

**Illinois Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Minutes  
April 30, 2019**

<b>TRCC Attendees</b>	
Mehdi Nassirpour, Mark Blankenship, Jessica Keldermans, Rebecca Dieken, Katherine Beckett, Cynthia Watters, Bill Morgan, Jonathan Lloyd, Filiberto Sotelo, Dan Wilcox, Sandy Walter, Rochelle Gillespie	IDOT
Angie Williams	ISP
Donna Cooper, Andy Simmons, Steve Monick	SOS
Adelisa Orantia, Jennifer Martin	Illinois Department of Public Health
Parry Frank	CMAP
Mahdi Rajabi	Jacobs (IDOT Consultants)
Greg Piland	FHWA
James Hall, Dan Leonard	University of Illinois in Springfield

Welcome/ Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Mehdi Nassirpour. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions. Minutes from the January 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Brief Report from NHTSA and FHWA

Lyn Warren of NHTSA was not available for the meeting but submitted a report regarding the timeliness and completeness of 2018 FARS data. Illinois was reported at 94% timeliness and 90% completeness. Lyn’s report also emphasized the importance of the Traffic Records Strategic Safety Plan in order to be qualified for funding for FY 2020.

Greg Piland of FHWA confirmed that that Illinois had implemented the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the MMUCC standard. He asked whether Illinois has revised its serious injury coding. Mark Blankenship replied that all the law enforcement all the law enforcement agencies started coding the serious injuries based on the new definition of “Serious Injury.” Greg also noted that the final report on the Data Governance Technical Assistance was still pending from the FHWA and VHB (A consultant Company). We should be getting the final report sometime in May or June 2019.

Review and Approval of TRCC Projects

Three projects were reviewed:

- 1) Developing New Data Warehouse at Secretary of State (SOS)  
SOS is proposing to replace its legacy systems with a data warehouse. Adny Simmons and Steve Monick noted that the current systems for vehicles, drivers, and several smaller databases (organ donor, commercial driver’s license, etc,) contain around 100 million active records but are not integrated together and rely on platforms that are many years old. A new data warehouse could provide standardization and integration to facilitate data mining, analysis of trends, and data sharing. Ideally there will be a one customer-one record system. For the proposal, the first year will consist of a vendor reviewing all systems and proposing a strategy including design architecture, software, and tools. The

immediate goal of the project is to integrate the vehicle and driver databases at this time.

In this context, citations were also discussed. Mark Blankenship noted that currently the Bureau of Crash Data Collection does not have direct access to the driver and vehicle and citation files. A legislation will be needed for IDOT to obtain access to SOS databases. Steve Monick replied that they had no information on that. IDOT needs to contact the legal staff at SOS.

2) Trauma Registry Data Linkage and Analysis at IDPH

Adelisa Orantia reported that a new data user agreement between IDPH and IDOT was pending for sharing Trauma Registry data. Also, for the new Trauma Registry, a vendor was selected but there are still pending issues with the IDPH legal department. Currently 67 trauma centers report to the registry, with data including mechanism of injury and BAC; however, the existing software platform will no longer be supported by CMS because it is outdated.

3) Data Governance

Dan Wilcox noted that data governance focuses on standardization and coordination of all IDOT data systems. The pending report from the December 2018 technical assistance FHWA workshop will serve as the charter for the project. At the workshop a self-assessment was conducted for data management and analysis. The efforts of other states in this area was also discussed at the workshop, and the “commitment” approach was selected as optimal in Illinois. A second project concerning data management and more technical components will follow the initial data governance work. Mehdi reported that Dan Wilcox and Sandy to complete an application for funding for FY 2020.

The committee approved these projects. Rochelle Gillespie will help facilitate proposal submissions, and she will also help Adelisa work with the IDPH legal department.

New Business (Status Report on the following Items)

Cynthia Watters reported that the action items drafted by the 9 working groups, covering the 16 areas of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), are being coordinated and cross-matched in order to prepare a summary report.

Traffic Records Strategic Plan

Mehdi reported that a Traffic Records Strategic Plan is required to be completed by June 30, 2019 for NHTSA traffic records funding. The plan is required to address the traffic records related issues, identify and fund traffic records projects. The Traffic records Strategic Plan need to be based on the state’s current traffic records assessment which was completed in June 2016.

