

# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON TRAFFIC SAFETY

Chairman: Commissioner Randy Fairbanks | Vice-Chairman:  
Judge Clarence Shattuck | Staff Facilitator: Alexis Edwards



Pictured: Woodmore Elementary School faculty and students at Walk to School Day on October 3, 2019.

## WALK TO SCHOOL DAY 2019

In October 2019, children around the globe celebrated International Walk to School Day. The event is an annual observance in which schools, parents, elected officials and other organizations work to increase support of safer walking and biking routes to school for children. This effort aligns with The Vision Zero Youth Initiative, which was launched by the National Center for Safe Routes to School in 2016. In addition to promoting increased access to safer walkways, the event encourages walking as an alternative mode of transportation to and from school, and it serves to encourage increased physical activity among school-aged youth.

A multidisciplinary committee coordinated Walk to School Day events at 11 elementary schools across Hamilton County and the surrounding region. Altogether, nearly 1,000 children (not counting parents, teachers, or other volunteers) joined us on our walks. While the various events looked different; some schools walked along the Tennessee Riverpark while others navigated along busy roadways, the message was the same —access to safe walkways is of paramount importance. It is Safe Routes to School's belief that increasing awareness is the way to bring about change.

Local agencies will be planning Bike to School Day in May. Similar to Walk to School Day, it is a National Day of observance to encourage safe cycling practices. Please reach out if your organization would be interested in working to coordinate or support an event.

### UPCOMING HIGHWAY SAFETY EVENTS

- March 2-6** | Vehicle Safety Recalls Week (NHTSA)
- March 15-17** | Lifesavers 2020 Conference
- April 1** | National Walking Day (NHTSA)
- April 6-10** | National Work Zone Awareness Week (Federal Highway Administration)
- April (Entire Month)** | National Distracted Driving Awareness Month (NHTSA)
- April (Entire Month)** | Alcohol Awareness Month (National Institutes of Health)

# COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: CATHOLIC CHARITIES PREGNANCY HELP CENTER



The Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department has partnered with Catholic Charities to provide free car seats to their clients. I would like to commend Sheri Fava, Pregnancy Help Center Program Leader, for her willingness to host car seat classes at her organization. Our first class at the Pregnancy Help Center was on November 25, 2019. This year, we plan to have one car seat class per month at PHC. Offering additional car seat classes outside of the Health Department is part of our goal to ensure that all populations, whether rural or urban, are served. If you are interested in bringing the car seat program to your organization, or would like car seat education for your clients, send an email to [alexise@hamiltontn.gov](mailto:alexise@hamiltontn.gov).

Have any speaker or topic recommendations for the next ACTS Council Luncheon? Send an email to [alexise@hamiltontn.gov](mailto:alexise@hamiltontn.gov).

## MEET OUR CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER RANDY FAIRBANKS



Chairman Randy Fairbanks, a Certified Public Accountant, was born and raised in Red Bank where he graduated from high school in 1974. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from the University of Tennessee Chattanooga in 1978. After working in the private sector for twenty-nine years, Randy opened his own firm located in Hixson. He was elected to the Hamilton County Commission in 2014, representing District 1 in which he still currently serves. Re-elected in 2018, Randy is serving his second term. He served as Chairman of the Commission in 2017 and is currently the Chairman now. He has also served two terms as Vice-Chairman of the Commission in 2015 and 2018. In addition to the Railroad Authority Board, he serves on the Chattanooga Convention & Visitors Bureau Executive Board, the Regional Health Council, the Agriculture Extension Board, the Advisory Council on Traffic Safety Board as Chairman and the Enterprise Center Board. He is also currently in the Leadership Hamilton County Schools class.

# ACTS COUNCIL LUNCHEON

Tuesday, January 28, 2020 from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm  
Golden Corral on Gunbarrel Road

**Presentation Topic:** Safety is a high priority of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County/North Georgia Transportation Planning Organization's (TPO) 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Ms. Geary will provide background on the TPO and the RTP, discuss the TPO's approach to safety through performance-based planning, share the regional safety analysis conducted for the RTP, and explain how the safety analysis was used to evaluate and prioritize projects for federal funding.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER

### CORTNEY GEARY



Cortney Geary is a Principal Planner in the Strategic Long Range Planning Department of the Regional Planning Agency, which staffs the Chattanooga-Hamilton County/North Georgia Transportation Planning Organization. Cortney earned a Master's Degree in Community and Regional Planning at the University of Oregon. She approaches her work with a passion for making it easy and attractive for more people to get where they want to go by walking, biking, and using public transportation.

## SAVE THE DATE

**ACTS COUNCIL WILL MEET ON THE FOLLOWING  
DATES IN 2020: JANUARY 28TH | APRIL 28TH |  
JULY 28TH | OCTOBER 27TH**

# WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE YOUR ORGANIZATION FEATURED IN THE NEXT ACTS NEWSLETTER?

Send an email to [alexise@hamiltontn.gov](mailto:alexise@hamiltontn.gov) for  
more information.

## FOR HELP WITH:

- Car Seat Program Information Guide/Car Seat Safety
- Car Seat Classes
- Educational Presentation to your students about Impaired/Drunk-Driving Safety
- Other safety topics

Contact me at [alexise@hamiltontn.gov](mailto:alexise@hamiltontn.gov)!

