

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Trisha Linebarger](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, April 30, 2018 7:59:23 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Saturday, April 28, 2018 2:01 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: DEPARTMENT PUBLIC SAFETY DPS

First Name: Jean

Last Name: Turpen

Title: Mrs.

Organization you are affiliated with: Motorcycle Safety Unit

Email:

City: Hereford

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or

Opposed: I am contacting the Sunset staff in support of the MSU and their instructors. Please let me share a little about myself and my experience with the MSC. I decided late in my life (there's just something about turning 50) to learn to ride a motorcycle. I walked into my first MSC class after completing the very informative online component. I was certainly out of my element but willing to try my best. I had never been solo on a motorcycle before and it was much harder than I expected. The older bike I had was a challenge to keep running and maneuver easily. I just wasn't very good and became discouraged quickly. The instructors, Josiah West, his brother Caleb, and their assistant Stephen were very patient and supportive. I did not pass the final test but Josiah was confident that I could if I tried again. I decided to buy my own motorcycle and go into the MSC again with some practice under my belt. During this time the MSU provided Amarillo College with a new set of bikes for the course. These were a great improvement over the old ones and everyone was excited. My instructors this time were Jeremy VanDyke and Caleb West. I cannot tell you enough how good these guys are. The coaching and safety instruction provided are top notch. Having been a public educator myself for 28 years, I can tell you the instructors and the program are meeting the needs of the students. One of the greatest concerns with riding a motorcycle is safety, and that was addressed multiple times. Many hours on the practice course were provided to improve technique. I still hear the instructor's voices in my head as I am out riding, legally now, telling me what to watch for and how to prepare. I look back through the book from time to time just to remind myself of the techniques. I have gone online to watch other courses available on the MSC. Back in the day, you could go to the local DMV, take a written and riding test, and be done. Is the MSC more expensive and time consuming? Certainly yes, but with much greater benefit and learning provided. I would rather ride with someone who has had the MSC training. If the MSU is no longer supported, the road would become a more dangerous place. People wanting to ride need to have an affordable, locally available, safe riding program to earn their endorsement. By cutting the MSU, it will become harder for riders to get the training they need to be safe, and fewer people will take the time or spend the money to get a legal endorsement. Thank You, and the instructors of the MSC

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Good to know there is a mobil unit. I would like to see

them come around and do single day safety refresher courses perhaps. They could maybe work with local bike clubs during an event. I would take a one day refresher course from the Amarillo College staff or more advanced training. You might consider some bilingual materials also.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree