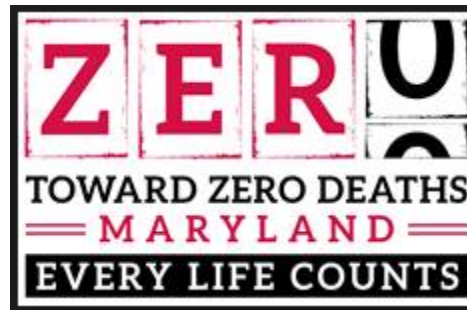




Information Briefing:
**Cecil County's Experience in Developing a
County-Level Strategic Highway Safety Plan**



**CEAM 2020 Virtual Fall Conference
October 21, 2020**



Purpose

To provide you with an overview of the Cecil County Strategic Highway Safety Plan process and plan in order to share lessons-learned to assist you in developing your own county-level plans



Agenda

- **The Process**
- **The Plan**
- **Lessons-Learned**



The Process



Background

- **Cecil County was seeing an average of 17 deaths and 84 serious injuries per year as a result of vehicle crashes in Cecil County**
- **The numbers were increasing... there were 31 traffic-related fatalities in Cecil County in 2017**
- **April 2017 – Letter from Maryland Secretary of Transportation Pete Rahn calling for County-level plans**
- **September 2017 – Cecil County SHSP Committee formed**



Statement of Purpose

To develop and oversee the implementation of a County-level Strategic Highway Safety Plan to complement the state-level plan with the goal of reducing the frequency and severity of motor vehicle crashes, including those involving bicyclists and pedestrians, which occur on roadways in Cecil County.





Who Worked on the County Plan?

- Cecil County Sheriff's Office (Co-Chair)
- Cecil County State's Attorney's Office
- Cecil County Department of Public Works (Co-Chair)
- Cecil County Department of Emergency Services
- Cecil County Department of Land Use & Development Services
- Cecil County Health Department
- Cecil County Fireman's Association
- Cecil County Liquor Board
- Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO)
- MDOT State Highway Administration
- North East Police Department
- Elkton Police Department
- USDOT Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration





The “Four E’s of Highway Safety”

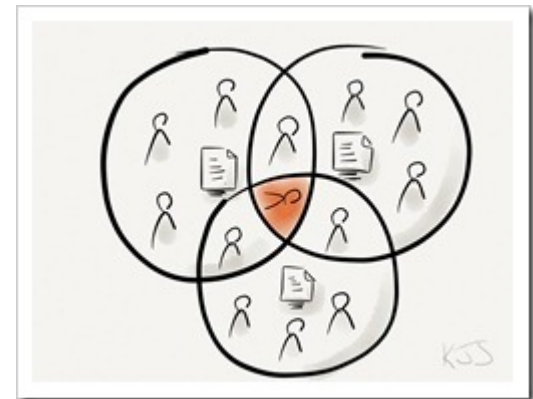
- **Engineering**
- **Enforcement**
- **Education**
- **Emergency Medical Services**



Organization of the SHSP Committee

- **By Functional Area Working Group**
 - **Engineering (Cecil County DPW Lead)**
 - **Enforcement (Cecil County Sheriff's Office Lead)**
 - **Emergency Medical Services (Cecil County DES Lead)**

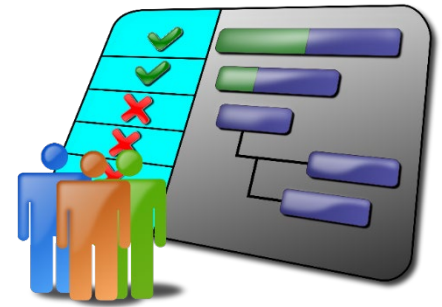
Each Working Group is expected to include education & outreach efforts within their functional area.





