



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

Safe System Approach Focus Area: Responsibility is Shared

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Presented Via Zoom; 69 attendees

All presentations and related meeting handouts are located on the RSTF Website:

www.dvrpc.org/Committees/RSTF

Welcome Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Kevin Murphy, DVRPC. RSTF co-chair Sean Meehan, Voorhees Transportation Center, introduced the goal of the RSTF: to reduce roadway crashes and eliminate serious injuries and fatalities from crashes in the Delaware Valley. Mr. Meehan then introduced the RSTF safety [action items tracking list](#), a spreadsheet where volunteers can update themselves or claim unclaimed action items that were proposed in previous meetings. Omar Al-Sheikh was spotlighted for his completion of an action item exploring the effect of automated enforcement on driver speeds during the pandemic. Mr. Meehan then announced that this meeting will be the last of Sharang Malaviya's time as co-chair and promoted the call for nominations for the next Pennsylvania co-chair.

Before introducing the topic, Kevin Murphy, DVRPC, introduced a five-year overview of regional killed and serious injury (KSI) crash trends, noting that the problem has worsened since 2016. Mr. Murphy highlighted that in 2021 fatalities increased again marking the highest death toll in the region since 2007. Mr. Murphy transitioned to an overview of DVRPC's Transportation and Safety Analysis & Plan (TSAP) [storymap](#), released in spring of 2022, to introduce the meeting topic of Responsibility is Shared.

Next, Mr. Murphy introduced guest speakers Sharang Malaviya and Duwan Morris.

Presentation 1: Sharang Malaviya, PennDOT District 6-0

Mr. Malaviya began his presentation on PennDOT's Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) On-Demand Projects program by defining the context and need for on-demand safety projects in Pennsylvania. On-demand projects are projects without explicit plans or locations at the time of contract advertisement. District 6-0 contracts for these projects lasted typically 3 years and addressed between 250 and 300 locations.

Mr. Malaviya used case studies to further explain the approach and impact of these on-demand projects. In the case of Cobbs Creek Parkway, a state-owned arterial in Philadelphia, the project was to repave and install new roadway markings, install sign upgrades and rumble strips, and pilot speed tables. For another

project on Upland Avenue, Delaware County, PennDOT used traffic calming, lane narrowing, signage upgrades, delineators, and crosswalks to address safety concerns.

PennDOT prefers to capture 5 years of before and after data to determine if the interventions were successful, but in the case of the I-95 ramp to PA Route 63 in Bucks County, two years of crash data were sufficient to show an improvement. This location, in the two years before the installation of rumble strips and signage, saw 11 crashes (2 of which were Killed and Severe Injury or KSI crashes). In the two years after implementation, this site saw 8 crashes, with no KSI crashes. This program saw not only a decrease in crashes, but also a decrease in severity.

Mr. Malaviya concluded his presentation by acknowledging challenges of this type of program, such as coordinating with municipalities and existing/upcoming contracts, cost estimating, and paying a premium price due to the nature of the contract.

Presentation 2: Duwan Morris, Montgomery County, Maryland DOT

Mr. Morris situated his presentation on Montgomery County Maryland's Vision Zero Youth Ambassador program within the context of Vision Zero and the Safe System Approach. This particular program uses youth-centered training, skills-based learning, youth team building, leadership development, and youth-adult partnerships to help cultivate young safety ambassadors. Sample projects from this program include: a youth road safety town hall, a road safety survey, a bike safety event, and a community walk audit.

One of the most successful projects includes the creation of a creative contest for elementary and middle school students to submit art on road and pedestrian safety. This was initiated by a high school student who had a passion for art and pedestrian safety, and this program has since seen hundreds of submissions with several tiers of prizes for its winners. Not only does this get students excited and involved in transportation safety, it also helps spread awareness about safety to the students' friends and family as well.

Mr. Morris's presentation concluded with a general overview of the program's logistics and how it was able to grow over the years by becoming more appealing to students.

After Mr. Morris's presentation, a Philadelphia Vision Zero Ambassador named Chinita Bradshaw spoke a few words about her experience as a safety ambassador, expressing her commitment to both traffic safety and community engagement (see [Philadelphia's VZ ambassador program](#) for more information).

Special Strategies Breakout Rooms

Each of the four breakout groups discussed potential "action items," with a focus on the Safe Systems Approach, that each person could take on to support the RSTF goal of eliminating KSI in the region. These action items were recorded and are being tracked by DVRPC, which will check in on progress before future meetings. Discussion lasted approximately 30 minutes and each began by discussing reactions to the presentations, following with discussion on potential action items.

In reaction to the presentations, breakout groups reiterated the importance of the following points:

- PennDOT's On-Demand Projects program and DVRPC's [Expo](#) program both do well at addressing safety quickly and effectively. Funding for these kinds of projects would need further consideration for both Pennsylvania and New Jersey to ensure the effectiveness and longevity of the program.
- There is a need to expand Vision Zero culture, and one way to do so is by replicating youth ambassador programs like the one in Montgomery County, Maryland. Especially with the IJJA's recent expansion of Safe Routes to School to high school students, there is a lot of opportunity there to create Vision Zero connections between schools and communities.

