



HIGHLIGHTS OF MARCH 3, 2015 MEETING

- All presentations and related meeting handouts are located on the RSTF Website:
<http://www.dvrpc.org/ASP/committee/Presentations/RSTF/2015-3.pdf>

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Attendees were welcomed and the meeting was called to order by RSTF Co-Chair Bill Beans, MBO Engineering. He introduced his Co-Chair Ryan McNary, PennDOT. Mr Beans especially welcomed first time attendees. He then read the mission, goal, and objectives of the RSTF, and invited everyone to introduce him or herself.

The Highlights of the December 19, 2015 RSTF meeting were accepted.

John Ward, DVRPC, announced that 2015 will be DVRPC's 50th anniversary year. There will be many events during the year to highlight our efforts, to teach about planning, and help the region understand why we do what we do. In addition there will be a new DVRPC logo for 2015 celebrating this anniversary along with a total redesign of the website. He thanked our partners, and welcomed new stakeholders. Upcoming events include the Breaking Ground Conference for Municipalities and a celebration this summer at 30th Street Station. RSTF members were encouraged to view the schedule of events by following DVRPC on Facebook and Twitter. September 2015 is also the 10th anniversary of the RSTF.

2. Follow-Up from December 2014 RSTF Meeting.

Sarah Oaks, DVRPC, reviewed the Volunteer Action Items from the December 16, 2014 meeting which addressed the Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP) emphasis area of increasing seatbelt safety.

Action: Provide the K-12 Traffic Safety education program developed by Kean University:

- Michael Tullio, Kean University, will make this curriculum, which includes quite a bit of occupant protection information, available free of charge to any school district interested in using it.

Action: Post safety event information on the Safety Page of the DVRPC website:

- The DVRPC Office of Safety will post any event information forwarded by an RSTF member.

Action: Report Statistics for any non-traditional seatbelt education program:

- Ms Oaks reported that the Delaware County TMA's High School Seatbelt Challenge has grown over seven years from three to eleven participating schools. The challenge is also done in conjunction with the Survival 101 program taught by police officers trained by

Buckle Up PA instructors. There is typically a 20-30% in seatbelt use over the course of the school year.

Action: Assist RSTF Members in writing letters to their legislators to support seatbelt safety legislation:

- Mr. Beans is available to assist all RSTF members in drafting letters their legislators about seatbelts or any other safety issue.

Action: Share PennDOT's Social Media Plan:

- Mr. McNary reported that this plan is a lengthy document and is not easily shared. He can make a summary of it available to those interested. In addition he is willing to share the PennDOT media calendar for District 6 to assist in coordinating events.

Zoe Neaderland, DVRPC, reported that the DVRPC Board accepted the Draft TSAP at their February 26, 2015 meeting. The document will be published soon and will be available on the DVRPC website. Regarding implementation of the TSAP's many Action Items, she discussed the importance of developing partnerships and volunteering for Action Items, especially those which are small scale and can be easily implemented. The purpose of the RSTF is to encourage partnerships and create opportunities and ways for organizations to work together and help each other to promote safety in the region. She highlighted one of the exit survey questions, which requests members to report ways the RSTF is helping or can help their organization foster these relationships.

- Mr. Beans commented that the many first time attendees at today's meeting will encourage more partnerships to form.

3. Update from the First Responders Community.

- Eric Hicken, NJ State Department of Health Office of Emergency Medical Services, discussed how DOH is developing a culture of safety. He is the Coordinator of the EMS for Children program which teaches first responders how to properly secure children in ambulances. Funding is needed for EMS training and for testing car seats in ambulances. He requested that RSTF members forward to him of any research they may be aware of for best practices. Major challenges of the program are not enough funds or volunteers.
 - Mr. Ward mentioned that both PA and NJ have state guidelines for who should respond in highway incidents that were developed with input from members of the DVRPC Incident Management Task Force. He recommended that Mr. Hicken coordinate with members of this Task Force for assistance in promoting this program.
 - **Mr. Beans asked for others to help promote the need for funding.**
 - Mr. McNary reported that securing children in ambulances is a challenge in Pennsylvania too and there will be a related training in May.
- James McCarrick, City of Philadelphia Police DUI Coordinator, reported that to combat impaired driving on St Patrick's Day roving patrols will be sent out to known hotspots rather than using checkpoints, which can be avoided.

