

HIGHLIGHTS OF June 2, 2015 MEETING

• All presentations and related meeting handouts are located on the RSTF Website: <u>http://www.dvrpc.org/ASP/committee/Presentations/RSTF/2015-6.pdf</u>

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Attendees were welcomed and the meeting was called to order by RSTF Co-Chair Ryan McNary, PennDOT. Mr. McNary read the mission, goal, and objectives of the RSTF, and introduced the topic of the meeting as Ensure Young Driver Safety. He then invited everyone to introduce him or herself.

2. Follow-Ups from December 2014 RSTF Meeting.

The highlights of the March 3, 2015 RSTF meeting were accepted.

Sarah Oaks, DVRPC, reviewed the Volunteer Action Items from the March 3, 2015 meeting which addressed the Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP) emphasis area of Reduce Impaired and Distracted Driving.

Action: Create and share a video of Judge Kennedy's Presentation:

 Bill Beans, MBO Engineering, has placed a revised iteration on a private youtube link for RSTF comment. Those interested in viewing the video should contact DVRPC staff for the password. All comments are welcomed.

Action: Provide PA Liquor Control Board (PLCB) staff with PennDOT Assistance for promoting the Restaurant Alcohol Management Program (RAMP):

- Mr. McNary is working with Walt Lafty of the PLCB to coordinate this. *Action: Make facilities available to the PLCB for RAMP training:*
 - Kathy Olsen, Bucks County TMA, Laurie Aguilera, Chester County, and Jana Tidwell, AAA Mid-Atlantic all volunteered to assist PLCB staff by making facilities available or assisting PLCB staff in finding locations for RAMP training.

Action: Post links to DUI program information on the MOTU blog:

• Gus Scheerbaum, MOTU, put the information on the MOTU blog at the end of March. DVRPC Public Affairs staff included notice about the blog in their daily twitter feed when the information was posted.

Action: Make facilities available for Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training in New Jersey:

• Tracy Noble, AAA Mid Atlantic, Officer James Philbin, Cherry Hill Township Police, and Andy Kaplan, Rutgers CAIT offered to make facilities available. Rutgers CAIT also volunteered to publicize any scheduled DRE training.

Action: Create brief summary from RSTF meetings for attendees to forward to their supervisors or other interested parties at their agency/organization:

 Staff will work with Mr. McNary and Mr. Beans, in their role as RSTF Co-chairs, to create this document. It will be available for RSTF members' use about a week after every meeting.

Action: Create a repository of employers' cell phone driving ban policies:

• Kasim Ali, City of Philadelphia Streets Department, Ms Tidwell, Ms. Noble, and Officer Philbin all forwarded policies. Staff will create a listing on the Safety Page of the DVRPC website where these policies can be viewed.

An RSTF membership directory is being created to help members work with one another, and attendees were asked to fill out a brief form for this at the meeting. Staff will follow up. Also, volunteers are needed to participate in a newly-formed subcommittee for an effort to reduce aggressive driving. Those interested in participating may contact Ms. Oaks at soaks@dvrpc.org.

In a follow-up to the September, 2014 RSTF meeting (emphasis area: Improve Pedestrian Safety), Regina Moore, DVRPC, reported that RSTF member Warren Strumpfer approached DVRPC about a pedestrian safety concern along CR 534 (Blackwood Clementon Road) in Camden County. This will become a streamlined Road Safety Audit. RSTF members were asked to participate in this project to meet the RSTF performance measure "Increase the effectiveness of one program or project per cycle through RSTF coordination." An update will be provided at a future RSTF meeting. Please contact Ms. Moore at <u>rmoore@dvrpc.org</u>.

Ms. Moore then reported that the DVRPC Office of Safety and Congestion Management is coordinating with the Office of Transportation Operations to facilitate communication between the RSTF and incident management groups to encourage more first responder participation. Paul Carafides, DVRPC, will attend future RSTF meetings to provide updates and will present an RSTF summary at incident management task force meetings around the region. Ms. Moore welcomed John Wilkes, Autobase, Inc, a service patrol contractor to PennDOT at today's meeting as a result of this effort, and gave Mr. Carafides' report that DVRPC is hosting a Regional Traffic Incident Management Conference at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia on June 23, 2015.

