



State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC)

Innovation in Motion

A newsletter with highlights from the STIC

INNOVATE
DEPLOY
EDUCATE



Local Government Safety Seminar Promotes Goal: Toward Zero Deaths

In collaboration with PennDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) recently hosted its Local Government Safety Seminar at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. In 2016, PennDOT was awarded STIC Incentive funds dedicated to help make this event a reality. The event was designed to encourage local government officials to learn about a variety of subjects including roadway safety planning, how to install cost-effective countermeasures to reduce crashes, and how to find funding for roadway safety projects. Attendance was impressive, with 110 in-person attendees and more than 100 online participants at over 80 locations representing local governments and planning organizations from around the state.

Presentations were provided by experts from PennDOT, FHWA, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and a wide variety of planning and advocacy organizations, as well as local government representatives who shared their success stories on improving roadway safety in their communities.

Among the success stories, **Jane Billings, Borough Manager**, discussed **Swarthmore Borough's** decision to install a roundabout and how safety has improved tremendously at the intersection. In addition to it being safer for vehicles, the roundabout is able to provide shorter crossing paths and increase protection for pedestrians from vehicles passing through the intersection.



"This event has been very helpful and informative for local governments to learn about the cost-effective measures that can be taken to improve safety in local communities." - Jane Billings

Several STIC members also attended the showcase their support of the safety initiative. For example, **William Clark** from the **York County Planning Commission** was in attendance, and presented on the benefits of creating a road safety plan.

"The STIC recognizes the importance of educating the local system on safety and realizes this is an integral part in helping Pennsylvania develop a safer transportation system for all roadways across the state." - William Clark, STIC Member

Click here to view the recorded event: [Local Government Safety Seminar](#)

View the Safety Seminar Presentations by Session:

- [Safety Planning: Identifying the Problem](#)
- [Safety Countermeasures: Finding a Solution](#)
- [Building a Safety Culture and Behavioral Factors](#)
- [Safety Programs and Funding: Deploying the Improvement](#)



Secretary Leslie Richards discussed the PennDOT Connects program during her keynote address.

Connecting with Local Governments

Secretary of Transportation Leslie Richards delivered a keynote presentation on the PennDOT Connects program, designed to foster collaboration between PennDOT and local governments to ensure that local concerns and needs are considered in PennDOT projects.

"PennDOT Connects is about giving people options for how they move around and building better communities together." - PennDOT Secretary Leslie Richards

Example of Innovative Countermeasures

One innovation countermeasure discussed was High Friction Surface Treatment (HFST). HFST is applied to areas that have higher rates of roadway departures and crashes. HFST uses high-quality, wear-resistant aggregates, like bauxite, to provide increased friction on pavements. This helps keep vehicles in their lane on slippery pavement, limits skidding and makes it easier for drivers to stop in areas where vehicles exhibit a higher propensity for crashes. The result is a durable, long-lasting innovation that leads to safer roadways for the public.

If you would like to learn more about this treatment or other safety countermeasures, contact the STIC at ra-pdpenndotstic@pa.gov.



Did You Know

Local governments are responsible for the maintenance of more than 78,000 miles of roadway in Pennsylvania. That's why the STIC is committed to developing programs to help local governments improve safety in their communities.



Ask the STIC

Q: Where can I find more information on local government programs provided by PennDOT?

A: These programs can be found on the [Local Technical Assistance Program's \(LTAP\) webpage](#).

For further information on the LTAP and the programs they offer, please contact Lou Ferretti at lferretti@pa.gov.



Upcoming Events:

**Next STIC Business Meeting
November 8, 2017**

Watch for the next edition of *Innovation in Motion* in December 2017