- Officer James Philbin, Cherry Hill Township Police Department, reported that a Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS) unit was started this year. The DDACTS analysis revealed a higher percentage of DUI crashes between 3 AM and 7 AM rather than earlier as their policing approach had assumed. They will therefore do some full checkpoints on NJ 70 or some low-staff checkpoints near that high-volume road, focusing on holidays, especially St. Patrick's Day. In the discussion which followed, RSTF members reported that:
 - PennDOT uses DDACTs to show the public where safety resources are allocated. Also, DDACTS training will be offered in Harrisburg during the week of July 7th, 2015. All police departments are welcome to attend.
 - Philadelphia's use of DDACTS identified a location for a DUI checkpoint not considered before in the 25th District. It netted 26 DUIs in 45 minutes and then they had to shut it down as this exceeded their processing capacity.
 - York County recently hired a Criminal Justice Planner who uses data to help target programs.
- Richard Avicoli, Gilmore and Associates, discussed Pennsylvania efforts to better coordinate communication between utility companies, first responders, and public works staff members in the case of a utility pole knockdown or downed tree. Better communication with PECO about when power is off reduces the time that other necessary workers need to wait before beginning work.

4. Legislative Update.

Jana Tidwell, AAA Mid-Atlantic, presented an update on some Pennsylvania bills regarding impaired driving. AAA is currently tracking SB 290 and HB 278, companion bills to make ignition interlocks mandatory after the first offense. Current legislation mandates them only for repeat offenders. Twenty-four other states currently require ignition interlocks for all offenders, and AAA has called on the remaining states to pass such legislation. Troy Love, PennDOT, added that the bills as written would take Pennsylvania out of compliance with a federal requirements and would require transferring funds. He also noted that the current technology allows testing for alcohol, but not drugs.

Tracy Noble, AAA Mid-Atlantic, spoke about some bills in New Jersey. NJ SB 325 also concerns first time offender ignition interlocks. AAA supports amendments to this bill that would make it less lenient. In its current form it only requires that the person blow clean for the last third of the sentence rather than the whole sentence. Several participants were concerned about suggesting it is all right to drive under the influence the rest of the time. **Anyone interested can contact Tracy and participate in discussion of this bill.**

5. Emphasis Area Focus – REDUCE IMPAIRED AND DISTRACTED DRIVING

Kevin Murphy, DVRPC, provided some background analysis. According to the most recent Crash Data Bulletin, DUI crashes in the region declined in 2013 compared to both 2011 and 2012, and there were fewer fatalities both locally and nationally. According to NHTSA, while national alcohol-impaired fatalities went down 20 percent, they still account for 30 percent of all

traffic fatalities, with an estimated cost of \$37 billion. Nationally alcohol-impaired fatalities have declined 21 percent since 2003, but there were 10,000 crash fatalities in 2012. In the DVRPC region, impaired driving was a contributing factor in an average of 27 percent of the fatalities between 2010 and 2012. DUI laws in Pennsylvania and New Jersey differ, but both have graduated penalties based on blood alcohol content (BAC), and ignition interlocks are used by both states. There are several national and regional outreach and enforcement programs that can be used by police forces and citizen groups to combat impaired and distracted driving.

Recommended TSAP strategies include encouraging a variety of traffic calming techniques to reduce crashes from distracted, drowsy, or impaired driving; promoting laws and outreach campaigns targeted to reducing impaired and distracted driving; supporting Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training for police; and supporting corporate bans on using cell phones while driving for work. Mr. Murphy then introduced the speakers.

