MEDIA ADVISORY

Aldermen to announce steps to address reckless driving in wake of yesterday’s senseless tragedy

Council members to hold 9:30 a.m. news conference TOMORROW

Alderman Bob Donovan, chair of the Public Safety and Health Committee, will be joined by Common Council President Ashanti Hamilton, Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II and Alderman Mark A. Borkowski (PS & H Committee vice chair) -- and possibly other Council members -- during a news conference TOMORROW (Saturday, October 26) to outline multiple steps being pursued to combat reckless driving across the city. The news conference was called after yesterday’s hit-and-run reckless driving crash at N. 22nd and W. Center Streets that resulted in the death of a six-year-old girl and major injuries to two other children.

All Council members today sent a signed letter (attached) to Governor Tony Evers, Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes, state Assembly and Senate leaders, and members of the Milwaukee state delegation – requesting immediate state resources to help combat reckless driving in the city.

What: News conference on steps to combat reckless driving

When: 9:30 a.m. TOMORROW - Saturday, October 26th

Where: N. 22nd and W. Center Streets

-30-
October 25, 2019

The Honorable,
Governor Tony Evers
115 E. Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Governor Evers:

Three children, none older than ten, were crossing the street with the light and inside the crosswalk last night when they were struck by a reckless driver. One of them, a six-year-old girl, has died of her injuries. We are stricken with grief. We are angry. And we despair of ever understanding how someone could be so callous and uncaring as to act as this driver did. We also know, however, the limitations of our local resources to provide the traffic enforcement that is so clearly needed. These are not the first injuries inflicted by reckless drivers this year nor even the first death. We are asking for help.

The state patrol has done what it could in recent months to increase the law enforcement presence on Milwaukee streets in the interest of curbing all forms of reckless driving. As we have many weeks before the weather turns cold, we must ask for more.

We would also ask you, governor, to identify whatever resources you can that might be given to the Milwaukee Police Department, earmarked for traffic enforcement. Programs, educational initiatives, and advertising are all fine things – we have sponsored several. But until those driving in Milwaukee are compelled to obey laws we seem now to take for granted, we fear more will be injured and worse.

We would also observe that the City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Taskforce has been convening on this issue since April and has recently approved draft recommendations to be finalized pending community meetings (attached). This taskforce has brought together the Milwaukee Police Department, the Sheriff’s office, the District Attorney’s office, members of the public, government officials, and community-based organizations to change behavior from a three-pronged approach:
engineering solutions, accountability and enforcement, and prevention and education. With this comprehensive approach to reckless driving, government departments and resources will better equipped to coordinate a comprehensive approach to changing behavior, with the understanding that enforcement is one facet of this complex issue.

Thank you for your consideration and, should you have any questions of us, please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Respectfully,

Ashanti Hamilton,
Alderman, 1st District

Cavalier Johnson,
Alderman, 2nd District

Nik Kovac,
Alderman, 3rd District

Robert J. Bauman,
Alderman, 4th District

Nikiya Dodd,
Alderman, 5th District

Milele A. Coggs,
Alderman, 6th District

Khalif J. Rainey,
Alderman, 7th District

Robert G. Donovan,
Alderman, 8th District

Chantia Lewis,
Alderman, 9th District

Michael J. Murphy,
Alderman, 10th District

Mark A. Borkowski,
Alderman, 11th District

Ald. José Pérez,
Alderman, 12th District

Scott P. Spiker,
Alderman, 13th District

Tony Zielinski,
Alderman, 14th District

Russell W. Stamper, II
Alderman, 15th District

Attachment

Cc: Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes
President Scott L. Fitzgerald
Speaker Robin Vos
All Members of the Milwaukee Delegation to the Legislature
Mayor Tom Barrett
City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force

Prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Activities, Findings, and Recommendations
Report

October, 2019

DRAFT

Report by the Legislative Reference Bureau conveying the activities, findings, and recommendations of the City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force.
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CITY-COUNTY CARJACKING AND RECKLESS DRIVING TASK FORCE
ACTIVITIES, FINDINGS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin
April 2019

Prepared by:
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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force was created for the purpose of evaluating and making recommendations to the Common Council regarding the problem of carjacking and of reckless driving in Milwaukee. The Task Force was established by Common Council File Number 181420, adopted January 14, 2019. The Task Force was comprised of members of the Common Council, Mayor's Office, Police Department, Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office, Municipal Court, Circuit Court, Health Department, Safety and Civic Commission, Youth Council, and the community.

