VIRGINIA ASPHALT ASSOCIATION
Combating Distracted Driving in WZs

David Rush
Dec. 6, 2018
2017 WZ Crashes – Driver Actions

- 635 crashes were speeding driver related
- 596 crashes were distracted driver related *
- 107 crashes were alcohol related

* Distracted driving crashes are believed to be the most under reported crashes occurring on our roadways today.
Increase in TMA Crashes Reflects the Problem

![Bar chart showing TMA crashes from 2013 to 2017 with a 17% increase per year since 2015.](chart.png)
Distracted Driving is our #1 Challenge:
National Distracted Driving Facts

➢ 85% of drivers – are distracted by their cell phones while driving.
➢ 1 out of 6 minutes – drivers are on their phones one out of every six minutes while driving.
➢ 71% are texting – 71% of drivers are texting while driving.
➢ Talking on a phone – you’re 2.2 times more likely to crash while talking on the phone.
➢ Texting while driving – you’re 6.1 times more likely to crash from texting.
➢ Dialing a phone – you are 12.2 times more likely to crash from dialing a phone.
National Distracted Driving Facts

➢ At any given daylight moment across America, nearly 700,000 drivers are using their cell phones or manipulating electronic devices while driving, a number that has held steady since 2010 (NOPUS).

➢ Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that’s enough time to cover the length of a football field blindfolded (2009 VTTI).
Texting While Driving in VA is Unlawful

HB 1525 – Prohibits the use of handheld communications devices in WZs.
Distracted Driving Crash Locations in 2017

It’s an epidemic!
Driver Awareness Campaigns

• Billboards on the interstate
• Radio PSA’s
• Safety messages on Interstate CMS
• Partnered w/ VTCA, Drive Smart VA and others
Driver Awareness Campaigns

Announcing the launch of the 2018 Orange Cones. No Phones. campaign
Driver Awareness Campaigns

A survey done in March of roughly 1,000 regular drivers of the I-395 corridor found 9 in 10 used their phones while behind the wheel.
“Given distracted drivers are the largest safety problem facing the paving industry at this time, many of the industry equipment and safety suppliers are working on solutions to this problem. We will all have to help our customers – the DOTs, FHWA, cities, and counties – get these safety devices implemented on projects.”

Craig Parker – Chairman National Asphalt Pavement Association
Portable Temporary Rumble Strips (PTRS)

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<td>SUPERSEDES:</td>
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<td>SPECIFIC SUBJECT:</td>
<td>Revised Guidelines for the use of Portable Temporary Rumble Strips (PTRS)</td>
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APPROVAL:

/ original signed by/
Raymond J. Khoury, P.E.
State Traffic Engineer
Richmond, VA
October 15, 2018

Changes are shaded

CURRENT REVISION

This memorandum was revised changing the use of Portable Temporary Rumble Strips (PTRS) from a "should" to a "shall" condition for flagging operations on two-lane roadways, greater than three hours but less than three consecutive days in duration.

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Traffic Engineering Division Memorandum IIM-TE-386.1
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PTRS Benefits

- It creates an audible noise and vibration to approaching motorists;
- Raises motorists attentiveness to flagging operations;
- Provides an audible warning to flaggers, increasing their awareness of approaching vehicles and;
- Helps reduce rear end collisions and roadway
Portable Temporary Rumble Strips (PTRS)

We’ve been looking at these devices since 2011, and trying them on VA roads for the past five years. Questions we had that we needed answering were:

- How do they perform when heavy trucks run over them?
- What effect do they have on motorcyclists?
- How do drivers act when they see them for the first or second time?
- How much noise do they make when run over?
- How difficult are they to install/remove?
- How do they perform when wet or on wet roads?
Portable Temporary Rumble Strips (PTRS)

Other state DOT’s have been using them or allowing their use for a few years.
Conditions for the use of PTRS

Shall be used when the following conditions are met concurrently:

• Work operation involving flaggers occurs on a two-lane roadway during daylight hours;
• Work duration is > three hours but < 72 hours;
• Existing posted speed limit is 35 mph or > ; and
• Roadway has a marked centerline (500 vpd)

PTRS shall be used in both stationary and non-stationary flagging operations.
 Conditions for the use of PTRS

PTRS shall not be used on loose gravel, bleeding asphalt, heavily rutted pavements or unpaved surfaces, in pedestrian crossings or marked bicycle lanes.
Conditions for the use of PTRS

PTRS should be:
• Considered for use on unmarked roadways at least 18 feet wide or wider;
• Located in advanced of horizontal curves when possible so they are visible to traffic;
• Installed according to Section 6G.25 of the VWAPM (installed/removed as a mobile operation or as a slow roll operation)
Conditions for the use of PTRS

PTRS may be:
• Used at posted speeds < 35 mph;
• Used on one-lane, two-lane application which utilizes AFADs or portable traffic signals;
• Used on a divided four-lane (non-limited access) roadway at the discretion of VDOT management;
• Used during nighttime operations.
PTRS Implementation Dates

Implantation dates for PTRS:

- State forces – effective immediately if in possession of PTRS, with complete implementation by Jan. 1, 2019.
- Design-Bid-Build contracts & Design-Build PPTA – incorporate into projects advertised after July 1, 2019.
- ASD Contracts – existing contracts should be modified as soon as possible but no later than July 1, 2019.

PTRS policy will exempt municipalities and permit operations.
**PTRS Implementation Dates**

Implantation dates for PTRS:
- Since 2019 Paving contracts were put together before finalization of the PTRS policy, they will not be included in next year’s contracts.
- Construction Division is finalizing the Special Provision for inclusion into contracts on the use and payment of PTRS.

Revision 2 to the 2011 VA Work Area Protection manual displays how PTRS are to be used on two-lane roadways, as well as provide guidance when used on multi-lane roadways.
Portable Temporary Rumble Strips (PTRS)
Questions?

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