The Hon. John Kennedy, York County Courts and Criminal Justice, discussed the York County DUI prevention initiative called "Target 25." Because of the number of DUI cases that came before him, Judge Kennedy did an informal survey among his fellow judges and, working with the District Attorney, determined that DUI represented approximately one-third of their case load, with 25 percent of those cases being repeat offenders. Other people can do similar research on the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) online database to find this information for their own counties

Policies in place at that time allowed offenders to be released after the blood test was completed, regardless of their past DUI arrest history, pending arraignment. Court dates could be six weeks to three months in the future. This could and did allow the problem drinker to be arrested and released repeatedly between arraignments, with no ability for this to be taken into account for sentencing for the original crime.

Working with a task force made up of many stakeholders, a new arrest/bail protocol was developed. Arresting officers are now required to run records upon stopping defendants for DUI. If the driver is a repeat offender they are now taken immediately for a blood test and then a bail hearing before a District Justice. The Sherriff's office streamlined paperwork. The Justice's bail conditions include intervention and a 24/7 blood alcohol monitoring bracelet. Sentencing guidelines also include the monitoring bracelet and house arrest, as it has been shown that most people with alcohol problems are not deterred from driving drunk by loss of license or by jail time, but are deterred by the loss of ability to drink. The program shows cost savings by reducing DUI incarcerations in York County. It also has demonstrated a 90 percent reduction of multiple offenders in one year. In 2011, before Target 25 was implemented, DUI victims were 18 percent of all crime victims in York County in 2013 DUI victims were only 6% of all crime victims.

Judge Kennedy advised that others trying to adopt such a program need to "sell" it to all implementers. They worked with everyone interested, but then advised non-participating municipalities that when there were DUI fatalities, they would note that the police department could have prevented the loss of life but didn't follow the adopted procedures.

In response to a question regarding the use of treatment programs in sentencing, Judge Kennedy replied that the Commonwealth does not regard alcoholism as a disease yet so there is no legislation to permit it to be used in lieu of incarceration. There is an effort now reach out to legislators to promote the need for treatment programs.

Patrolman Steven Schmidt, Stratford Borough Police, discussed the multi-jurisdictional approach to DWI and the Camden County DWI Task Force, which began in 2009. Five municipalities along a six mile stretch of White Horse Pike (US 30) in New Jersey work cooperatively for DWI enforcement. The Camden County Prosecutor appointed each participating officer as a Prosecutor's Detective, giving Task Force member officers county-wide police authority. This allows deployment of resources anywhere along the corridor depending on need. Major strategies include high-visibility and covert DWI patrols and increased frequency of court sessions in the municipalities, along with a coordinated and unified approach to prosecuting, sentencing, and monitoring of offenders.

Police officers are trained together in the proper administration of field sobriety tests. The Task Force received a grant from the Governor's office for training, to purchase portable breathalyzer units, and to create a uniform policy for their use. These portable units are easy to use and are reliably accurate, which increases officer confidence. Less than five percent of those stopped refuse this voluntary test. It's used primarily to confirm officers' suspicion and is not yet admissible in court. Although there is no outreach to establishments located along the corridor, it's clear they are aware of the program because most of the arrests are from those passing through the corridor rather than originating in it. Over the past five years there has been a six point five percent reduction in crashes, and a five percent increase in drugged driver arrests. In total, there have been 6,420 car stops, resulting in 4,460 summonses for a variety of traffic offenses, and 1,330 DWI arrests as a result of this targeted, coordinated enforcement.

6. Developing Action Items

Mr. Beans and DVRPC staff videotaped of Judge Kennedy's presentation. Mr. Beans plans to edit them into a finished product to help share the good work done in York County. County staff and other RSTF members will be invited to help share it.

Walter Lafty, Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB), discussed their Responsible Alcohol Management Program (RAMP), a voluntary training program for establishments which are licensed to serve or sell alcohol. In order for business to be RAMP certified they must provide alcohol awareness education for their staff. Starting in 2006, judges can find licensed establishments guilty in DUI cases. If this happens, legislation is in place to permit the PLCB to downgrade the license to "Conditional" and members of the public can then object to the license renewal. Starting in 2012 the PLCB requires all new managers at licensed establishments to get RAMP training, which is free. The establishment may then send additional staff, for a fee, for RAMP training or may hire a contractor for in-house training. One of the program's challenges is to get establishments to volunteer for staff training prior to receiving any citation for serving minors or visibly intoxicated persons. Judges have leeway to reduce fines for certified establishments. In the last few years, communities and coalitions have worked cooperatively with the PLCB to pay the RAMP training fees for restaurant workers training. In response to an audience question regarding safety training for restaurant workers, Mr. Lafty replied that a separate division of the PLCB provides safety training to licensees.

