

Program of Research for Traffic Law Enforcement



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PROGRAM OF RESEARCH FOR TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT

Group 3 Council OPERATION, SAFETY, AND MAINTENANCE OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

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SUMMARY

This document proposes a national research program in Traffic Law Enforcement. It is the product of extensive deliberations by the members and friends of the Traffic Law Enforcement Committee of the Transportation Research Board (TRB), presentations and discussions at open forums conducted at National TRB Conferences, and the work of individual members of the Committee charged with the assignment of developing research project statements.

The program recommends the conduct of fourteen (14) separate research studies to remedy current deficiencies in data accuracy and consistency, investigate a variety of law enforcement techniques, explore the relationship between law enforcement and transportation system performance, and address several management issues. The total cost of the research program is estimated to be 2.55 million dollars.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The proposed research program was developed over a period of years by members of the Transportation Law Enforcement Committee of the Transportation Research Board. At the annual Committee meeting in January 1990, members of the Traffic Law Enforcement Committee, whose ranks include representatives from law enforcement agencies, academic institutions, consulting firms, and government agencies, proposed a series of ten research topics. These topics were fleshed out with short summary statements which were subsequently circulated to the full Committee for review and prioritization. The results of the prioritization process were presented at the annual meeting in January 1991, and members' comments were incorporated into the research statements for subsequent review. The revised statements underwent further review at the 1992 meeting, and were expanded into full-blown research problem statements fitting the TRB format for Committee review at the annual meeting in 1993. Following this review, Committee members added five new statements to the project list and dropped one statement which was already underway as the focus of research sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. This process resulted in the fourteen statements contained in this document, which was finalized and approved at the 1994 meeting of the TRB Committee.

PROBLEM CONTENT

The fourteen problem statements comprising the proposed program fall into four general topic areas:

- Enforcement data:
- 2. Enforcement techniques;
- 3. Enforcement impacts; and
- 4. Enforcement management.

Enforcement Data. Two proposed projects address the need to improve the accuracy and consistency of accident and enforcement data by identifying critical data elements, documenting the range of variability in these elements, isolating the causes of variability, defining uniform data standards, and developing improved recording and reporting techniques. The titles and costs of the two proposed projects are:

Number*	<u>Title</u>	Cost
1	Improving the Accuracy and Consistency of Accident Data	\$400,000
2	Improving the Accuracy and Consistency of Enforcement Data	\$200.000
	Subtotal	\$600,000

<u>Enforcement Techniques</u>. Four proposed projects address the need to investigate particular enforcement techniques. These techniques involve new technologies, including IVHS technologies; high speed pursuits; and preventive measures. The titles and costs of the four projects focusing on enforcement techniques are:

Number	Title	Cost
5	Adapting IVHS Technology for Law Enforcement Use	\$200,000
6	Investigating Innovative Enforcement Techniques	\$200,000
7	Exploring the Costs and Benefits of High Speed Police Pursuits	\$100,000
11	Investigating and Evaluating Pre-Arrest Means of Influencing Driver Behavior	\$ <u>150.000</u>
	Subtotal	\$650,000

<u>Enforcement Impacts</u>. Three proposed projects address the impacts of particular enforcement activities. The first seeks to explore the relationship between speed, speed laws, accidents and enforcement, while the second proposes to explore the impact of traffic law enforcement on criminal activities in urban areas, and the third addresses the impact of parking enforcement on urban street capacity.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	Cost
3	Exploring the Relationship Between Speed, Speed Laws, Accidents and Enforcement	\$300,000
10	Analyzing the Impact of Traffic Law Enforcement on Criminal Activity	\$150,000
12	Parking Enforcement and Its Impact on Urban Street Capacity	\$ <u>150.000</u>
	Subtotal	\$600,000

^{*}The project numbers refer to the numbers assigned to the individual project statements appended to this report.