3. Update from the First Responders Community.

- Mr. Wilkes introduced his company, which provides services on highways in Montgomery County under contract to PennDOT. John Ward, DVRPC, said they are key players in emergency response and that their work is much appreciated.
- Mr. McNary reported that since seatbelts are most important in saving lives in crashes, PennDOT grants Click it or Ticket campaign funds to State Police troops around the Commonwealth for Occupant Protection Enforcement pilot programs. Using State Trooper project funds, in May 2015 Troop K (Philadelphia) issued 159 seatbelt citations and 18 child seat citations and, using campaign funds, issued 15 child seat citations, 46 warnings, 133 seatbelt citations, and 259 additional citations for other reasons.
- Ray Reeve, NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety, reported that in southern New Jersey Gloucester County receives Click it or Ticket funding as a block grant to be administered

through the County Prosecutor's Office, whereas in other parts of southern New Jersey NJDHTS works with individual police departments.

- Max Little, PA District Attorney's Association, announced that in two weeks there will be a two-day intensive "impaired driving" training for prosecutors in Harrisburg. An additional class will be held in Philadelphia on August 17-19, 2015 for "homicide by vehicle" training. Classes are open to all prosecutors from Pennsylvania and partner states New Jersey and Delaware. They are designed around a sample case as a teaching tool. Since the sample case this summer is a pedestrian killed by a drunk driver, the instructor will focus a portion of class on pedestrian issues.
- AAA clubs of New Jersey will be offering four sessions of Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) case study training. There is no charge for law enforcement personnel to attend. Dates and locations are available at aaa.com/police training.

Zoe Neaderland, DVRPC, said that educating audiences about enforcement efforts is a good source of volunteer items, as assisting RSTF member agencies in ongoing efforts can amplify what that individual member agency can do.

4. Legislative Update.

- Ms. Tidwell, AAA Mid Atlantic, presented the AAA Pennsylvania update. Regarding teen drivers, although Pennsylvania does not have a general primary seatbelt law, it does require children under the age of four be properly restrained in an approved safety seat anywhere in the vehicle, children from age four up to age eight must be restrained in an appropriate booster seat, and children from age eight up to 18 must be in a seatbelt. Regarding distracted driving, HB 652 defines and prohibits use of interactive wireless communications devices, and HB 714 establishes the Driver Distraction Awareness Fund. Both were referred to the House Transportation Committee. In the Senate, SB 153 makes the driver's use of handheld devices a summary offense and sets fines for violations after a six month education period ends. This was referred to the Senate Transportation Committee.
- Mr. McNary reported that the Pennsylvania House Transportation Committee will be having a meeting on June 4th to review DUI legislation. An update will be available at the next RSTF meeting.
- Ms. Noble spoke about some bills in New Jersey. Regarding teen driving, recently introduced Assembly Bill A-1699 that calls for expanding supervised driving requirements, increases the number of supervised practice driving hours, and requires parent-teen orientation prior to the start of the supervised driving phase. To date there is no Senate sponsor. Senate Bill S-2026 requiring adherence to American Association of Pediatrics standards for child seats has passed the full Senate and is awaiting the Governor's signature. It will go into effect September 1, 2015 and will require all child safety seats to be rear-facing until age two. Regarding impaired driving, the Governor conditionally vetoed the bill revising penalties for certain drunk driving offences, including ignition interlocks, and called for changes to strengthen DUI penalties. More information on legislation pending in New Jersey is available in the AAA meeting handout.
- A discussion followed regarding a Safe Passage Bill in New Jersey, currently the only state in the northeast which does not have a law which protects vulnerable users of the

roadway, such as bicyclists and pedestrians. Other states have taken the lead because police are assisted by having law enforcement in place to provide warnings or citations. New Jersey has a "Move Over" law for emergency and construction workers, but not specifically for pedestrians and bicyclists. The bill calls for drivers to provide a four-foot buffer. A revision to the bill has been provided that would just require slowing down if it would not be safe for the driver to provide such a buffer. Some meeting participants said that bicyclists and pedestrians don't know or follow rules meant to protect them. Pedestrians have the right-of-way in a crosswalk; even if the crosswalk is implied and not painted, but drivers otherwise have right-of-way in travel lanes. AAA has two versions of a "Walk Safely/Drive Safely" brochure, one is targeted to motorists at the shore, which is put into visitor "welcome" packets, the other is for general safe statewide use.

