

COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL TRAFFIC SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – MEASURING TRAFFIC SAFETY PERFORMANCE IN PORTLAND, OREGON

Christopher M. Monsere
Assistant Research
Professor
Department of Civil &
Environmental
Engineering
Portland State University
P.O. Box 751
Portland, OR 97207-0751
Phone: +1 503-725-9746
Fax: +1 503-725-5950
Email:
monsere@pdx.edu

Robert L. Bertini
Associate Professor
Department of Civil &
Environmental
Engineering and School
of Urban Studies and
Planning
Portland State University
P.O. Box 751
Portland, OR 97207-0751
Phone: +1 503-725-4249
Fax: +1 503-725-5950
Email: bertini@pdx.edu

Tom Moes
Graduate Research
Assistant
Intelligent Transportation
Systems Laboratory
Portland State University
P.O. Box 751
Portland, OR 97207-0751
Phone: +1 503-725-4285
Fax: +1 503-725-5950
Email: moest@pdx.edu

Abstract: In a unique approach for a metropolitan area in the United States, the city of Portland, Oregon has embarked on an effort, the Community and School Traffic Safety Partnership (CSTSP), to programmatically address transportation safety for all users. The CSTSP involves three main focus areas – reducing driver errors, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and enhancing safer bicycle and walking routes to school. The effort is financed through a small increase in traffic citation revenue. A key feature of this program is to measuring the performance of each focus area towards improving traffic safety. However, measuring safety-related investments (particularly non-infrastructure ones) are challenging, encumbered by incompatible performance measures and detail not easily captured by traditional crash-based performance measures. In this paper, we summarize the results of our research to develop a safety performance measures for the CSTSP, including a matrix summarizing potential measures, available data, and defined strategies in each of the three CSTSP focus areas. In the long term, these results will be incorporated into an annual report of the CSTSP and findings can be transferred into shifting policy objectives when considering development of comprehensive safety strategies.

Keywords: Pedestrian safety, bicycle safety, traffic safety, performance measurement.