The Task Force was charged with the following tasks:

1. Investigate the issue of carjacking and reckless driving and consider best practices from other communities as well as evidence-based research.
2. Make recommendations to reduce the number of carjackings, theft of vehicles, reckless-driving incidents and injuries, and mobile drug trafficking that all cause harm to the community and public and private property.

The overarching goal of all of the Task Force's activities was to find ways of making the City of Milwaukee's streets safe for all residents.
II. INTRODUCTION

A. Establishment and Purpose

The City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force was established by Common Council File Number 181420 on January 14, 2019, to address the prevalence of carjacking and reckless driving in city of Milwaukee and in Milwaukee County. The purpose of the Task Force was to make recommendations for implementing policies that will reduce carjacking and reckless driving incidents.

Carjacking and reckless driving in the city and county have created significant risks to the health and safety of the community. The Milwaukee Police Department reported that 410 carjackings occurred in 2017, and 334 carjackings occurred in 2018. From 2014 to 2017, there were 1,353 felony traffic and other offense cases filed in the Milwaukee County Circuit Court Criminal Division; 532 felony cases filed for operating motor vehicles without owners’ consent; and 101 misdemeanor cases filed for operating vehicles without owners’ consent. From 2014 to the present, there have been 229,823 traffic offense cases, many of which would be considered reckless driving on city streets. Recognizing the need for taking a proactive and prevention-oriented approach to decreasing the number of carjacking and reckless driving incidents and cases, this Task Force was created to investigate these issues and to make policy recommendations to reduce the number of incidents.

Given that carjacking and reckless driving are multi-faceted problems, it is essential to offer recommendations that draw from several arenas to address them. In order to investigate these issues from multiple angles, the Task Force met as a whole and formed the three following subcommittees:

1. Accountability and Enforcement.
2. Engineering Solutions.
3. Prevention and Education.

Community input is another essential component to understanding the root of the problem. By understanding the contributing factors that lead to carjacking and reckless driving behaviors, policymakers can better target and address those factors. The Task Force and subcommittees held time for public comment at most of their meetings and held listening sessions in the community to gain better insight from those affected by and those who either contribute to or
have witnessed others contributing to carjacking and reckless driving. By listening not only to those who are afflicted by the problem and suffer its effects, but also to those who contribute to it, the Task Force not only gained better understanding, but was better situated to address the policies that can help curb these dangerous activities.

It was the aim of this Task Force to carefully consider the factors contributing to carjacking and reckless driving, the strategies that have been implemented in other communities to address the issue, and to recommend policies specific to the Milwaukee community that will adequately address these issues in the most effective manner. On a personal note, as someone who daily drives the streets of Milwaukee, it is my hope that the recommendations of this Task Force will make the streets safer for everyone.

October XX, 2019,

Michael J. Murphy
Chair, City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force
B. Meetings

The City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force and its subcommittees held meetings, which occurred on the following dates:

April 15, 2019
May 9, 2019 (Accountability and Enforcement)
May 17, 2019 (Engineering Solutions)
May 28, 2019 (Prevention and Education)
June 24, 2019
August 2, 2019 (Accountability and Enforcement)
September 6, 2019 (Engineering Solutions)
September 23, 2019 (Prevention and Education)
October 17, 2019
Xx

Community listening sessions were held on the following dates:

Xx
Xx
III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

The City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force discussed a wide array of matters relating to its mission of exploring ways to reduce the number of carjackings and reckless driving incidents in both the city and county of Milwaukee. Additionally, the Task Force held community meetings and subcommittee meetings to further explore the topics of accountability and enforcement, engineering solutions, and prevention and education. In aiding its discussions, the Task Force reviewed published materials, including official reports and national studies, presentations by Task Force members and stakeholders, numerous memos provided by the Legislative Reference Bureau, communications from residents, and other materials. The topics of discussion are described briefly below. Minutes from each Task Force meeting and materials reviewed by the Task Force can be found in the attachments to this Report.