5. Emphasis Area Focus – Ensure Young Driver Safety

Kevin Murphy, DVRPC, reported that preliminary 2014 crash data numbers show a decrease in crashes and fatalities on both sides of the Delaware River, which is consistent with national trends. Mr. McNary reported that in Pennsylvania fatal crashes are at an all-time record low since records were started in the 1920s. Vincent Cerbone, PennDOT, reported that in District 6 there were no fatalities in the first week of May, 2015, the first clear week since recordkeeping started.

Mr. Murphy briefly discussed overall young driver crash trends in the region and explained that 2014 Pennsylvania data has been received but not processed, and that 2014 data for New Jersey should be available from NJDOT mid-summer. A full update on trends will be available for the September RSTF meeting.

According to the most recent analysis by NHTSA, between years 2003 to 2012 young driver fatalities have declined nationally, although in 2012 there were still 1,875 young driver fatalities. According to AAA, every day car crashes end more teen lives than cancer, homicide and suicide combined. In the DVRPC region, young drivers were involved in 14% of the traffic fatalities, on average, per year between 2010 and 2012. In 2013 there were 41 young driver-related fatalities. For DVRPC's regional analysis people 16-20 years of age are considered young drivers.

Recommended TSAP strategies include encouraging parent/young driver orientation as a condition for a learners permit, comparing Pennsylvania and New Jersey graduated drivers' license (GDL) requirements to promote consistency and consideration of GDL requirements for all new drivers regardless of age. Another strategy is to support and spread the word about young driver safety education programs and resources such as teendrivingAAA.com, and New Jersey's Share the Keys program. Mr. Murphy then introduced the speakers.

Lauren Amway, Delaware County TMA, presented the Second Annual PennDOT Region

 (southeastern Pennsylvania) Teen Safe Driving Competition held in April during
 Pennsylvania Teen Safe Driving Week. The competition is designed to emphasize the
 importance of safety among new drivers by testing their road skills and knowledge. The
 tests include driving, a perceptual exam, a written exam, and a skills test, including safe
 vehicle inspection. Thirty-three students competed this year, representing eleven
 schools throughout the region. Students were recruited through high school Seat Belt
 Challenges. A local dealer donated cars for the competition, and the Pennsylvania Motor

Truck Association set up the course and provided a tractor trailer so students could get into the cab to be aware of what a truck driver can actually see. Other sponsors and volunteers provided cash prizes, meals, giveaways, and education. The first place winner received a \$2,000 scholarship and competed in the state finals held on May 12.

 Sean Dalton, Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office, presented the Gloucester County Highway Safety Task Force's annual high school traffic safety video contest, which began in 2003. Teens from Gloucester County high schools team up to produce videos depicting the dangers of unsafe driving, limited to 30 seconds to qualify as a Public Service Announcement as a way to counter movies and social media messages which encourage risky driving behavior. It's a very low cost program to operate since it works through existing school and law enforcement programs.

About 400 students participate each year and United Artists donates a theater and hosts a festival to attract other teens besides those who made videos, and also so that the prize winners can see their videos on the big screen. The top 10 are selected, and, since the videos are by teens for teens, the Prosecutor's Office uses sponsorship dollars to buy time on networks such as ESPN to run the winning videos. NJDHTS and many other sponsors provide judges and prizes for winning teams. In 2010 there were 125 submissions, an all-time high, and in 2015 eleven of thirteen high schools participated. In 2013 the program was expanded to include middle and elementary schools and prizes are now awarded to the top 10 in both the high school and elementary/middle school categories.

