



News for Immediate Release

Feb. 4, 2010

PennDOT 4-0, Legislators, Stakeholders Meet to Discuss Route 115 Safety Recommendations

Dunmore – PennDOT District 4 met today with representatives from the Wyoming Barracks of the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), Bear Creek Township Supervisors, the Bear Creek Charter School, Reps. Mike Carroll and John Yudichak and representatives of Sen. Raphael Musto's and Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski's offices to present its recommendations to minimize traffic crashes along Route 115 in Bear Creek, Luzerne County, the site of several recent crashes.

"Our work here today represents a joint commitment to the safety of our customers and constituents that hopefully will result in far-reaching, positive effects," said Dennis Giordano, PennDOT's assistant district executive for maintenance. "This meeting is an important step in an ongoing safety partnership that includes not only legislators and engineers, but also law enforcement, local government and motorists."

After reviewing the recent crash reports and historical data and conducting speed studies, PennDOT made recommendations that reflect the best practices of appropriate engineering safety solutions for this particular location.

PennDOT's short-term recommendations, to be completed by mid-March, include performing a complete sign review, enhancing existing signage and reducing the speed limit where appropriate. PennDOT will perform an in-depth traffic engineering study of the targeted area to make other recommendations by November.

Solutions that have already been put into place include: increased PSP speed-limit enforcement and placement of message boards by PennDOT to alert motorists to the possibility of changing weather conditions and the need to reduce speed. PennDOT also positioned two "speedminders" along the roadway to alert motorists to their current speed. Additionally, PennDOT maintenance activity includes sweeping the roadway to remove all anti-skid material and increasing ranger patrols along the roadway during winter.

As part of their commitment to reducing the number of fatalities on all of its roads, PennDOT and its highway safety partners have developed a public awareness and education plan to remind motorists that they share a responsibility in maintaining their own safety through safe driving practices and vehicle maintenance.

For more information on highway safety and to learn what drivers can do to increase their own personal level of safety on Pennsylvania roads, log on to www.DriveSafePA.org.

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