# Dane County Traffic Safety Commission

**Co-Chairs**
**Sgt. Matt Meyer**
Dane Co. Sheriff's Office
(608) 284-6876

**Cheryl Wittke**
Safe Communities Madison-Dane Co.
(608) 256-6713

**Members**
AAA Wisconsin
American Family Children's
    Hospital / Safe Kids
Belleville Police Dept.
Blue Mounds Police Dept.
CESA 2 Driver's Education
Cottage Grove Police Dept.
Cross Plains Police Dept.
Dane Co. Court Commissioner
Dane Co. District Attorney's Office
Dane Co. EMS
Dane Co. Highway & Transportation
Dane Co. Sheriff's Office
DeForest Police Dept
DeForest Public Works
Fitchburg Police Dept.
Fitchburg Public Works
Greater Madison MPO
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Madison Police Dept.
Madison Traffic Engineering
Maple Bluff Police Dept.
Marshall Police Dept.
McFarland Police Dept.
Middleton Police Dept.
Monona Police Dept.
Mount Horeb Police Dept.
Oregon Police Dept.
Public Health Madison & Dane Co.
Safe Communities Madison-Dane Co.
Shorewood Hills Police Dept.
SSM Health
Stoughton Police Dept.
Sun Prairie Pedestrian Task Force
Sun Prairie Police Dept.
Sun Prairie Public Services
UW Extension
UW Health Trauma Centers
UW-Madison Police Dept.
UW TOPS Laboratory
UW Transportation Services
Verona Police Dept.
Waunakee Police Dept.
WI Alcohol Policy Project
WI Bike Federation
WI Dept. of Transportation/
    Bureau of Traffic Safety
WI State Laboratory of Hygiene
WI State Patrol

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**For more information, contact: Cheryl Wittke, (608) 256-6713**
**Executive Director, Safe Communities of Madison - Dane County**

### County law enforcement agencies join to combat speeding

Twenty-two Dane County law enforcement agencies plus Wisconsin State Patrol are joining forces Wednesday, July 26, to reduce deaths and injuries from traffic crashes involving speeding. In support of the Dane County Traffic Safety Commission's observance of Speed Awareness Day, some will be conducting increased traffic speed surveillance, and others are using the opportunity to remind area residents of the dangers of speeding.

The campaign addresses a continued trend of speeding and hazardous moving violations that in the first six months of this year led to five deaths and 139 serious injuries in Dane County, said Matt Wagner, lieutenant with the Cottage Grove Police Department, a Traffic Safety Commission (TSC) member. Lt. Wagner is co-chairing a new collaborative law enforcement subgroup of the TSC which will address identified priority areas for reducing crash deaths and injuries. Lt. Wagner said speeding is involved in approximately one-third of all motor vehicles fatalities nationwide. Traffic crashes that result in death due to speeding are historically higher from June through September.

"Data shows speeding continues to be a leading cause of injury and fatal crashes across the county," Lt. Wagner said, adding that drivers who speed also are more likely to engage in other risky behaviors, such as not wearing a seatbelt, drinking and driving, or using a cell phone while driving.

Lieutenant Chad O'Neil, Stoughton Police Department, TSC member and co-chairing the sub-group with Lt. Wagner, added that there is no reason to speed. "It endangers everyone on the road and is preventable. Research has shown that highly visible speed enforcement is an effective way to reinforce driver compliance with posted speed limits.

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"That's why we are notifying the public of increased enforcement and education on Wednesday and hope it will encourage motorists to better regulate their speed all year long," Lt. O'Neil said.

In 2022, Dane County drivers were involved in 8,969 total crashes, which resulted in forty-four fatalities and 2,262 injuries. A quarter of the fatal crashes involved excessive speed. This is one of the reasons the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Bureau of Traffic Safety, has provided funding for increased staffing to enforce speed limits for 13 of the participating Dane County departments. These grants allow the departments to expand their enforcement efforts throughout the year.

Speeding continues to be a growing problem in Wisconsin. The number of citations issued for drivers exceeding 100 m.p.h. across the state has risen, with 1,159 persons cited in 2022.

Dane County law enforcement agencies join others from eleven states in the region for the July 26 Speed Awareness Day campaign.

Law Enforcement Members of the Dane County Traffic Safety Commission:

Belleville Police Department
Blue Mounds Police Department
Cottage Grove Police Department
Cross Plains Police Department
Dane County Sheriff's Office
DeForest Police Department
Fitchburg Police Department
Madison Police Department
Maple Bluff Police Department
Marshall Police Department
McFarland Police Department
Middleton Police Department
Monona Police Department
Mount Horeb Police Department
Oregon Police Department
Shorewood Hills Police Department
Stoughton Police Department
Sun Prairie Police Department
UW-Madison Police Department
Verona Police Department
Waunakee Police Department
Wisconsin State Patrol