A. Task Force

Members discussed the following goals of the Task Force:

- Establishing metric goals.
- Addressing the root causes of carjacking and reckless driving behaviors.
- Finding family resources to prevent young people from continuing carjacking and reckless driving behaviors.
- Looking at other jurisdictions to figure out how to strategically use resources to have a serious short-term impact.
- Creating a series of recommendations for the Intergovernmental Relations Division to present to state legislator budgetary or operational partners to counter reckless driving and be able to leverage right light camera legislation.
- Getting the message out regarding increased enforcement and pursuit policy.
- Stepping up enforcement.
- Figuring out a way to use available resources to reach the people engaging in these behaviors and change the culture.
- Including Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee County Transit System, and foster care regarding messaging and education.

The Task Force also reviewed information regarding the following topics:

- The City’s Complete Streets Policy, which commits the City to fostering a livable city through the creation of streets that improve access to neighborhoods, prioritize the
safety and health of residents and visitors, support economic growth, improve access
to education and jobs, enhance urban design, encourage physical activity, and
reduce negative environmental impacts throughout the city, including rethinking
street designs in order to decrease reckless driving throughout the city.

- The City’s expenditures on traffic-calming engineering responses.
- Wisconsin statutes and legislative updates regarding recent legislation targeting
carjacking related offenses.
- Data from the Milwaukee Police Department and the Milwaukee County District
Attorney’s Office regarding arrests for carjacking and reckless-driving-related
offenses.
- Information from the Public Safety and Health Committee regarding traffic trends in
the city, including crashes with fatalities and injuries; driver factors contributing to
crashes; types of modalities involved in crashes; crashes by manner of collision;
traffic fatalities by police district and by aldermanic district; and fatal crashes by
month, time of day, day of week, gender, and operator modality.
- Steps Milwaukee Public Schools have been taking to address these issues, including
funding, operation, and results of driver’s education programming.
- The driver’s license recovery program offered by Legal Action of Wisconsin,
Wisconsin Community Services, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and the City of
Milwaukee.
- National surveys and studies regarding carjacking and reckless driving pertaining to
the best practices in enforcement, education, and engineering solutions, including:
  o A 2011 National Survey of Speeding Attitudes and Behaviors conducted by
    the U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety
    Administration regarding reasons for speeding.
  o A 2004 U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety
    Administration report assessing two aggressive driving enforcement
    programs.
  o A 2000 report from Highway Safety Information System pertaining to red-
    light-running crashes.
  o A 2013 report from the U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway
    Traffic Safety Administration regarding effective countermeasures, including
aggressive driving enforcement (regular traffic patrols, targeted enforcement, publicized enforcement, automated enforcement), environmental measures (traffic-calming, increased transit options, coordinated traffic signals), and increased coordination among law enforcement and the judiciary.

- A 2006 Highway Safety Program Guideline issued by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, urging governments to work together to develop and implement a comprehensive highway safety program to reduce crashes.
- Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS), the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s law-enforcement operational model developed in conjunction with two agencies of the Department of Justice: The Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Justice.
- A 2007 report from the National Institutes of Health recommending strategies for improving road safety, including driver education and the legal structure of testing and licensure.

- Public information campaigns aimed at several different categories of information, including safety tips for drivers and increased enforcement operations.
- Demonstrations, including mock car crashes with first responders.
- Strategies aimed at education and prevention of carjacking, including:
  - License plate readers.
  - Information campaigns.
  - Public service announcements, including the one promulgated by Running Rebels.
  - Technology developed with the aim of deterring thieves or assisting in locating vehicles.

