



**Community Health Improvement Planning
VRUMS Task Force Meeting
Meeting Minutes – Wednesday March 13, 2019
11:00-12:00 PM
Abrams Public Health Center: Room 1104**

In Attendance

Brian, Eller, *Pima County Health Department*
Brooke Reaves, *Carondelet, St. Joseph's Hospital*
David Mitchel, *Pima Association of Governments*
Desiree Doten, *Pima County Health Department*
Ignacio Rivera de Rosales, *Pima County Health Department*

Gabriela Barillas-Longoria, *AZ Health Zone*
Nic Cogdall, *Pima County Health Department*
Roseanne Nguyen, *Pima County Health Department*
Sam Chia, *Pima County Health Department*

Welcome and Introductions

Brian Eller from the Pima County Health Department welcomed everyone in attendance and a round of introductions was completed.

Pima Association of Governments Update

David Mitchel of the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) offered to answer questions related to the PAG's ongoing efforts related to the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Plan. Brian Eller, Pima County Health Department, informed the group that the Health Department is conducting surveys of Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) clients to better understand their transportation needs. The data collected in this survey can then be drafted into a recommendation to the Pima County Board of Health who can then write a letter of support to provide input to the RTA. Based on current findings, most WIC clients take the bus during the weekday but would like to see more services provided on weekends and at night. Additionally, the group expressed interest in having new stops added, even if it meant buses were less frequent. The group did note that there is an additional need for more surveys to be completed in different areas to gather more general opinions.

Bike Light Outreach Update

Brian Eller provided the group with an update on ongoing bike light dissemination to individuals experiencing homelessness at Casa Maria and Santa Rita Park by members of the VRUMS group. In addition to providing bike lights, individuals were also invited to complete the transit survey and were given safety resources. Most of the individuals were not aware of these resources and this may be a good avenue for outreach. Some individuals reacted negatively to being offered assistance and this may offer an opportunity to integrate mental health first aid.

In many instances, individuals shared anecdotes about problems that they have encountered with transportation and bike safety. These stories could be collected and used alongside data to add a personal element about transportation safety.

Moving forward, PAG could serve as a pass-through that can provide lights to organizations, like the upcoming Light the Night event hosted by the University of Arizona.

Complete Streets Update

Gabriela Barillas-Longoria from AZ Health Zone shared that an Advisory Committee is being formed to help oversee the implementation of Complete Streets Policy. Additionally, a fulltime Complete Streets Coordinator has been hired by the City of Tucson.



Walk & Bike to School

Brian Eller shared that 6 schools participated in the Walk & Bike to School day in February with another 2 schools interested. Additional schools may also be interested in participating down line and the Walk & Bike to School event will continue on as an ongoing campaign for the rest of the year. Walktober will return this October with planning to start this summer.

Marana High School Safety Fair

Sam Chia and Rose Nguyen, Pima County Health Department, and Susan Kinkade, Banner, updated the Safety Fair hosted by Marana High School in February. The event saw representation from the health department, hospitals, law enforcement, and other community partners. Activities included safety-grams, a seatbelt challenge, and roll-over simulator. The safety fair received a positive reception from both students and administration. Additional events will be held in Vail and Seneca High Schools.

Legislative Updates

The group discussed statewide legislation that addresses distracted driving. These include:

- HB2606, which details the development of “Share the Road” license plates for cars and provides a fund for road safety and promotes bicycle access.
- SB1398, which amends the current definitions of electric scooters, bikes, and skateboards which may impact vehicle laws in Arizona that may come into conflict with municipal laws in Arizona. The group also noted that a pilot of up to 1500 Bird electric scooters may be coming to Tucson.
- HB213, which defines sidewalk cargo-carrying devices.
- SB1164, which would make holding a mobile phone a primary offense in Arizona which is progressing through the state legislature.
- HB2265, which requires defensive driving schools to demonstrate their accreditation and effectiveness of their curriculum in promoting safety.

Next Steps

The group identified agenda items for April’s meeting. These include:

- Updates on related legislation
- Updates on the PAG Regional Transportation Authority Plan
- Discuss the PAG bike count coming up in October

Next Meeting

The VRUMS Task Force meets in-person the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 11am-12pm in Room 3110 at the Abrams Public Health Center, located at 3950 S Country Club Rd. Tucson, AZ.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place:

Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2019

Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Abrams Public Health Center: 3950 S. Country Club Rd. Tucson, AZ 85714

Room: 3110



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