- **Mr. McNary volunteered to connect Mr. Lafty with PennDOT's staff that can assist with outreach to promote RAMP as well as links to national campaigns and other PennDOT grantees that could offer assistance.**
- **Officer McCarrick from the City of Philadelphia Police agreed to help promote RAMP to restaurants.**
- **Kathy Olsen from The Bucks County TMA, Lori Aguilera from the Chester County Office of Highway Safety, and Ms. Tidwell from AAA Mid-Atlantic all volunteered to host or find facilities available to host RAMP training.**
- **Mr. Beans suggested that major organizations such as MADD might be able to help get information out to restaurants and bars, and offered to assist in gathering contacts at such organizations. Ms. Neaderland noted that any RSTF member could speak with the manager of a restaurant or bar that they frequent as an easy action.**
- **Gus Scheerbaum, MOTU, agreed to make the links available on the City of Philadelphia's MOTU Blog. website.**
- **Mr. McNary agreed to share the District 6 DUI enforcement calendar.**
- **Ms. Neaderland encouraged members of the RSTF to promote RAMP at their favorite establishments as an easily done action item to help reduce impaired driving.**

Members of the RSTF agreed on the importance of making it easier for interested citizens, communities, and organizations to find resources and information about DUI issues, such as locations of uncertified establishments. There was interest in a single electronic location for this range of information. The idea was raised that such a location could be developed by the RSTF, but there were no volunteers to work on this potential action.

George Geisler, PA DUI Association, said Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training is a major focus for officers as drugs are often used, and a drugged person is often a safety issue for officers. It has been a struggle to get funding training for officers or trained trainers. Staffing and manpower are often issues for local police forces, as are travel and materials costs. Sponsors for host locations and training materials, less than fifty dollars per trainee, are welcomed. DREs are available for municipal police throughout Pennsylvania and resources may be shared among counties. York County's toxicology program was commended. DRE officer training begins with a two-day course followed by a seven-day course, and then hands-on training at a rehab facility. The courses are offered many times per year, with rigorous entrance requirements and a high failure rate. There is also a need to involve prosecutors, as drugged driving is a relatively new science.

Mr. McNary said that case law is very important to prosecutors and requested that it also be shared with officers to better prepare them. He recommended Mr. Geisler as technical resource. **Representatives from PennDOT volunteered to share case histories to help inform prosecutors and judges in PA.**

Members of the RSTF from New Jersey reported that in New Jersey medical marijuana users are immune from criminal possession laws but not from traffic statutes.

Mr. Ray Reeve, NJ DOT, said that in NJ, as in PA, the issue is shortage of personnel and interested municipalities. There is an online course available, which helps with the issue of travel time for classes. There is also a group of DRE trained officers available for call-out service in southern NJ counties, as a way of sharing resources. Grants are available for

overtime pay. **Ms. Noble and Officer Philbin volunteered to make their facilities available for training in New Jersey. Mr. Kaplan said that Rutgers CAIT may also be able to assist. Mr. Reeve agreed to follow up on this.**

Mr. Beans recommended RSTF attendees pull facts from the RSTF highlights to send to their supervisors. **Mr. McNary agreed to assist Mr. Beans and DVRPC staff to create this.**

RSTF members agreed that at a future date, representatives of the PLCB and the New Jersey Alcohol Beverage Control Division will be invited to join the RSTF to discuss DUI programs targeted to bar and restaurant owners and workers.