- Successful programs in other jurisdictions, including:
  - Albuquerque, NM: Safe Streets.
  - Boston, MA: Operation Ceasefire.
  - Indianapolis, IN: Increased concentrated enforcement.
  - Massachusetts: Traffic patrol team with intensive one-year assignments to aggressively target traffic violations, including use of unmarked vehicles.
  - Nassau County, NY: District Attorney’s Choices and Consequences program for high schools.
• Philadelphia, PA: Drive CarePhilly – Heed the Speed program.
• Seattle, WA: Traffic Calming Program geared toward creating citizen ownership of resident complaint system and use of traffic-calming measures
• St. Petersburg, FL: "Where’s Jockers?" unmarked traffic patrol officer conducting speed enforcement.
• Roca, a nonprofit organization with the mission to disrupt the cycle of incarceration and poverty by helping young people transform their lives
• Impact Teen Drivers, an educational program offered in many schools nationwide geared toward revealing the dangers and consequences of distracted and reckless driving.
• The Credible Messenger Justice Center’s Arches Impact program, which is a mentoring program aimed at reducing recidivism and improving the outcomes of young people under probation supervision.
• Vision Zero, a program that employs the use of street design to lessen the severity of crashes with the goal of decreasing traffic fatality rates.

B. Accountability and Enforcement

Members of the Accountability and Enforcement subcommittee discussed and reviewed information regarding the following topics:

- Penalties for reckless driving, carjacking, driving with a suspended license, fleeing law enforcement, and related driving violations.
- Driver’s license recovery programs.
- MPS Drive as a program to give young people an opportunity they would not otherwise have had.
- Sponsoring a program with the Fire and Police Commission to host speakers who are both victims of carjacking and reckless driving and those who have been convicted of these offenses.
- Programs that allow the Milwaukee Police Department to proactively reach key suspects and the Juvenile Milwaukee Collaborative Offender Re-entry Program, wherein the District Attorney’s Office identifies those who are at high risk of reoffending and high value targets.
- Peer and near-peer mentorship programs.
- Probation restorative justice programming.
• Booting cars involved in violations instead of issuing moving citations.

• Enforcement programs, including:
  o Bait cars.
  o Centipede enforcement.
  o Enforcement crackdowns.
  o High-visibility enforcement.
  o Public information campaigns.
  o Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25 (and similar campaigns).
  o Law enforcement officers sitting in unmarked cars.

C. Engineering Solutions

Members of the Engineering Solutions subcommittee discussed and reviewed information regarding the following topics:

• Traffic-calming tools, including:
  o Gateway treatment.
  o Paverrent narrowing.
  o Pedestrian traffic signals.
  o Radar speed signs.
  o Roundabouts.
  o Rumble strips.
  o School zone signage and street markings.
  o Separation of vulnerable users.
  o Speed humps and raised platforms at pedestrian crossings and intersections.
  o Trapezoidal humps.

• Design considerations, including:
  o ADA accessibility.
  o Public amenities.
  o Protected bike lanes.
  o Narrow vehicle lanes.
  o Pedestrian islands.
  o Wide sidewalks.
  o Dedicated mass transit facilities.
  o Signal-protected pedestrian crossings.
- Dedicated unloading zones.
- Signal retiming.

- Vision Zero's core elements:
  - Leadership and commitment.
    - Public, high-level, and ongoing commitment.
    - Authentic engagement.
    - Strategic planning.
    - Project delivery.
  - Safe roadways and safe speeds.
    - Complete streets for all.
    - Context-appropriate speeds.
  - Data-driven approach, transparency, and accountability.
    - Equity-focused analysis and programs.
    - Proactive, systemic planning.
    - Responsive, systemic planning.
    - Comprehensive evaluation and adjustments.

- Strategies cities have employed in street design, prompted by employing the core functions and essential elements of Vision Zero:
  - Reduce the width of travel lanes.
  - Make crosswalks and bike lanes more visible.
  - Separate bike lanes on busy streets.
  - Shorten crosswalks.
  - Add raised median islands in the middle of busy streets.
  - Give pedestrians and bicyclists a head start at traffic lights.
  - Ban right-on-red turns at busy intersections.
  - Keep the turning radius 90 degrees at intersections.
  - Install traffic circles, roundabouts, speed humps, raised crosswalks, bike lanes, and other traffic-calming devices.
  - Convert one-way-streets to two-way streets.
  - Pay close attention to street designs at bus stops.
  - Create pedestrian streets, bridges, and underpasses in busy areas.
  - Strictly enforce laws against speeding, failure to yield to pedestrians, drunk driving, and reckless driving.
D. Prevention and Education

Members of the Prevention and Education subcommittee discussed and reviewed information regarding the following topics:

- Early intervention as a cost-effective way to stop the “cradle to prison” pipeline and delinquency prevention programs as a good financial investment (saving taxpayers $7-10 for every $1 invested, primarily due to reductions in the amount spent on incarceration).