Timeline

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Milestone</u> |
|-----------------|---|
| Sep 17 | SHSP Committee Formed; Kickoff Meeting |
| Oct 17 – Apr 18 | Monthly SHSP Committee Working Meetings |
| Nov 17 | MHSO SHSP Workshop |
| Apr 18 | Public Meeting to Get Citizen Input |
| May 18 – Aug 18 | Write Draft SHSP |
| Sep 18 | Present Plan to County Executive |
| | Coordinate Plan With County Fire Chiefs & Law Enforcement Officials |
| | Finalize & Publish Plan |
| Oct 18+ | Implementation |





The Plan

Posted to the Cecil County Government website at:
www.ccgov.org/about-us/strategic-highway-safety-plan



Metrics

- **Fatalities**
- **Serious Injuries**
- **Fatality Rate**
- **Serious Injury Rate**
- **Non-Motorized Fatalities & Serious Injuries (i.e. Pedestrians & Bicyclists)**



Seven Emphasis Areas (In No Particular Order)

- Aggressive Driving
- Distracted Driving
- Impaired Driving
- Occupant Protection
- Highway Infrastructure
- Pedestrians & Bicyclists
- Responder & Worker Safety & Protection





Action Items - Engineering

- **ENG-1: Roadway Safety Audits**
- **ENG-2: Pedestrian Roadway Safety Audit of Route 40 in the Vicinity of Landing Lane**
- **ENG-3: Roadway Safety Improvement Program**
- **ENG-4: Programmatic Pavement Condition Assessment**



Action Items - Enforcement

- **ENF-1: Establish Collision Review Team**
- **ENF-2: Increase Enforcement Activities (Vehicle)**
- **ENF-3: Increase Enforcement Activities (Pedestrian)**
- **ENF-4: Use of Unmarked Patrol Vehicle**
- **ENF-5: Training With Court System**
- **ENF-6: Joint Operations**
- **ENF-7: Media Blitz**
- **ENF-8: Interactive Public Engagement Programs**



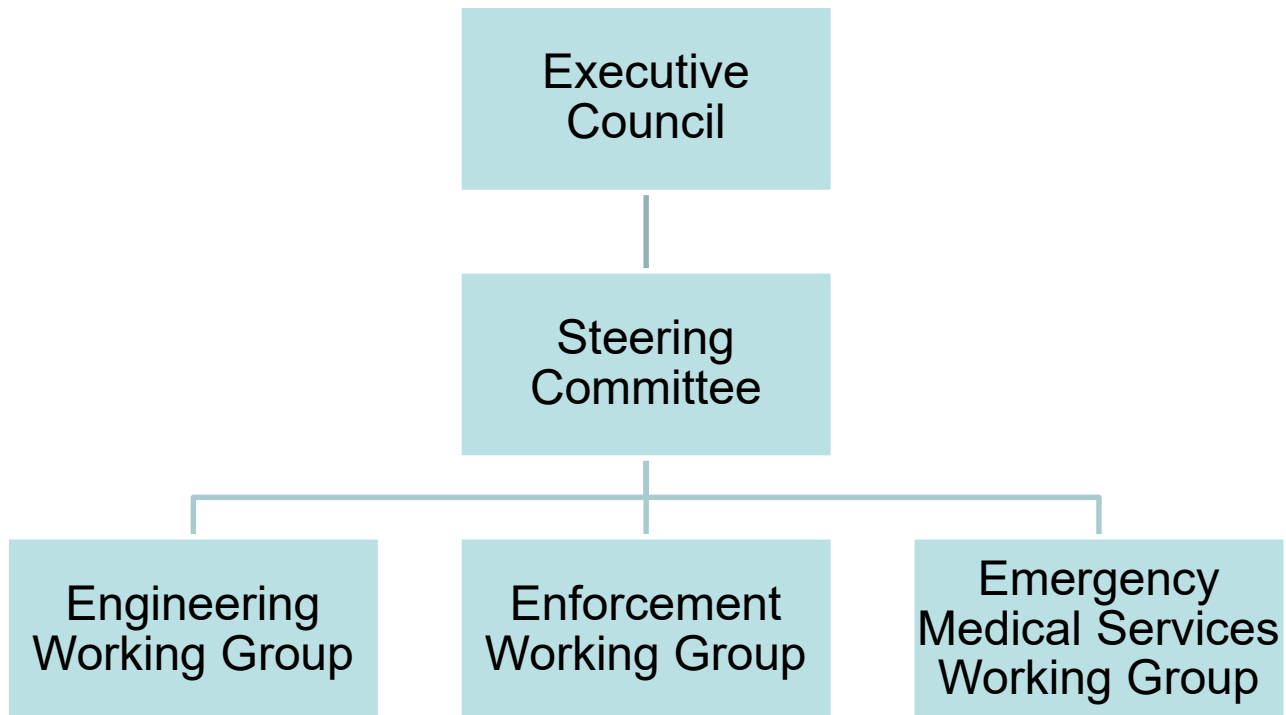
Action Items – Emergency Medical Services