<u>Enforcement Management</u>. Five proposed projects address various aspects of law enforcement management. Management topics include the use of strategic planning approaches and range from such broad questions as the role of law enforcement in IVHS to more specific issues involving the competition for personnel between traffic law enforcement and criminal law enforcement and the assignment of traffic law enforcement personnel to ancillary duties. The titles and costs of the five projects focusing on the management of law enforcement resources are:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	Cost
4	Planning for the Role of Law Enforcement in IVHS	\$200,000
8	Demonstrating Strategic Transportation Approaches Using Multidisciplinary Teams	\$100,000
9	Analyzing Traffic Enforcement Duties in a Crime-Ridden Urban Environment	\$150,000
13	Measuring the Performance of Traffic Law Enforcement Personnel in an Urban/Suburban Setting	\$150,000
14	Exploring the Management and Information Needs of First-Line Supervisors	\$ <u>100.000</u>
	Subtotal	\$700,000

PROJECT PRIORITIES

In reviewing the project statements, Committee members assigned a numerical ranking ranging from 5 (Urgent, Immediate Priority) to 1 (Low Priority) to each proposed project. The individual rankings assigned by members were averaged to obtain an overall priority rating for the projects comprising the proposed program. In the research statements which follow, projects are listed in order of priority, with priorities groups in the following categories.

Urgency/Priority Rating	Corresponding Numerical Range		
Immediate	4.1 to 5		
Near-Term	3.1 to 4		
Mid-Term	2.1 to 3		
Long-Term	1.1 to 2		

A list of all projects appears below, along with the average ranking assigned by Committee members and the estimated cost of the research.

TRB LAW ENFORCEMENT PROBLEM STATEMENTS

No.	Statement Title	Urgency	Priority <u>Rating</u>	Cost
1.	Improving the Accuracy and Consistency of Accident Data	Immediate	4.5	\$400,000
2.	Improving the Accuracy and Consistency of Enforcement Data	Immediate	4.4	\$200,000
3.	Exploring the Relationship Between Speed, Speed Laws, Accidents and Enforcement	Immediate	4.4	\$300,000
4.	Planning for the Role of Law Enforcement in IVHS	Immediate	4.3	\$200,000
5.	Adapting IVHS Technology for Law Enforcement Use	Immediate	4.3	\$200,000
6.	Investigating Innovative Enforcement Techniques	Immediate	4.2	\$200,000
7.	Exploring the Cost and Benefits of High Speed Police Pursuits	Near-Term	4.0	\$100,000
8.	Demonstrating Strategic Transportation Planning Approaches Using Multidisciplinary Teams	Near-Term	3.7	\$100,000
9.	Analyzing Traffic Enforcement Duties in a Crime-Ridden Urban Environment	Near-Term	3.5	\$150,000
10.	Analyzing the Impact of Traffic Law Enforcement on Criminal Activity	Near-Term	3.3	\$150,000
11,	Investigating and Evaluating Pre-Arrest Means of Influencing Driver Behavior	Near-Term	3.1	\$150,000
12.	Parking Enforcement and Its impact on Urban Street Capacity	Mid-Term	3.0	\$150,000
13.	Measuring the Performance of Traffic Law Enforcement Personnel in an Urban/Suburban Setting	Mid-Term	3.0	\$150,000
14.	Exploring the Management and Information Needs of First-Line Supervisors	Mid-Term	2.3	<u>\$100.000</u>
	TOTAL			\$2,550,000

PROJECT STATEMENTS

Individual project statements follow, listed in order of the priority reflected in the above table.

TITLE

Improving the Accuracy and Consistency of Accident Data

PROBLEM

The quality, accuracy, and consistency of accident data varies considerably from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Research is needed to explore techniques for recording and reporting data that will improve accuracy and consistency. Such techniques might include:

- training officers;
- developing handbooks;
- using videotape;
- developing computer-assisted data collection techniques; and
- streamlining data collection activities.

OBJECTIVE

Improve the accuracy and consistency of accident data by identifying critical data elements; documenting the range of variation in these elements; isolating the causes of variability; defining uniform data standards; and developing accident recording and reporting techniques that will improve accuracy and consistency.

KEY WORDS

Accident reporting; accident data; data accuracy; data collection; officer training; data management.

RELATED WORK

NHTSA's CADRE Project; FHWA's Demonstration of Emerging Technology Clipboard Computer Study; IACP's Traffic Data Survey.

URGENCY/PRIORITY

Immediate. This problem should have the highest priority, since critical decisions to improve highway safety are made from accident data. It is necessary to find a way to convince management of the importance of data, both its consistency and its accuracy. Uniform, consistent efforts are needed so that cross-jurisdictional comparisons can be made.

COSTS

\$400,000.

USER COMMUNITY

Traffic enforcement agencies; NHTSA; state and local transportation professionals; FHWA.

IMPLEMENTATION

Development of consistent standards and guidelines for accident reporting; preparation of handbooks and training curricula for law enforcement officers; identification of computer-assisted data collection and processing techniques.

