6th, 2024 at 9:30AM, in
53 the 2nd floor Conference Room of the Kankakee County Administration Building.

54 **Adjournment:**

55 Chairman Gingerich adjourned the meeting at 10:25 AM.