- **EMS-1: Promotion & Enforcement of “Move Over” Law**
- **EMS-2: TIMS Certification**
- **EMS-3: Use of ANSI-Approved Traffic Safety Vests**
- **EMS-4: Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Education Programs**
- **EMS-5: Child Car Seat Promotion**
- **EMS-6: Improvement of Data Collection & Analysis**
- **EMS-7: Ambulance Occupant Safety Program**
- **EMS-8: Emergency Vehicle Operator & Defensive Driver Training**



Implementation & Accountability

Organizational Structure





Implementation & Accountability

- **Cecil County SHSP Executive Council:**
 - **Purpose:** Provide executive-level leadership; review progress; evaluate resource requirements; provide strategic guidance
 - **Membership:**
 - County Executive (Co-Chair)
 - Cecil County Sheriff (Co-Chair)
 - Health Officer
 - Director of Emergency Services
 - MDOT SHA District Engineer
 - MSP North East Barrack Commander
 - Director of Public Works (Secretary)
 - **Meeting Frequency:** Annually



Implementation & Accountability (Continued)

- **Cecil County SHSP Steering Committee:**
 - **Purpose:** Monitor implementation of SHSP Action Items; prepare & present an annual update to the Executive Council; work to publicize the annual update to inform the public & other stakeholders of progress made to date
 - **Membership:**
 - **CCSO Director of Law Enforcement (Co-Chair)**
 - **Director of Public Works (Co-Chair)**
 - **Members of SHSP Functional Area Working Groups**
 - **Meeting Frequency:** Quarterly



Implementation & Accountability (Continued)

- **Cecil County SHSP Functional Area Working Groups:**
 - **Purpose:** Implement SHSP Action Items; track & report Action Item metrics to the Steering Committee for inclusion in the annual update to the Executive Council
 - **Membership:**
 - Engineering Working Group members
 - Enforcement Working Group members
 - Emergency Medical Services Working Group members
 - **Meeting Frequency:** As needed



Lessons-Learned



Lessons-Learned

- **Others have gone before you... If we can do it, so can you**
- **The “80:20 rule” as applied to the development of County-level SHSP’s:**
 - **80% of the benefit will be derived from the process**
 - **20% of the benefit will be derived from the plan itself**
- **Give yourself adequate time... one year is probably about right**
- **There is lots of help available (MHSO; other jurisdictions, MPO’s)**
- **Give the public an opportunity to provide input**
- **Developing the plan is the easy part... implementing it is the hard part... it’s going to be a years-long effort**



In Closing

Some encouraging news for us:

The number of fatalities on roadways in Cecil County decreased to 26 in CY18 and to 19 in CY19 (down from 31 in CY17)

My contact info:

Scott Flanigan

Director of Public Works

Cecil County

(410) 996-5259

sflanigan@ccgov.org

