



Vermont Highway Safety Alliance

VHSA-Enforcement Focus Group Meeting Notes



Date of Meeting: February 24, 2015

Time: 11:30-1:00 PM

Meeting Place: National Life Room 413

Attendees: Tom Fields, Pat McManamon, Robert T. White, Bret Meyer, Todd Law, Rejean Lafleche, Mark Belisle, Susan Clark

SHSP Action Item progress

Lt. Bret Meyer, Washington County Sheriff's Department

Lt. Bret Meyer: Plainfield is updating and adopting the ordinances for stop signs and the speed limits. Plainfield will be looking to crosswalk ordinances and asking Vtrans for assistance on intersections when VTrans bridge project is begun on Rt. 2 and 14 in E. Montpelier. Plainfield experiences traffic issues with the short cuts, as a result the speeds go up and crash rates go up. Brett's next target for ordinance update work is with the town of Calais

Update on the new Fine/Fee Slips: The New Fine/Fees slip has gone to the printer. They'll be ready for the May mobilization.

CEA 61 (3):1Is a CEA designed to encourage more involvement in the HVE campaigns. We are nearing 80% participation consistently. With the upcoming May Mobilization we hope to exceed that percentage

CEA 18 (1B):2 Involves looking at High Crash Location Intersection crashes: Will select 5-10 High Crash Location (HCL) intersections; trying to identifying the locations to work on; some need just enforcement; some need engineering. (For HCL locations, go to <http://highwaysafety.vermont.gov/>, Data page and scroll down to High Crash Locations) AOT Engineer Mario Dupigny-Giroux is assisting members of the Enforcement Focus Team with this effort.

Adaptive signals

Robert T. White, AOT

From FHWA: "Adaptive signal control technology adjusts the timing of red, yellow and green lights to accommodate changing traffic patterns and ease traffic congestion." Adaptive signals have been installed in various places around Vermont including St. Albans, Colchester and Rutland. There are some areas of the state that would benefit from this technology but the connectivity is weak. More will follow on this.

Action Item Prioritization

Tom Fields, GHSP

Kevin Marshia has proposed a method for prioritizing the SHSP Action Items. There are 124 Action Items and not all of the items can be effectively tracked. This method evaluates the Action Item based on Impact, Ability to Measure, and Likelihood of Occurrence. Focus Group leaders have been asked to provide feedback on the process.

Legislation**Pat McManamon, DMV**

H 160 Proposes 75 to 79 year old drivers upon renewing their license will be required to take a vision test, age 80 and above will be required to take a vision and road test when renewing their license.

H.162 proposes to define what a slow moving vehicle is, what constitutes impeding other traffic and what the responsibility of a driver of a slow moving vehicle must do when impeding traffic.

H.230 proposes making 23 VSA §1259 (Seatbelt 18 and above) a primary enforcement violation as well as removing the taxi and bus exemption. It also proposes to remove the transporting for hire exemption from 23 VSA § 1258 (Child restraint law).

S.99 proposes to place an enhancement on speed violations in a school zone by doubling the fine.

Diminished Driving Skills Curriculum**Pat McManamon, DMV**

This April, the Diminish Skills Curriculum will be added into the Motor Vehicle Law Block during the Basic Recruit Class at the Vermont Police Academy. It will also be available to departments as a stand-alone curriculum for in-service training. The curriculum is a two hour block providing officers with a standardized systematic approach on how to handle diminished driving skills by using standard questions and procedures. It also provides the officer with information on how to request a re-exam through DMV and resources available to a person whose skills may be diminished. It places the request on diminished driving skills and removes the age factor. The curriculum can also be added onto a Specialized Vehicle Curriculum making the in-service training five to six hours instead of two.

Post Script: The Team looking at the High Crash Location information will meet with Mario on Wednesday March 4th from 10:00-12:30 in Room 422 at National Life.

This meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.