

Strategies and Countermeasures for the Impaired Driving Emphasis Area.

Strategy #1	Use 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
<i>Countermeasures and Programs:</i>	
1a	Develop and maintain data to identify correlations between impaired driving crashes and citations, road type, corridor, region, county and community and Texas Alcohol Beverage Control licensing data.
1b	Track frequent driving under the influence (DUI) offenders to identify and address persons with multiple impaired driving arrests and/or crashes. Pursue more intensive interventions.
1c	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
<i>Countermeasures and Programs:</i>	
2a	Identify gaps in knowledge with respect to the impact of illegal behaviors (e.g., specifically prescription drugs, marijuana and substances other than alcohol) on road safety.
2b	Identify gaps in knowledge on the negative consequences of traffic violations among road users (e.g., fines, loss of license, effects of criminal record on future employment).
2c	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).
2d	Demonstrate to all road users the magnitude of the cost and liability exposure associated with impaired driving crashes resulting in injury and/or fatality.
2e	Educate medical professionals to inform patients of the effects of medications on the ability to drive or operate heavy machinery.
2f	Identify the gaps in knowledge of judges and prosecutors about impaired driving and provide messaging or training to close the gaps.
2g	Educate emergency medical professionals about the changes in the Blood Test law, which has been modified from the option to refuse format.

Strategy #3 Increase officer contacts with impaired drivers through regular traffic enforcement	
<i>Countermeasures and Programs:</i>	
3a	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.
3b	Use a data driven approach to optimize areas and times for enforcement.
3c	Identify trends in DUI arrests and compare the data to trends in citations and crashes.
3d	Identify training gaps for police on locations with a high probability for alcohol and drug use that lead to impaired driving (e.g., breaking up/preventing underage drinking parties).
3e	Encourage motorists to safely report potential impaired drivers to law enforcement.
3f	Research and identify strategies to streamline the system of processing impaired drivers.
3g	Conduct surveys to assess public support for sobriety checkpoints and enhanced impaired driving penalties; develop a report on the survey results and impaired driving countermeasure effectiveness; and share the reports with lawmakers and the public.

Strategy #4 Improve mobility options for impaired road users	
<i>Countermeasures and Programs:</i>	
4a	Educate the public and community leaders on methods for identifying mobility options at the community level.
4b	Create local task forces to identify local actions.
4c	Promote trip planning, including designated drivers, public transportation, taxis, and alternate transportation service companies.

Strategy #5 Increase data, training, and resources for prosecutors and officers in the area of drugged driving	
<i>Countermeasures and Programs:</i>	
5a	Develop training for prosecutors and regular patrol officers on detecting and prosecuting drugged drivers.
5b	Develop joint training for prosecutors and laboratory personnel (Forensic Toxicologist) to assist in presenting scientific evidence of drug impairment in court.

5c	Continue and increase Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement, and Drug Recognition Evaluator (DRE) training.
5d	Identify methodologies and resources for improving the identification of drugged driving as a contributing factor in impaired driving crashes.
5e	Secure additional resources for laboratories.
5f	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.
5g	Encourage adoption of laws that increase penalties for impaired driving.
5h	Encourage adoption of laws that streamline the processing of impaired drivers by law enforcement.
5i	Encourage adoption of laws that allow sobriety checkpoints.