



City of Newport News

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION

JOHN R. GERGELY
VICE CHAIRMAN

MELVIN L. BAILEY
CHAIRMAN

DAVID T. WILKINSON
SECRETARY-COORDINATOR

November 16, 2010

To: The Honorable City Council
From: Chairman, Newport News Transportation Safety Commission
Subject: FY 2011 Legislative Agenda Recommendations

On November 3-4, 2010 the Newport News Transportation Safety Commission participated in the 42nd Annual Military – Civilian Transportation Safety Workshop at Fort Eustis. The Workshop participants reviewed carryover and proposed legislation, and as a whole, voted to endorse the following legislative recommendations, with the exception of Items No. 3, 8, and 10 which were “rejected”:

1. Enact a primary enforcement safety belt law including rear seat occupants.
2. Increase penalty for seat belt violations for individuals over 18 years of age. (\$200 instead of \$25 suggested)
3. FAILED- Require the use of hands free communication device if used while driving. FAILED
4. Stronger penalties for driving under suspended/revoked license.
5. Establish a minimum age of a child to ride as a passenger on a motorcycle.
6. Allow photo enforcement of speed in a work zone when workers are present.
7. Upgrade law that bans texting while driving to primary offense.
8. FAILED- Require children under the age of 13 to be placed, properly restrained, in the back seat of a vehicle. FAILED
9. Regulate the operation of alternate vehicles. (Mopeds, golf carts, etc.)
10. FAILED- Prohibit open containers(s) of alcohol within reach of a driver in a vehicle. FAILED
11. Provide for confiscation of vehicle for eluding.
12. Support Public Education for Drivers ‘ Training.

Safety is never an afterthought... it is planned for.



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The Newport News Transportation Safety Commission acknowledges these recommendations at the Workshop; however, the following four (4) priority items of legislative interest, endorsed by the Commission by majority vote, were supported as legislative initiatives, which would benefit Newport News.

1. Primary enforcement safety belt law.
2. Require rear seat belt usage.
9. Safety devices for motorized wheel chairs
10. Prohibit open containers(s) of alcohol within reach of a driver in a vehicle.

By copy of this memorandum to the Office of Intergovernmental and Community Relations, the Commission requests that these recommendations be considered by staff in this year's list of submitted legislative endorsements to be considered by City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvin L. Bailey, Chairman

MLB:DTW:

Attachment

pc: Director of Office of Intergov. & Comm Relations, Cledar Jones
City Clerk, Mabel Washington

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