- Successful programs aimed first at preventing persistent disruptive behavior in children; second, at focusing interventions on child delinquency; and third, at preventing serious and violent juvenile offending. Interventions are more effective when employed early. Effective programs that address the 6 domains of work, education, relationships, community, health, and creativity.

- School and community prevention programs recommended by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, including:
  - Classroom and behavior management programs.
  - Multi-component classroom-based programs.
  - Social competence promotion curricula.
  - Conflict resolution and violence prevention curricula.
  - Bullying-prevention programs.
  - After-school recreation programs.
  - Mentoring programs.
  - School organization programs.
  - Comprehensive community interventions.

- Crime-reduction and violence-prevention programs:
  - The Gang Reduction Program funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, which is a comprehensive, multi-year initiative to reduce youth gang crime and violence through a variety of strategies.
• The Adolescent Diversion Project of Michigan State University, which diverts arrested youth from formal processing in the juvenile justice system and provides them community-based services.

• Minneapolis Hot Spots Experiment, which increased police presence in crime "hot spots" to reduce criminal activity, focusing on high-crime addresses.

• Operation Peacekeeper, a community and problem-oriented policing program to reduce gang involvement and violence among urban youth, ages 10 to 18, which includes mentoring and is modeled after Boston's Ceasefire Initiative. areas and reduce gang-related violence in the Boston metropolitan area.

• Police Foot Patrol in Philadelphia, which used officers on foot patrol to reduce violent crime in hot spots.

• Healthcare, including mental health:
  • Home visitation by nurses, including the Elmira Prenatal/ Early Infancy Project and the Prenatal and Infancy Home Visitation by Nurses program, both of which sent nurses to the homes of pregnant, unmarried women in households with low socioeconomic status and the resulting positive impact reflected in the decrease in reports of the children's arrests, convictions, violations of probation, consumption of alcohol, sexual activity, and running away from home.
  • Functional family therapy as a family-based prevention and intervention program that helps adolescents on probation and their families.
  • Multi-systemic therapy as a family and community-based treatment program for young offenders who have exhibited serious antisocial, problem, and delinquent behaviors.
  • The Social Decision Making/ Problem Solving Program, which is a collaborative effort among professionals from a variety of disciplines, including teachers, school administrators, psychologists, and researchers, with the goal of preventing violence, substance abuse, and related problem behaviors by teaching social, emotional, and decision-making skills that students can use throughout their lives.

• Mentoring designed to promote healthy development and functioning for at-risk populations.
  • Big Brothers Big Sisters Community-Based Mentoring Program, which offers one-on-one mentoring in a community setting for at-risk youth between the ages
of 6 and 18.
- Great Life Mentoring, a one-on-one mentoring program that provides support to youth referred from a community mental health agency by adult volunteers who spend 2 to 3 hours weekly on positive community activities.
- Jobs and recreation to give youth purpose:
  - Recreation programs provided between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., which is the period of time youth are most likely to commit crimes.
  - The One Summer Plus Summer Jobs Program, which served students from some of Chicago’s most violent schools.
- Coordination, tracking, and data-sharing:
  - Coordination among the juvenile justice system, schools, child welfare agencies and mental health agencies and integration of services to improve efficacy.
  - Consistent tracking of the number of referrals child welfare offices receive from police or children age 12 or younger who have committed delinquent acts and data-sharing among agencies to avoid duplication of assessments or inconsistent approaches.

