

2007 Motorcycle Safety Forum

Break Out Group Summary

February 6, 2007

Austin, TX

1. Statewide Motorcycle Safety Group

Is there a need? Yes

Who should participate? Law enforcement, motorcycle groups, TxDOT, TEA, motorcycle dealers, TTI, NHTSA, DPS, rider coaches, rider training community, military, and local elected representatives, etc.

What is the objective? Make recommendations to elected representatives; improve motorcycle safety; and increase involvement at the state level.

How is it administered? Board of Directors

2. Develop Motorcycle Safety Strategic Plan

Is there a need? Yes

What are the main components?

- Training & Education
Motorists, riders, law enforcement, training facilities
- Hwy Design & Environment
Roadway engineering and maintenance practices to improve safe motorcycle operation.
- Partnerships
Rider groups, dealerships, law enforcement, traffic safety community, TxDOT.

How will it be used? Consolidate messages; communication

3. Increase interest in motorcycle safety

Who are the stakeholders? Riders, public, law enforcement, TxDOT, public health and medical, motorcyclists, dealers, alcohol vendors, TEA/drivers' education, drinkers and riders, insurance companies, military

How do we reach them? Instructional videos from drivers' point of view (how it affects those involved, what are the costs, consequences); public service announcements

Ride home program (bars-rallies)

Tow truck training for ride home program (reimbursement?)

Education in schools

MC crash billboards

TxDOT expand alcohol awareness program

4. Motorcycle Safety Forum

Should it continue? Yes

Should it be expanded or changed? Yes – change – address issues - alcohol, helmet, licensing, motorist awareness of motorcycles

Who should participate? TxDOT, insurance companies, alcohol distributors, motorcycle manufacturers and dealers, research and education communities, traffic safety community, AMA, riding groups (national/State), training schools, military

How do we get them involved? By invitation

Who should coordinate? Statewide Motorcycle Safety Group

5. Motorcycle Safety Issue Areas

What motorcycle safety issues are a concern that are not being addressed?

- Lack of exposure to the ERC
- Beginners' attitude and male ego for ERC
- Motorists awareness – public service announcements, billboards, newspapers, message boards, bus wraps
- Distribution of literature – DPS, County tax office – mail stuffer
- Tougher Laws – TX Legislature require motorcycle training
- Strict compliance with issuing tickets
- Motorcycle training in school districts and awareness
- More diverse training – i.e., trikes/side cars.

6. Cost Effective & Immediate Ways to Reduce Crashes

What are some short term attainable strategies that can help reduce crashes?

- Increase fines for no motorcycle license, automatic ticket – stricter consequences
- Tiered license system for the adults on motorcycles – show proficiency to move up
- Use programmable signs (TxDOT) especially during rallies
- TV/Billboards campaign safety signs
- Involve TEA to include “share the road” video in drivers' education.
- TEA to partner w/forum.