



C O U N T Y M I C H I G A N

L. BROOKS PATTERSON, OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE

July 11, 2011

Dear Public Officials:

It is my distinct pleasure to express my continued support for the Traffic Improvement Association (TIA), and I am respectfully requesting that your community does not hesitate to either remain a member or become one.

TIA is an extremely valuable asset to Oakland County as a non-profit traffic safety agency that has successfully facilitated a reduction of injuries and fatalities. In 1967, Oakland County's fatality rate was higher than the rate for both Michigan and the nation. Yet, in 2009, Oakland County's fatality rate was less than half of Michigan's rate and a little more than a third of the national rate. Today, Oakland County's roads are among the safest in the world for a community of its size and population. Our success here in the county was the direct result of business and government leaders coming together in 1967 to form TIA.

Since its development, TIA has become one of the leading organizations in the country for collecting and analyzing traffic crash data. This data collection and analysis has allowed the Road Commission for Oakland County and many cities, townships, and villages to identify road-related traffic safety problems and solutions. In addition, TIA's coordination of selective enforcement grants for Oakland County communities, educational seminars, and its traffic safety engineering services have also been extremely beneficial to the entire county.

Certainly, budget issues are a concern. However, public safety is an essential service that must remain a top priority. Traffic safety is a part of public safety, and was recently added to Governor Snyder's MiDashboard due to its importance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank TIA, which works tirelessly throughout the year to reduce injuries and fatalities and make our community a safe place to live, do business, and enjoy. In addition, thank you to the nearly fifty communities in Oakland County who are a member of TIA, and who contribute their time and energy to make our roadways safer.

I offer my sincere best wishes to TIA for continued success. I encourage all communities to maintain their TIA membership or consider joining.

If you have any questions, please contact TIA's Executive Director, Jim Santilli, at (248) 334-4971 or jsantilli@tiami.us.

Yours very truly,

L. Brooks Patterson
Oakland County Executive