 Violet Marrero, NJDHTS, presented Share the Keys (STK), a research-based, datadriven six-step behavior modification program designed to reduce teen driver crash risks by increasing parental involvement, helping parents to reach conclusions on their own about how to be better safe driving role models. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia researchers found that teens whose parents set rules and pay attention to driving activities in a helpful and supportive way are half as likely to be involved in a crash.

STK was developed in partnership with Kean University and the New Jersey State Police. A resource guide was developed with key points and a parent-teen contract. To attract attendees, facilitators partnered with State Police and School Resource Officers, Traffic Safety Officers and chiefs of police. CEU credits were offered for driver education teachers. A NHTSA grant pays for the trainer and materials. After completing the STK program, 98% of teens involved had no moving violations, and 92% were not involved in crash.

The program is updated annually. Updates for 2015 will include the dedicated website "SharetheKeys.com", a teen driving plan, and a Spanish language translation. NJDHTS is happy to provide the STK program materials to any interested state.

Ms. Marrero was asked to comment on the likelihood of New Jersey's teen Graduated Drivers Laws being expanded to cover all new drivers regardless of age. She responded that the NJDHTS supports this. In response to a question about the usefulness of driving schools to help improve teen driving safety, Ms. Marrero commented that they remain a good idea but do not replace parental involvement.

Members of the RSTF commented that there is a PennDOT advisory committee working on ways to improve driver education for those who wait until they are older to learn to drive. Also, PennDOT has a teen driving resource guide modeled after New Jersey's. In Pennsylvania, TMA-run high school seatbelt challenges often show an improvement in parents' driving behavior.

6. Developing Action Items

Ms. Marrero agreed to provide STK materials to any interested RSTF members who are willing to help publicize the program. She also agreed to give the Implementation Plan to Mr. McNary to help understand what will be needed to start up this program.

- Mr. Scheerbaum volunteered to give STK kits to members of the Pennsylvania statewide Highway Safety Advisory Committee.
- Ms. Amway, Bill Brady, TMA Bucks, and Amanda Lozinak, TMACC all agreed to reach out to police departments in their service areas with STK.
- Mr. McNary volunteered to reach out to DMV with STK materials so that they can be compared with what is used now.
- Mr. McNary volunteered to look into implementing a pilot STK-like program in counties with the highest crash rates and to implement it statewide if it is successful.
- Mr. Murphy, Ms. Moore, Ms. Neaderland, and Mr. Strumpfer all volunteered to give STK information to their local police departments.

Mr. McNary asked DVRPC to create a map identifying high teen driver crash locations in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and so that it can be used to encourage local leaders to participate in the program.

- DVRPC staff agreed to create this map.
- Mr. Brady volunteered to place this map on the TMA Bucks website and will promote it on social media.
- Mr. Brady volunteered to place links to PennDOT's safe teen driving programs on the TMA Bucks website as part of TMA Bucks' High School Seat Belt Challenge program.
- Mr. Cerbone offered to use the map as a way to focus engineering resources.

Ms. Marrero said one challenge is contacting driver education teachers, as driver education is handled differently in each school district.

- Mr. Dalton agreed to make STK a topic for next year's Gloucester County Video Challenge.
- Mike Tullio, Kean University, volunteered to assist NJDHTS by promoting STK in any non-participating New Jersey school districts.

Other volunteer actions which arose from this meeting included:

