

Speed Management Workshop

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Dallas, TX

The Practice of Setting and Enforcing Realistic Speed Limits
Restoring Credibility: Engineering, Enforcement, & Educational Issues

Breakout Session #1
Final Presentation and Discussion Points of Priority Actions
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OVERLAP ISSUES BETWEEN ALL GROUPS

- Coordination
- Communication
- Consistent
- Public Education
- Support
- Automated enforcement

ENGINEERING

High

- Coordinate construction projects with engineering, enforcement, and public.
- Provide road infrastructure (e.g., space for safely observing and stopping vehicles) to accommodate law enforcement operations.
- Provide consistent speed limits along routes to avoid misunderstandings and improve expectations in motorist compliance, and enforcement and judicial actions.
- Develop and provide needed design, application, and consistency for Variable Speed Limit.
- Need more human factors studies related to speed limit application and compliance.
- Provide speed zone consistency between highway jurisdictions (between geographic borders and between intersecting and adjacent roads under different highway jurisdictions).

Medium

- Prevent loopholes in procedures that allow nonconviction by judicial.
- Provide more research regarding the adequacy of the 85th percentile speed-setting method and what range of speed limits for maintaining safety.
- Provide more data points to support 85th percentile.
- Determine best speed limit and road designs for special circumstances.
- Determine best speed limit by type of facility.

Low

- Address traffic calming for speed control.
- Provide signs on both sides of road.
- Better use of bridge structures for speed signs to increase motorist information and attention to speed limit.
- Engineer improvements to vehicles to assist motorist with speed compliance.
- Provide more research for defining the design speed and design driver

ENFORCEMENT

High

- Provide quality instead of quantity enforcement (require before and after studies).
- Patrol units should be actively involved in speed enforcement so public perceives that officers will take action.
- Provide quality training for officers.
- Encourage voluntary compliance of speed limits by public through education.
- Provide more resources for speed enforcement
- Increase the use of automated speed enforcement so that officers can be available for special cases.
- Provide credibility and improved public image for enforcement through public education and support from other authorities

Medium

- Enforcement should invite engineers to look at fatal crash sites.
- Provide quality equipment for enforcement.

Low

- Provide use of speed trailer for public education.
- Increase voluntary compliance through education.

JUDICIAL

High

- Apply consistent treatment of convictions and penalties.
- Educate judicial system regarding engineering and enforcement.
- Support enforcement with convictions and penalties for valid speeding citations.
- Help authorities reduce conviction exceptions such as technical loopholes.

Medium

- Maximize the Ashadow effect@ of convictions and penalties for speeding.
- Minimize differential penalties between States.

Low

Agree on enforceable and conviction number (cushion) above speed limit.

POLITICAL

High

- Reduce public misperception that politics sets speed limits, enforcement policies and procedures.
- Reduce political misconception that a speed limit sign alone will reduce speeding.
- Educate politicians on speed enforcement policies and procedures.
- Politically provide resources to support and enforce speed laws.
- Provide automated enforcement enabling legislation.

Medium

Clarification regarding enforceable application of Variable Speed Limits (school zones is a particularly sensitive area).

Low

- Provide political accountability for those requiring speed limit and enforcement actions (for example, legislated actions that are supported but later continue without support).
- Minimize political jurisdictions from placing illegal and unwarranted signs.
- Provide graduated drivers license.