Safety Analyst Software Training by AASHTO Contractor (Darren Torbic from Med

Mehdi reported that Safety Analyst training was completed on March 4-5, 2019. The training for this complex system, which is oriented to identifying high-crash locations,

covered site selection, network screening, countermeasures, economic analyses, and before-and-after evaluation of countermeasures. Dan Leonard presented a report that used screening tools in Safety Analyst to identify sites with high rates of alcohol-related fatal and injury crashes. The report included metrics built into Safety Analysis for the expected frequency of crashes, excess frequency, and a statistical measure (“Modified LOSS Delta”) to compare individual sites with the safety performance function for similar roadway types.

In discussion it was noted that data for Safety Analyst will be updated to 2013-2017, superseding the current 2009-2015 data. This will provide better quality of data for the safety Analyst platform.

#### Data Linkage Project with IDOT/IDPH

Mehdi reported that a Center for Disease Control (CDC) grant had been prepared in association with IDPH’s Injury Prevention Program. If funded, a new data analyst position at the University of Illinois in Springfield will be created to work on data linkage projects. In addition, the grant coordinates work between IDOT and IDPH and may help eventually institutionalize the data linkage in Illinois. Jennifer Martin noted that collaboration in preparing the grant was beneficial.

#### New iPad for Collecting Safety Belt Data

Mehdi and Rebecca Dieken reported on the use of iPads to collect observational data on safety belt usage. Ten iPads have been purchased, and software has been loaded and tested on each. The devices will automatically email results of data collection to IDOT. Law Enforcement Liaisons (LELs) will test the iPads relative to the currently used manual “clicker” devices. Implementation of iPad usage is targeted for the August 2019 when IDOT conduct back-seat survey using a sub-sample of 51 sites (rather than the full survey of 288 sites conducted in June).

#### Update on 2017 Crash Data

Mark Blankenship reported the 2017 data are not ready for the users yet. They are validating the location data to be sure all the crashes located correctly before they released to the public. Also, in some situations, officers may not have located sites using a sufficient “zoom” level in their location devices and in others, officers may have waited to complete location information until they had returned to the station and then inadvertently entered this location rather than the scene location. Manual corrections for location will also be needed for 2018 data. IDOT may look into use of a standardized location tool.

#### Update on 2019 SR 1050 Crash Report Form Rewrite

Mark reported that all programming at IDOT complies with the new 2019 form. Some agency XML vendors needed an extension through March to modify their system based on the new crash form.

#### CATT Lab—University of Maryland/IDOT Project

Mehdi asked Bill Morgan to report on the CATT Lab project presentation that was presented on March 23, 2019. IDOT has an agreement in place with the University of Maryland CATT Lab to utilize their web based RITIS tools. The initial rollout was focused

on their tools for the FHWA Performance Management Tools for the PM3 System Reliability metrics that were due October 1, 2018. We are currently working with the University of Maryland CATT Lab to integrate additional IDOT data sets to expand the utilization of their tools to additional areas.

In follow up, Mehdi noted that he will send a link to the CATT Lab site for Illinois data to committee members.

### **Status Report on the TRCC Projects:**

#### Traffic Records Coordinator and Data Scientist Positions

Mehdi reported that the traffic records coordinator and data scientist positions are still pending.

#### 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 Simmons reported that the state-to-state system is currently in the design and coding phase. In total, 24 states currently participate. Illinois has scheduled October 21, 2019 as the tentative date for implementation.

#### Other

Mark reported that the 2017 Crash Facts report has been drafted and is under review prior to release.

Dan Wilcox reported that the Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT) may provide an opportunity for a student “hackathon” in association with IBM’s Watson platform. These sessions allow students to creatively explore public data with a defined objective. The use of transportation safety data could be a topic of interest. Dan will follow up on this area at the next TRCC meeting.

Parry Frank, from CMAP reported that, as a contractor to IDOT, they have completed processing of 2018 crash records and are working on 2019 data. Data releases will take place quarterly.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM

The next meeting will be on July 23, 2019