



DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION



Highlights of October 11, 2007 Enforcement Sub-Committee Meeting

Attendees

Anderson Rosemarie
Ferrell Cristina
Fullerton Dave
Hacker Joseph
Lutin Jerry
Moore Regina
Parlow Bob
Stafford Joe
Weissman Sarah
Wishart Scott

Organization

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Greater Valley Forge TMA
PATCO
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
New Jersey Transit
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
New Jersey State Police
Bicycle Access Council
Transportation Safety Resource Center
New Jersey State Police

Introduction & Overview

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and briefly mentioned their relationship to the transportation safety community.

Joseph Hacker, Manager of Transit, Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning welcomed everyone. Rosemarie Anderson, Manager of Office of Safety and Security Planning provided background and progress to date of the Regional Safety Task Force, and explained the genesis of the engineering subcommittee and its role in implementing the goals of the Regional Safety Action Plan. The purpose of the meeting was to review the strategies identified from the Plan and to determine which groups/agencies should be responsible for implementing these strategies. Also to be identified were groups/agencies that already have programs in place which would support the initiatives of the Plan.

Open Discussion:

Summarized below are some of the comments generated from discussion on the most important enforcement strategies identified in the Plan.

Coordinate the law enforcement efforts across jurisdiction boundaries to deter out-of-state drivers who violate local laws with minimal repercussions

- The use of automated enforcement devices is highly desired as a form of changing driver behavior. In New Jersey it is prohibited due to legislation.
- The use of technology is needed to leverage enforcement;

- New Jersey legislation needs proof to see if it works, in particular Red Light Running Camera in Philadelphia
- It was suggested that gathering supporting data documenting other success stories such as the Red Light Running Camera pilot program in Philadelphia; PA statutes for this program may expire by the end of the year

Improve and provide the data for use in targeted enforcement

- Data is key in helping police understand what the issues are but it also justifies the push for legislation for targeted enforcement efforts
- For PennDOT the data is used more for engineering improvements
- Data is needed in real time to be target enforcement efforts
- Other areas for enforcement include cell phone use and transit concerns (yield to bus law in New Jersey and passenger crossing in front buses)
- New York City – Traffic Intelligence Report is a check off list used by police officers to document problems while driving around. Once filled out the information is sent to a central office where it is forwarded to the proper agency for analysis; New Jersey is currently looking to implement a similar program
- In New Jersey, state police no longer conduct checkpoint; now handled by local police departments
- Public safety interest supersedes an individual's right, case law developed
- Breathalyzer issue in New Jersey, converting back to the Alcal test; any machine used in New Jersey has to be authorized through court decision for scientific reliability

Develop a mechanism for communication between law enforcement officers and other safety professionals

- Develop a list serve for exchange of information

Next Steps

DVRPC agreed to follow up on obtaining a copy of the Red Light Running Camera legislation and contacting the Institute of Insurance Highway Safety for more information.

REMINDER

The next RSTF Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 30, 2007 at 9:30AM.