Some of the proposed action items included:

- Investigate the crash reduction effectiveness of certain vehicle safety technologies.
- In an effort to expand Vision Zero culture, develop classroom materials for spreading awareness of Vision Zero to K-12 students and/or start a Vision Zero youth ambassador program modeled after Montgomery County's. Start by coordinating with NJDOT to learn about their youth-centered education program which is currently inactive.

After the breakout sessions finished, RSTF members left their groups and returned to the main session. One person from each group reported back on their discussion.

RSTF Updates

Office of Safe Streets intern Kaylen Phillips announced an RSTF ambassador initiative to solidify RSTF members' roles as regional safety ambassadors and provide opportunities to further impact safety culture. The RSTF welcomes any interest in helping develop this program.

Additionally, the RSTF is launching an [engagement portal](#) to better facilitate communication between RSTF members. The beta version of the site was explained through a screen share, and RSTF members were encouraged to make suggestions via email or through the meeting survey.

Closing Remarks

RSTF co-chair Sharang Malaviya, PennDOT, concluded the meeting with gratitude to the attendees for participating in the program and asked attendees to complete the meeting survey.

Next, Mr. Malaviya invited RSTF members to share any announcements they may have. These included a reminder to travel safely during holidays and during winter weather, reiterated the call for PA Co-Chair nominations, and announced the initiative for [Older Driver Awareness week](#), a week-long effort to evaluate how older drivers and their loved ones can approach driving safely.

Mr. Malaviya reminded attendees that the next RSTF meeting is scheduled for March 2023.

Meeting Attendee List

Alex Sankaran, CCPC
Alyson Strigle, DCTMA
Amy Bernknopf, DVRPC
Andrew Fidler, Upper Merion Township Police Department
Andrew Thompson, Kittelson & Associates
Anne Hayton, Hopewell Borough Pedestrian, Bicycle and Safety Advisory Committee
Anne Mitchell, Jefferson University
Brian Bockius, NJDOT
Brian Styche, Chester County Planning Commission
Catherine Bull, Rutgers-Voorhees Transportation Center
Cheryl Kastrenakes, Greater Mercer TMA
Chinita Bradshaw, EACC
Christian Regosch, BCPC
Christine Norris, CHOP
Danilo Veras, NJDOT
Deanna Stockton (Deanna Stockton), Princeton
Doris Lynch, Port Richmond Neighborhood Action
Duwan Morris, Montgomery County Safe Routes to School Program
Elizabeth Mastaglio, DVRPC
Emily Gates, Avenues in Motion (formally TransOptions)
Ereny Ibrahim, DOT
Eric Hicken, NJ DOH OEMS EMSC
George Thiel, SICK, Inc
Greg Woltman, Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center
Gregory Krykewycz, DVRPC
Hailey Graf, NJ Transit
Ian Schwarzenberg, DVRPC
Jeevanjot Singh, NJDOT
Jeffrey Maurer, Upper Merion Township Police
Deanna Stockton, Princeton Municipality
John Taylor, Archer Public Affairs
Jon Dugan, Voorhees Transportation Center, Rutgers University
Joseph Rapp, NJDOT
Justin Neff, DVRPC
Kate O'Connor (Kate O'Connor), Brain Injury Alliance of NJ
Kaylen Phillips, DVRPC
Keith Hamas, NJ TPA

Kevin Murphy, DVRPC
Kevin O'Connell, Philadelphia Streets Dept
Laureen Sendel-Grant, Montgomery County Planning Commission
Leigh Ann Von Hagen, Voorhees Transportation Center, Rutgers University
Lisa Serieyssol, Lawrence Hopewell Trail
Marhaba Omer, NJDOT
Maridarlyn Gonzalez, DVRPC
MaryAnn Sandone, DCTMA
Matthew Popek, Montgomery County Planning Commission
Md Mahfuj Hosen, Rowan University
Michael Clemmons, PPTF
Michael Mastaglio, Urban Engineers, Inc.
Mohammad Islam, NJDOT
Nicholas Scalafani, ITE
Omar Al-Sheikh, Rowan University
Patrick Wood, Hazlet Police Department
Ricardo DeOliveira, DRPA
Richard Rabinowitz, NJDOT
Ryan Gallagher, DVRPC
Samuel Rosenthal, Rowan University
Sara Shick, West Vincent Twp, Chester County
Sean Meehan, Voorhees Transportation Center, Rutgers University
Sharang Malaviya, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Shereyl Snider, East Trenton Collaborative
Skye Horbrook, University of Pennsylvania
Themelis Soulounias, Delaware River Port Authority
Tom Shaffer, Delaware County Planning Dept.
Tom Stanuikynas, Burlington County Bridge Commission
Tracy Barusevicius, DCTMA
William Beans, MBO Engineering
William Riviere, NJDOT
Zil Patel, NJDOT