

Suffolk County Traffic Safety Board

Meeting Notice

**The next regular meeting of the Suffolk County Traffic Safety Board
will be held on:**

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

At 2:00 p.m.

**in the Work Session Room (3rd Floor) at Town Hall*
Town of Brookhaven, New York**

Meeting Agenda

- 1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**
- 2. Correspondence**
- 3. Enforcement Programs**
- 4. Engineering Programs**
- 5. Highway Safety Programs**
- 6. Legislative Update**
- 7. STOP-DWI**
- 8. Old Business**
- 9. New Business**
- 10. Guest Speaker: John Tipaldo, NYCDOT, Red Light Camera Program**
- 11. Adjournment**

***Directions to Town Hall: (Work Session Room, 3rd Floor)**

- Take Long Island Expressway Exit 63 for North Ocean Avenue (County Road 83). Go north (right turn at traffic light for westbound and left turn at traffic light for eastbound traffic).
- Drive approximately one mile and turn right at the traffic light on Granny Road.
- Left turn at the second street, which is Bicycle Path.
- Right turn into Independence Hill for Town Hall parking lot.

**NOTE: ALL MONTHLY MEETINGS OF SCTSB FOR 2009 WILL BE HELD AT THIS LOCATION.
NEXT MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, November 18, 2009**

**SUFFOLK COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

Date: September 16, 2009

Place: Work Session Room at Brookhaven Town Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT (12)

Douglas Death

Office of the County Executive

William DeVore

Office of the District Attorney

Steven Kamvakis

Department of Fire, Rescue and Engineering Services

Stephen Miller

Suffolk County District Court

Andrea Neubauer

Suffolk County Probation Department

Robert Pearce

Southampton Town Police Department

Michael J. Salatti

Vice President, Greenman Pederson

John Saraceno

Traffic Engineer III, Town of Smithtown

Richard H. Schneider

East Hampton Village Police Department

Stephen Shadbolt

Transportation Supervisor, Sachem Central School District

Arvind Vora

Traffic Engineer II
Suffolk County Department of Public Works

Lynn Weyant

Director of Traffic Safety
Town of Brookhaven

GUESTS PRESENT (16)

Angela Brockmann, EAC
Manna Cali, ABATE
Denna Cohen, MADD
Sarah E. Furey, SCPD
Stephen Hernandez, SCPD
Audrey Kirwin, Met Life
Theodore Klein, SC Planning Department
Joseph Kruk, 106 Rescue Wing
Bradley Kusko, Town of Huntington
Jack Law, 106 Rescue Wing
Rachel Lugo, EAC
Christopher McBride, AAA
Maria Perez-Lent, STOP DWI
Margaret Rebholz, MADD
Russ Ritchie, NYS DOT
Ed Seltenreich, Quogue Police Department

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of September 16, 2009 was called to order by Lynn Weyant, the Chair, at 2:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lynn Weyant, the Chair, asked for additions, corrections to the June 2009 minutes.

Robert Pearce of the Southampton Police Department reported that on Page 2 under Enforcement Programs, for third item, on line two should have “down” instead of “up.”

A motion to approve the June minutes, as corrected, was made by Stephen Shadbolt and seconded by Robert Pearce. The motion passed (12-0-0).

CORRESPONDENCE

Arvind Vora reported that there were five pieces of correspondence and 14 pieces of published articles (see Attachment A). He reported on each item of correspondence one by one and highlighted the significant points for each item. Item 6 listed all 14 published articles.