E. Community Meetings and Public Comment

Community members and concerned residents provided valuable input to the mission of the Task Force. Topics addressed by the public include the following:
- Looking at the root causes of carjacking and reckless driving behaviors in order to resolve the underlying issues before they manifest into a larger problem.
- Including offenders in the discussion to learn what it driving the behavior.
- Providing a stolen-car hotline for individuals who do not feel comfortable contacting a law enforcement agency.
- Replicating specific program models, discussed by the Task Force as a whole and by each of the subcommittees.
- Conducting a public awareness campaign regarding vehicle design and how it impacts whether a pedestrian or bicyclist survives being struck by a vehicle (A broad-front vehicle that strikes a person above his or her center of gravity tends to knock the person over, and if the vehicle continues moving, it can run over the struck person. A vehicle with a wedge-shaped front that strikes a person below his or her center of gravity tends to scoop the person onto the hood, increasing that person’s
chance of survival. Additionally, a vehicle with wide-set mirrors can hit a bicyclist in the biking lane if the driver drives too close to the bike lane).

- Using community service in lieu of payment of a fine for traffic offenses, for example, if a person is required to clean up along roadways, he or she views road use from a different perspective and can see how reckless driving impacts the safety of other road users. Additionally, for offenders who cannot monetarily afford the penalty or would otherwise drive on a suspended licence, community service may be a way for the offender to complete the penalty.
IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of its outreach, research, and discussions, the City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force developed recommendations for making the streets in the city and county of Milwaukee safer for all residents. These recommendations are summarized below.

A. Accountability and Enforcement Subcommittee

1. Advocate for State legislative changes.
   a. Increasing the penalties for adults for reckless driving gives a signal to offenders that there are serious consequences for endangering the public.
   b. The level of felony offense for fleeing an officer needs to be increased, and graduated penalties must be provided for repeat offenders.
   c. A change in legislation is required to allow a serious juvenile offender disposition for all felony offenses, leaving discretion to the judge.
   d. Red light cameras have proven an effective deterrent and enforcement tool in other jurisdictions.

2. Enforce related driving violations.
   Police need to increase enforcement measures, including targeting dangerous driving, such as speeding and swerving through traffic.

3. Institute standard operating procedures.
   The Police Department can institute a standard operating procedure that requires officers to bring juveniles caught in stolen or fleeing vehicles to detention (as opposed to writing tickets or ordering the cases in). This decreases the time for review and charging to 24 hours.

4. Consider charges.
   Prosecutors need to consider charging offenders for recklessly endangering safety when prosecuting reckless driving and fleeing cases. Additionally, reckless driving criminal charges can be levied instead of tickets when an offender is driving in a dangerous manner.
5. Provide diversion alternatives.
   When charging a case, prosecutors can provide diversion alternatives for first-time offenders of reckless driving.

6. Mandate sentencing.
   Circuit and Municipal Court should include mandating driving safety classes when sentencing offenders.

7. Increase data sharing.
   Increased cooperating and data-sharing among all agencies allows for better treatment integration for juveniles and more appropriate sentencing for adult offenders.

8. Conduct victim impact panels.
   Victim impact panels for carjacking and reckless driving convictions can deter offenders from repeating the offense. Facing the consequences of their actions has a rehabilitating effect on offenders and reduces recidivism.

B. Engineering Solutions Subcommittee

1. Primary Recommendations.
   The following recommendations are proven countermeasures to reduce speeding and crashes and should be considered throughout the City as opportunities and funding allows. These recommendations are specific to collector or arterial streets and should be prioritized in areas of known speeding or crash problems.

a. Coordinate traffic signals.
   Traffic-signal coordination allows motorists traveling at a certain speed to make the least amount of stops as possible. Signals should be coordinated at or below the speed limit to reduce the opportunities and incentive for speeding. However, effective signal coordination can be expensive and time-consuming if new signal equipment is required.
b. Pavement narrowing / reclamation.

Pavement narrowing removes excess pavement previously used for driving and converts it to other uses such as sidewalk space, plaza space, bikeway space, or landscaping. Narrowing streets has been shown to reduce traffic speeds and crashes. Whenever streets are reconstructed, opportunities for pavement narrowing should be considered.

c. Road diets.

