

**JEFFERSON COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, April 17th, 2025

The Jefferson County Traffic Safety Commission met on Thursday, April 17th, 2025, at 1:00 P.M. for a meeting at the Jefferson County Highway Department.

ROLL CALL OF THE HIGHWAY COMMITTEE:

Members present: Cooper, Horn, Heaslip, McGeary, Preuss, Thompson, Udovich, Wells

Members absent: Lorenzen, Maze

Also present: Kevin Wiesmann, Jefferson County Parks Department
Matt Kanters, Jefferson County Sheriff's Department
Jake Borth, Jefferson County Highway Department
Laura Bohlman, City of Watertown Police Department
Laura Payne, Town of Oakland
John Ciccarelli, City of Fort Atkinson Resident
Anita Martin, City of Lake Mills Resident
Meg Turville Heitz (Online)
City Of Lake Mills Police Department Representative
City of Jefferson Police Department Representative

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES:

The minutes from the January 16, 2024, Jefferson County Traffic Safety Commission meeting, having been distributed in advance, it was moved by Cooper and seconded by Preuss to approve the minutes as printed. Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Laura Payne mentioned recent Local Officials Meeting for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) project in the Town of Oakland at the intersection of USH 18 and Hope Lake Road; she also inquired about the potential for a speed limit reduction on USH 18 between Cambridge High School and CTH A, possible safety improvements at the intersection of USH 18 and CTH A, as well as jake brake use along CTH A and CTH G adjacent to USH 18.
- Meg Turville Heitz reiterated safety concern along USH 18 between Hope Lake Road and CTH A.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Discuss speed concern on USH 18 near Cambridge:

Chris Wells indicated there is a HSIP project scheduled in 2027 to install center line/edge line rumble strips and a high surface friction treatment at the intersection of USH 18 and Hope Lake Road; there will be a Public Information Meeting in the near future. Short term, improvements to curve signs are being recommended: larger advisory curve signs (one on each side of road) as well as night arrows with bright strips on sign posts.

He also indicated that there is an improvement project scheduled for 2028 on USH 18 from Cambridge to Jefferson that will include wider shoulders.

Laura Payne asked about the (45 mph) speed limit adjacent to the high school. Chris Wells indicated that a speed limit reduction is not being recommended at this time (see study attached). A two-way left turn lane (TWLTL) may be possible in the future to accommodate turning movements.

Recent fatal crash at intersection of USH 18 and CTH A was discussed. Chris Wells indicated that a HSIP application is being submitted this Fall for a possible roundabout to be constructed in 2030 or 2031. Laura Payne shared that there is a proposed subdivision planned in the southwest quadrant of the intersection with approximately 100 homes planned upon full build out. Chris inquired about obtaining a set of the development plans; Brian Udovich will submit a copy to him.

b. Discuss speed/Jake Brake concerns on STH 89 (Forth Atkinson-Lake Mills):

No update from WisDOT (Chris Wells)

c. Discuss speed concerns/crashes on STH 106 at CTH J

Chris Wells stated that the curves were signed properly and that no changes were necessary.

d. Discuss possible intersection improvements at USH 18/STH 89 intersection

Chris Wells stated that a roundabout is approved/funded at the USH 18/STH 89 west intersection (as well as the intersection of USH 18 and CTH G); Russ Cooper inquired about safety at USH 18/STH 89 east intersection also.

e. Discuss CTH E speed concerns/crashes ("S" Curves)

Brian Udovich stated that a traffic study was performed illustrating speeds were compliant in the area; investigate possible chevrons/night arrows to assist motorists navigating curves.

f. Discuss concerns of CTH A/CTH V intersection (Lake Mills)

Brian Udovich stated that 4 traffic studies were conducted all of which proved compliance with speed limits. He mentioned that it may be possible to trim trees to improve sight lines, but would need to determine if they are in the right-of-way or on private property; City of Lake Mills Police Department did not feel that vegetation was an issue.

g. Discuss USH 18 (St. Coletta) Crosswalk concerns

Brian Udovich state that he met with St. Coletta and they would like to move forward with improving the crosswalk in this area. Chris Wells stated WisDOT would collect speed data and forward the appropriate permit application form.

h. Discuss CTH B pedestrian crossing at Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church (Farmington)