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

- Stephen Hernandez of the Suffolk County Police Department distributed one page of Enforcement Statistics (see Attachment B) for January 1, 2009 through August 31, 2009. He reported that the summonses issued in every category have declined substantially. He also reported that the DWI arrests for the Highway Patrol Bureau as well as for the entire police department also declined.
- Robert Pearce of the Southampton Police Department reported that there were 131 DWI arrests during the period of May through August compared to 146 during the same period last year. He also reported that 249 summonses were issued on CR39 under the STEP grant, of which 119 were for speed violations. He reported that CR39, a major arterial in Southampton, has a posted speed limit of 35 mph while the average operating speed is 58 mph.
- Richard H. Schneider of the East Hampton Village Police Department distributed four pages of the Offense Analysis Report for July 1, 2009 to August 31, 2009 (see Attachment C). He reported that there were five DWI arrests during the months of July and August. One of the operators had a BAC level of 0.357 who was arraigned and held in the County Jail pending the posting of \$30,000 bail.
- El Seltenreich of the Quogue Village Police Department distributed one page of Patrol 2009 Stats (see Attachment D) for June 1, 2009 to September 1, 2009. He reported that DWI arrests are down from 24 to 20 (-16%), while DWI Arrests Refusals were up from 3 to 5 (+66%) and unlicensed operator summonses were up from 18 to 44 (+144%).

ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

- John Saraceno of Smithtown reported that the bid for reconstruction of Old Nichols Road (which is mostly a drainage project) is due in October. Steve Shadbolt of Sachem Schools reported the need for a sidewalk in the section just north of Smithtown Blvd.

John Saraceno distributed two pages (see Attachment E) of the Suffolk County RFP on the Red Light Violation Camera System. He reported that bids are due by October 13, 2009 and he will e-mail the entire bid package of 39 pages to Arvind Vora who will forward it to all Board members. Attachment E lists 66 locations identified by the County, of which 50 locations will be selected for RLC deployment. All locations are on New York State highways or on the North or South Service Road of the Long Island Expressway. All of the traffic signal locations are maintained by NYSDOT.

- Bradley Kusko of Huntington reported that Walt Whitman Road will be reconstructed, and as part of the project, traffic signals will be rebuilt also. Under a Federal Grant, a bid package will go out soon to rebuild eleven traffic signals on Larkfield Road and one traffic signal on Wolf Hill Road.

- Russ Richie of NYSDOT provided a one page listing (see Attachment F) of eight intersections where traffic signals were turned on during the period of June 10 to September 3, 2009. He also reported that there was a public meeting last night on the Rt. 112 reconstruction project. He gave to Arvind Vora the following three CD-ROMs:
 - Bicycle Safer Journey (Interactive Bicyclist Safety Awareness)
 - Safer Journey (Interactive Pedestrian Safety Awareness)
 - BIKESAFE(Bicycle Countermeasures Selection System)

He reported that these CD-ROMs can be ordered free of charge from USDOT-FHWA via http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike_order.htm.

He also gave to Arvind Vora a 24 page small booklet published by NYSDMV titled "Sharing the Road Safely in New York State," a traffic safety guide concerning bicyclists, in-line skaters, pedestrians, non-motorized scooter operators, motorcyclists, and motorists.

Mr. Richie reported that the newest listing of High Accident Locations (5% Report) lists seven fewer locations in Suffolk County than the previous one.

- Lynn Weyant of Brookhaven reported that:
 - The next month field visit/meeting at the newest Safety Town if the Red Light Camera Guest Speaker, Mr. Tiplado, of NYCDOT is not available.
 - The Traffic Sign Inventory Project under \$1.25 million Grant is going out to bid soon.
 - The TIGER Grant project of \$30 million to rebuilt two town bridges over Rt. 27, Sunrise Highway, one on Hospital Road and the other on Station Road.
 - Local Safer Streets and Traffic calming bid on Union Avenue between CR 19 and Hawkins Road next month.
 - All TSL (traffic signal lights) will be connected from infrared to GPS under federal funding from Congressman Bishop.
- Michael J. Salatti of Greenman-Pedersen reported that they have completed twenty locations in Nassau County for the Red Light Camera program (took two months to design), and the next thirty locations will be completed by the end of the year.

HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS

- Denna Cohen of MADD reported that the Candlelight Vigil will take place on September 26, while the Law Enforcement Luncheon will take place sometime in March 2010 and the Walkathon in May 2010. She also reported that to support the Ignition Interlock Bill, contact your NYS Assemblyman and go on the website to register your support. She expressed concern on the media focusing more on aggressive driving than on drunk drivers, to which Ed Seltenreich of Quogue concurred by reporting that charges of Aggravated Felony were reduced to Impaired with the explanation that no one got hurt!
- Jack Law of the 106 Rescue Wing reported that nationwide there were 54 fatalities out of 64,000 population of the Air Force, of which 48 were MVA or MCY. Denna Cohen asked how many were in New York State, to which he replied that there were none in New York State.
- Christopher McBride of AAA reported that a new safety project titled "Drive Sharp" which helps seniors to improve mental skills to be better drivers got coverage in the Wall Street Journal and on FOX-TV. It is on the website DriveSharp.com. He reported that it helps to improve your skills, but does not test. He also reported that POSITSIGNS has developed a game, which is out for one month or so, and kind of lots of fun, which can be accessed at RoadwiseReview.com.
- Stephen Shadbolt of Sachem Schools reported that he will find out next week the dates for Operation Safe Stop. He reported that he needs more information about the CBS-sponsored contest to design a mascot for the Brookhaven Safety Town. Lynn will e-mail the information.
- Manna Cali of ABATE reported that the Suffolk County Sheriff presented a proclamation to ABATE during Motorcycle Month. She also reported that early removal of winter sand helps motorcyclists; however, potholes need to be fixed. She reported again about the need for detecting a motorcyclist presence at signalized intersections. Arvind Vora reported that the list highlighting intersections under the County jurisdiction has been provided to the person in charge and will report on progress at future meetings. ABATE, she reported, is in the process of developing a tip sheet for car drivers to prevent accidents with motorcyclists. She also reported that ABATE officials also met Leg. Eddington and a representative of DPW to address safety issues at locations where a high incidence of motorcycle and motor vehicle accidents are reported. She reported about the \$46,000 local grant for Brookhaven Town, to which Lynn Weyant reported that the grant has been applied to NYS GTSC and a decision is expected before the end of this month.

- Sarah Furey of SCPD reported that under the STEP Grant, 23% of funding was allocated to enforcement around high schools. SCPD also used STEP funding for Operation Safe Stop activities related to passing of stopped school buses. She reported that the Buckle Up Grant is done, under which a total of 1474 summonses were issued – 732 for seat belt violations, 49 for child passenger violations, and 693 for other violations, as well as 10 arrests were made. She reported that a pre- and post-enforcement survey indicated that seat belt compliance went up, in one survey from 83% to 96%. She reported that there was no information yet on motorcycle enforcement, but there will be no check-point enforcements this year.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

NONE

STOP DWI

- Douglas Death distributed three pages of a DWI Highway Fatalities Report (see Attachment G) and four pages of a DWI Arrest Report (see Attachment H), both for the month of July 2009. He reported that DWI arrests are down significantly from 3267 last year to approximately 2900 this year; overall fatals are down from 98 to 88 and DWI fatals from 35 to 28. He reported that August statistics are not in the above reports, but the trend is toward record-breaking lower numbers.
- Maria Perez-Lent reported that over the summer months she looked into female drunk drivers and found number are up by 35%. She attributed this trend to many reasons, including more females in the work force and better enforcement. She reported that the school year calendars published as part of the poster contest will be out soon and she will bring it to the next meeting.
- Douglas Death reported that two training courses will be offered for DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) during coming winter in Suffolk County for all police agencies from New York City to the East End He reported that currently only DRE testimony is admissible in court. Maureen McCormick of Nassau County is looking into the possibilities for ARIDE be allowed to testify in courts since training is less expensive and shorter – two days only as opposed to ten days for DRE. Ed Seltenreich reported that there are only very few DREs on Long Island and in New York City.

OLD BUSINESS

- Audrey Kirwin reported that the meeting with Senator Foley at his office took place to find funding for simulators for Brookhaven Safety Town and schools.

NEW BUSINESS

- John Saraceno inquired about motorcycle crash along the Wantagh Parkway in Nassau County, where a motorcyclist crashed into a stopped bicyclist who was on the multi-use path in which the bicyclist died, and what possible safety measures have or will be taken to prevent further crashes. Russ Richie of NYSDOT reported that the right lane has been hatch striped, rumble strips have been installed, and plastic tube delineators will be installed by the end of October.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Lynn Weyant asked for a motion to adjourn the September meeting. The motion was made by Douglas Death and seconded by Robert Pearce, and passed unanimously (12-0-0).