Mr. Murphy said research into distracted driving shows consequences similar to DUI. The two are together in the Transportation Safety Action Plan because many similar strategies apply. Also, data for distracted driving is weak so it might otherwise not be recognized as an important emphasis area. He asked for assistance in gathering cell phone ban policies from companies that prohibit employees' cell phone use while driving on company business. DVRPC will create a repository for the information, which can then be shared. **Kasim Ali, City of Philadelphia Streets Department, Mr. McNary, Officer Philbin, Ms. Noble, and Ms. Tidwell offered to assist with this effort.**

7. Member Updates and Open Forum

- Kelvin MacKavanagh, DVRPC Goods Movement Task Force, reported that there will be two sessions at the upcoming Transaction Conference in New Jersey resulting from this task force: Safety Past Present Future, and Red Light Cameras. The conference runs from April 21-23, 2015 in Atlantic City. The agenda is on conference website: www.njtransaction.com.
- Emma Yamamoto, MOTU, announced an upcoming effort to start a driver safety education program with regard to pedestrians. pedestrian. She requested staff assistance for promoting it with social media and asked that it be placed on Safety page of the DVRPC website.
- Mr. Beans announced that the next RSTF meeting will be held June 2, 2015. The TSAP Emphasis Area to be discussed will be "Ensure Young Driver Safety."
- Mr. McNary asked all attendees to fill out the survey.

The meeting then adjourned.

Attendees:

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| 1. Aguilera, Lori | Chester County Highway Safety |
| 2. Ali, Kasim | City of Philadelphia Streets Department |
| 3. Arcaro, Tina | SJTPO |
| 4. Avicolli, Rich | Gilmore and Associates |
| 5. Beans, Bill | MBO Engineering LLC |
| 6. Bucci, Larry | Fiocco Engineering |
| 7. Buerk, Jesse | DVRPC |
| 8. Cerbone, Vince | PennDOT District 6 |

9. Ferraro, Donna	Public Health Management Corp. – Street Smarts
10. Fiocco, Joe	Fiocco Engineering
11. Hicken, Eric	NJ DOH & OEMS
12. Howard, Nathan	DVRPC
13. Huff, Alan	SJTPO
14. Geisler, George	PA DUI Assoc.
15. Griffin, R.J.	GVF TMA
16. Kaplan, Andy	Rutgers University TSRC
17. Kennedy, Judge John	York County Courts and Criminal Justice
18. Lafty, Walt	Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board
19. Love, Troy	PennDOT District 6
20. Lozinak, Amanda	TMA of Chester County
21. MacKavanagh, Kelvin	DVRPC Goods Movement Task Force
22. Marandino, Jennifer	SJTPO
23. McCarrick, James	City of Philadelphia Police
24. McNary, Ryan	PennDOT Central Office
25. Merritt, Darrell	PennDOT District 6
26. Moore, Regina	DVRPC
27. Murphy, Kevin	DVRPC
28. Neaderland, Zoe	DVRPC
29. Noble, Tracy	AAA Mid-Atlantic- New Jersey
30. Nuble, Patrice	City of Philadelphia Streets Department
31. Oaks, Sarah	DVRPC
32. Olsen, Kathy	TMA Bucks
33. Omer, Marhaba	NJDOT
34. Ott, Pat	MBO Engineering LLC
35. Patel, Ashwin	PennDOT District 6
36. Philbin, Officer James	Cherry Hill Township Police
37. Ragozine, Bill	Cross County Connection TMA
38. Reeve, Ray	NJDHTS
39. Rukowski, Bill	Burlington City Police
40. Scheerbaum, Gus	City of Philadelphia MOTU
41. Schmidt, Peggy	Partnership TMA
42. Schmidt, Ptlm. Steve	Stratford Borough Police
43. Strumpfner, Warren	Transportation Safety Advocate
44. Tidwell, Jana	AAA Mid-Atlantic- Philadelphia Office
45. Uselis, Sgt. Stephen	PA State Police
46. Walsh, Chris	Burlington City Police
47. Ward, John	DVRPC
48. Wilson, Cpl. Kenneth	PA State Police
49. Yamamoto, Emma	City of Philadelphia MOTU