Brian Udovich stated that the Church would like to move forward with improving the crosswalk at this location; Church to approve at upcoming Council Meeting.

i. Law Enforcement/Legal Involvement:

Brian Udovich discussed the importance of law enforcement and legal involvement at Traffic Safety Commission meetings and thanked the agencies that were in attendance. He also stated that Danielle Thompson would be replacing Blair Ward as the legal member on the Commission. Captain Laura Bohman (City of Watertown Police Department) invited members from the following Police Departments to attend: City of Lake Mills, City of Fort Atkinson, City of

Jefferson, City of Waterloo, City of Whitewater, Village of Johnson Creek, and Village of Palmyra.

j. Emergency Vehicle Preemption

Laura Bohlman stated that the City of Watertown Fire Department was going through the process of installing EVP, but that the Police Department chose not to.

License plate readers are being utilized by the Jefferson County Sheriff Department and City of Whitewater Police Department; City of Jefferson and City of Lake Mills Police Departments are considering them.

k. Discuss Subcommittee outreach Efforts:

Elizabeth McGeary listed a number of past and future events that the Health Department will be involved in that will include information on safe driving.

March 12 th , 2025	Lake Mills Family Night
April 8 th , 2025	Whitewater Unified School District – Multi-lingual Family Night
May (TBD)	Waterloo Safety Summer Fair
May 2 nd , 2025	Fort Atkinson High School – Safe Communities Presentation
May 14 th , 2025	Sullivan Fire Department – National Night Out
June 7 th , 2025	Jefferson County Health Department Open House

NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss speed concern on CTH P between CTH B and I-94 (Farmington)

Brian Udovich discussed a call he received from a concerned citizen about high speeds on CTH P in Farmington; according to data collected this Spring, motorists appear to be complying with posted speed limit and there has not been a crash history over the past 10 years.

b. Discuss safety concern on CTH N at Cold Spring Creamery Park

Kevin Wiesmann of the Jefferson County Parks Department expressed concern for pedestrian safety at Cold Spring Creamery Park after a handful of runoffs occurred at or near the park. The Highway Department will investigate if signage on the curve is installed properly and will add any necessary advisory curve signs to alert drivers of the upcoming curve: additional chevrons have been added in recent years; 85th percentile speed is 9 miles over posted speed limit (additional enforcement also an option). Chris Wells suggested rumble strips, additional chevrons, brights strips (on sign posts), and curve signs on both sides of the road, but warned against beam guard.

10. Traffic Accident Spot Map – Jefferson County Sheriff's Department

The Spot Map was reviewed by the Commission: 5 fatal crashes since last meeting including CTH Y/Vogel Road & USH 18/CTH A. No motion.

11. WisDOT Southwest Region, Madison - Traffic Section

Chris Wells had nothing additional to report, but indicated he would try to share the H.S.I.P. report next time.

12. WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety – Transportation Safety Report & Highway Safety Input

Todd Horn presented the B.O.T.S. Transportation Safety Reports/Highway Safety Input (will send presentation slides): pedestrian crashes are dropping, but fatalities are increasing – most prevalent with older population & later in evening; 1st quarter crash data (310 crashes with 43

injuries and 1 fatality – speed a factor in 65 crashes; 48 crashes on County Trunk Highways); DOSCI roadside screening tool for law enforcement (driver behavior reporting); teen driving program/Safe Roads Challenge (distracted driving/seat belts) – most teen fatalities in Summer when driving more; proposed legislation for school bus back-up lamps & unlicensed driver fines to increase; and 50th Governor’s Conference on Highway Safety: August 19 & 20 at Kalahari in WI Dells (Traffic Safety Coordinator Meeting: August 18).

13. Wisconsin State Patrol

No report

14. Village/City Police Department-Reports

The City of Jefferson Police Department Representative stated that the City of Jefferson will be hosting the normal Summer events this year including car show, craft fair, and Gemuetlichkeit Days Festival & Parade; City of Watertown and City of Lake Mills Police Departments also in attendance.

The next Traffic Safety Commission meeting is set for July 17th, 2025, at the Jefferson County Highway Department, at 1:00 P.M.

It was motioned by Preuss and seconded by Heaslip to adjourn at 2:30 p.m. Carried unanimously.