

**Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Team Report**  
**Wednesday, March 22, 2017, 2:00p.m.**

**Participants**

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## **Impaired Driving Reduction Strategies and Countermeasures – Revised**

***Strategy #1: Utilize data systems to identify alcohol licensed and permitted locations within a community and Alcoholic Beverage Code violation history at these locations to determine any correlation with alcohol related crashes***

### ***Countermeasures and Programs***

- Maintain data on road types, corridors, regions, counties and communities at high probability for impaired driving areas as well as to track frequent offenders
- Through the use of existing licensing data available in TABC's Public Inquiry System determine if any correlations exist between that data and alcohol related crash data. [Public Inquiry includes: All retailers regulated by TABC with a two-year permit/license to sell or serve alcohol; the violation data related to these locations and is searchable through various variables such as zip code.]
- Identify partnerships to utilize the data collected to determine community variables that could impact the collected data related to special conditions, licensing requirements, community measures and other determined factors.
- Determine areas where specific licensing data is not available through TABC's Public Inquiry System that could have an impact on alcohol related crashes to determine incomplete/gaps in data sets.
- Partner, where possible, with community groups and task forces to promote a comprehensive action plan to determine and address community hot spots.

***Strategy #2: Increase education for all road users on the impact of impaired driving and its prevention***

### ***Countermeasures and Programs***

- Identify gaps in knowledge with respect to illegal behaviors (e.g., specifically prescription drugs, marijuana and substances other than alcohol) among road users; impact of drug use on safety
- Identify gaps in knowledge with respect to the negative consequences of traffic violations among road users (e.g., fines, loss of license, effects of criminal record on future employment, etc).
- Educate the public and local leadership (police chiefs, county officials, city officials) through general messaging on the importance of traffic stops as a part of DUI enforcement and greater safety on roadways

- Demonstrate to all road users the magnitude of the impact of impaired driving crashes on fatality rates by making comparisons with other causes of death (e.g., murder rate)
- Demonstrate to all road users the magnitude of the cost and liability exposure associate with impaired driving crashes resulting in injury and/or fatality
- Improve education among medical professionals that cautions regarding driving while on medications apply to all vehicles, including heavy machinery.
- Identify the gaps in knowledge of judicial branch staff about impaired driving and provide messaging or training to close the gap.

***Strategy #3: Increase officer contacts with impaired drivers through regular traffic enforcement***

***Countermeasures and Programs***

- Educate the police, community leaders, public, and traffic safety partners on the role of regular traffic enforcement as a primary tool in detecting impaired drivers.
- Use a data driven approach to optimize areas and times for enforcement (e.g., DDACTS analysis to compare high crash areas with high crime areas, include attention to existing licensing data available in TABC's Public Inquiry System and identify gaps in data (See Strategy 2, bullet point two for details on the Public Inquiry System).
- High visibility, aggressive selective enforcement
- Identify trends in DWI arrests and how they relate to trends in citations and crashes
  - Medical entry status for jail admission (too drunk for jail)
  - About 4,000 fewer arrests from 2011-15 impaired driving arrests under STEP grants; may not be fully representative of Texas
- Identify training gaps for police regarding locations with a high probability for alcohol and drug use that lead to impaired driving (e.g. breaking up/preventing underage drinking parties)

***Strategy #4: Improve mobility options for impaired road users.***

***Countermeasures and Programs***

- Educate the public and community leaders on methods for identifying mobility options at the community level

- Have local task forces identify/come up with local options
- Traffic safety community needs to come out in support of public transportation

***Strategy #5: Increase data, training and resources for prosecutors and officers in the area of drugged driving***

***Countermeasures and Programs***

- Develop training for prosecutors and regular patrol officers on detecting and prosecuting drugged drivers
- Develop joint training for prosecutors and laboratory personnel (Forensic Toxicologist) to assist in presenting scientific evidence of drug impairment in court
- Continued and increased SFST, ARIDE, DRE training.
- Identify methodologies for improving the identification of drugged driving as a contributing factor in impaired driving crashes
- Identify resources for improving the identification of drugged driving as a contributing factor in impaired driving crashes
- Secure additional resources for laboratories

***Strategy #6: Continue to monitor the development of roadside drug testing instruments and, as appropriate, investigate deploying them into the field as an additional tool to detect impaired driving.***

**Next Steps**

***Additional Resources***

- Traffic Safety Conference  
<https://tti.tamu.edu/group/cts/traffic-safety-conference/2017-traffic-safety-conference/>