- Lou Hufnagle, Delaware County Planning Department, reported that they comment on pedestrian safety issues in their subdivision review. He volunteered to supply RSTF information to Delaware County employees and to give information to the Delaware County Press Office for dissemination to interested citizens.
- Mr. Wilkes agreed to contact the National Safety Council to encourage them to send a representative to the RSTF.
- Peggy Schmidt, Partnership TMA, said that in Montgomery County teen safety is addressed in the Health Department. She agreed to reach out to them to encourage them to participate in the RSTF and will supply a report on teen safety activities in Montgomery County at the next meeting.
- Joe Fiocco, Fiocco Engineering, volunteered to write to legislators to comment on policy matters. He will coordinate with Mr. McNary.
- Ms. Neaderland agreed to facilitate the liaison between MOTU and the DVRPC Office of Communications in regard to "re-tweeting" twitter messages put out by each agency.
- Mr. Strumpfer and Ms. Moore agreed to report back in either December 2015 or March 2016 on the Blackwood-Clementon Road RSA effort.
- Ms. Lozinak agreed to look into Chester County's safety planning activities to see if there is a dedicated office for this work.
- Patrice Nuble, City of Philadelphia Streets Department, Mr. Little, and Mr. McNary volunteered to join the RSTF subcommittee to address aggressive driving. Ms. Oaks volunteered to reach out to the counties in Pennsylvania to encourage additional participation.
- Mr. McNary said the Pennsylvania House Transportation Committee will be meeting on June 4th to completely review DUI legislation. He agreed to give an update at the next RSTF meeting.
- Ms. Neaderland will provide the Safe Passage bill and Ms. Marrero offered to suggest it be added to the agenda for a meeting in which she participates.
- Mr. Little volunteered to make up to two seats available at the upcoming District Attorney Association's trainings for interested New Jersey law enforcement members.

7. Member Updates and Open Forum

- Mr. Murphy invited the RSTF to help select and guide a Safety Program project in Fiscal Year 2017. Discussion of the potential project will be held by email during the summer and discussed at upcoming meetings. Those interested in participating in the project selection process should contact Mr. Murphy at <u>kmurphy@dvrpc.org</u>.
 - In response to comments from members of the RSTF, Mr. Murphy responded that the report will include actionable items for implementing agencies and that any recommended actions will be focused on measurable effects. Implementing agencies are expected to be part of the study process.

- This summer, AAA plans to poll 1,000 New Jersey motorists about transportation funding.
- Mr. McNary asked all attendees to fill out their surveys and member agency information forms. He then announced that the next meeting of the RSTF will be held September 29th, 2015. The meeting then adjourned.

Attendees:

1. Amway, Lauren	Delaware County TMA
2. Brady, Bill	TMA Bucks
3. Buerk, Jesse	DVRPC
4. Cerbone, Vince	PennDOT District 6-0
5. Dalton, Sean	Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office
6. Dlugosz, David	City of Philadelphia Streets Department
7. Fiocco, Joe	Fiocco Engineering, LLC
8. Hicken, Eric	NJ DOH & OEMS
9. Howard, Nathan	DVRPC
10. Huff, Alan	SJTPO
11. Hufnagle, Lou	Delaware County Planning Department
12. Kozak, Diane	Camden County Highway Traffic Safety
13. Little, Max	PA District Attorneys' Association
14. Lozinak, Amanda	TMA of Chester County
15. MacKavanagh, Kelvin	DVRPC Goods Movement Task Force
16. Malaviya, Sharang	PennDOT District 6-0
17. Marrero, Violet	NJDHTS
18. McNary, Ryan	PennDOT Central Office
19. Merritt, Darrell	PennDOT District 6-0
20. Moore, Regina	DVRPC
21. Murphy, Kevin	DVRPC
22. Neaderland, Zoe	DVRPC
23. Noble, Tracy	AAA Mid-Atlantic
24. Nuble, Patrice	City of Philadelphia Streets Department
25. Oaks, Sarah	DVRPC
26. Philbin, Officer Jim	Cherry Hill Township Police
27. Reeve, Ray	NJDHTS
28. Rinaldi, Alex	Camden County Highway Traffic Safety
29. Scheerbaum, Gustave	City of Philadelphia MOTU
30. Schmidt, Peggy	Partnership TMA
31. Spino, Sam	Camden County Highway Traffic Safety
32. Strumpfer, Warren	Transportation Safety Advocate
33. Tidwell, Jana	AAA Mid-Atlantic
34. Tullio, Mike	Kean University
35. U'selis, Trooper Stephen	PA State Police
36. Ward, John	DVRPC
37. Wilkes, Jonathan	AutoBase