Road diets are a proven, cost effective way of reducing traffic speeds and crashes. A road diet typically involves restriping a street from four lanes to two or three lanes by reallocating space to better bike accommodations, new turning lanes, or revised parking configurations.

d. Lane narrowing.

Lane narrowing has been proven to reduce traffic speeds. In urban environments, lane widths of 10 feet are proven to have a positive impact on a street’s safety without impacting traffic operations. Lane widths of 11 feet may be appropriate on higher speed streets with heavy truck traffic, but lanes wider than 11 feet should not be installed.

e. Pedestrian refuge islands / curb extensions.

Pedestrian safety treatments such as refuge islands and curb extensions visually and physically narrow streets. These improvements create safer streets for people walking, can reduce vehicle speeds, and prevent illegal passing on the right.

f. Separation of vulnerable users.

Providing separate and protected space for people walking and biking often requires narrowing of motor vehicle lanes or reclaiming pavement, which reduces speeds and crashes for all users.

2. Spot-Specific Recommendations.

The following are spot-specific recommendations that may reduce speeding or crashes when applied, but may have limited applicability in Milwaukee or may
not be appropriate for collector or arterial streets where crashes and speeding are more likely to occur.

g. **Install pedestrian traffic signals.**

Pedestrian traffic signals have been shown to increase driver compliance of yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks. Examples of pedestrian traffic signals include Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFB), Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons, or Pedestrian Beacons.

h. **Roundabouts.**

Roundabouts can lessen the severity of crashes and are generally safer for pedestrians because traffic is only approaching from one direction. Roundabouts may require the acquisition of land because they tend to be larger than traditional intersections. Roundabouts have limited applicability in the City of Milwaukee, specifically on high-volume streets where most crashes and speeding occurs.

i. **Deploy speed humps, trapezoidal humps, and raised platforms at pedestrian crossings and intersections.**

Speed humps and tables can reduce speeds on residential streets. By installing speed humps on a neighborhood-wide basis, instead of just a single street, the neighborhood can avoid issues with drivers choosing alternative routes through a neighborhood. The goal is to eliminate speeding rather than to move it to the next street. Although important, these treatments are most applicable on residential streets where crashes and speeding are not as big of an issue.

C. **Prevention and Education Subcommittee**

1. **Conduct public information campaigns.**

Education and information campaigns, public service announcements, and community outreach provide comprehensive messaging to the public regarding law enforcement consequences of reckless driving, distracted driving, and carjacking. The Police Department plans to conduct a public relations campaign
stating it will crack down on reckless driving behavior.

2. **Increase Milwaukee Area Technical College driver safety courses.**

Reach out to Milwaukee Area Technical College to increase the number and availability of courses it offers to the public. Determine what level of funding is needed.

3. **Increase driver safety programming and funding for driver education programs in Milwaukee Public Schools.**

Reach out to children at a much younger age regarding driving safety and consequences of carjacking and reckless driving. Provide additional materials to teachers regarding driver safety and passenger safety for students in elementary and middle school health classes. Conduct town hall meetings with influential people who can inspire students to drive safely.

4. **Fund existing programs and implement nationally-recognized programs.**

Programs, such as the Credible Messenger, Roca, and UCAN are effective in addressing the root cause of the behaviors that lead to reckless driving and carjacking. Funding these programs is a more effective use of taxpayer dollars, as every dollar spent reduces the need for incarceration funding by $7-10.

5. **Create a video game app that teaches safe driving skills.**

A group of students are working on coding and designing an app targeted toward the youth demographic which is designed to improve positive driving behaviors and gives users of the app the opportunity to practice driving skills.

6. **Increase funding for driver’s license recovery programs.**

The Wisconsin Community Services Center for Driver’s License Recovery and Employability, in collaboration with partner agency Legal Action of Wisconsin and Milwaukee Area Technical College, works with low-income Milwaukee County residents to obtain a valid driver’s license.
V. ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A:

Minutes of the meetings of the City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force and its subcommittees

Appendix B:

Legislative Reference Bureau-issued research relating to the City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force

Appendix C:

Correspondence directed to the City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force

Appendix D:

Other documents relating to the City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force