EFFECTIVENESS

Consistency of accident data reporting will improve the decisions in highway design and enforcement personnel allocations made from these data and provide a basis for cross-jurisdictional comparisons.

TITLE

Improving the Accuracy and Consistency of Enforcement Data

PROBLEM

The accuracy and consistency of enforcement data varies considerably from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Research is needed to (1) Document the range of variation and identify causes and (2) Explore techniques for recording and reporting data that will improve accuracy and consistency. Such techniques might include:

- · training officers;
- developing handbooks;
- using videotape;
- developing computer-assisted citation and data collection techniques; and
- streamlining data collection and analysis activities.

OBJECTIVE

Improve the accuracy and consistency of enforcement data by identifying critical data elements; documenting the range of variation in these elements; isolating the causes of variability; defining uniform data standards; and developing recording and reporting techniques that will improve accuracy and consistency.

KEY WORDS

Personnel planning; citation records; data accuracy; data collection; office training; computer-assisted data collection; data management.

RELATED WORK

NHTSA's CADRE Project and Clipboard Computer Study; CHP/SYSTAN Study of HOV lane enforcement.

URGENCY/PRIORITY

Immediate. This problem should have high priority, since critical personnel assignments are made from accident and enforcement data. It is necessary to find a way to convince management of the importance of data, both its consistency and its accuracy. Uniform, consistent efforts are needed so that cross-jurisdictional comparisons can be made.

COSTS

\$200,000.

USER COMMUNITY

Traffic enforcement agencies; NHTSA; state and local transportation professionals; FHWA.

IMPLEMENTATION

Development of consistent standards and guidelines for reporting personnel assignments and citations; preparation of handbooks and training curricula for law enforcement officers; identification of computer-assisted data collection and processing techniques.

EFFECTIVENESS

Consistency of enforcement data will improve the decisions in enforcement personnel allocations made from these data and provide a basis for cross-jurisdictional comparisons.

TITLE Exploring the Relationship Between Speed, Speed Laws,

Accidents, and Enforcement

PROBLEM The continued emphasis on speed control of the traffic stream and

the relaxation of the 55 mph speed limit on rural interstates has led to a resurgence of questions regarding the relationships among speed, speed laws, accidents and enforcement. Of particular interest is the effect of speed enforcement on fatal accidents.

OBJECTIVE Compare data on speed, accidents, and enforcement efforts on

comparable roadways in an effort to isolate the contribution of speed enforcement to the control of speed and the reduction of

accidents.

KEY WORDS Speed: 55 mph NMSL; accidents; accident causes; enforcement;

speed citations; speed compliance.

RELATED WORK CHP Radar Program; National Maximum Speed Law Study; Rudy

Lamm study on "Impact of Traffic Warning Devices on Operating Speeds and Accident Rates on Two-Lane Rural Highway Curves";

Current NHTSA Municipal Speed Enforcement Study.

URGENCY/PRIORITY Immediate. Much needs to be done in this area. Research to date

leaves many unanswered questions. Research is needed to relate fatality and serious injury rates for various types of crashes and various rates of speed to the total spectrum of enforcement activities, including speed enforcement, DUI programs, and seat

belt sanctions.

COSTS \$300,000.

USER COMMUNITY Traffic engineers; state and local enforcement agencies; FHWA;

NHTSA; IACP; IIHS.

IMPLEMENTATION Guidelines for enforcement programs; rationale for establishing

freeway speed limits.

EFFECTIVENESS More efficient allocation of enforcement personnel: improved

speed compliance; potential reduction of freeway accidents.

TITLE Planning for the Role of Law Enforcement in IVHS

PROBLEM In a large measure, the success of the IVHS concept depends on

the compliance of motorist with the control devices regulating traffic flow. Means of ensuring compliance and methods for dealing with the potentially catastrophic results of non-compliance need to be considered early in planning and development of IVHS systems.

OBJECTIVE Determine role and needs of law enforcement in corridors that

utilizes advanced traffic information and management concepts.

KEY WORDS IVHS, law enforcement.

RELATED WORK Compliance with ramp metering, HOV lane compliance, freeway

incident management.

URGENCY/PRIORITY Immediate. This activity needs to be undertaken well before plans

for IVHS systems are developed. Failure to undertake this level of planning during the early stages of development could result in

degraded or inoperable systems.

COSTS \$200,000.

USER COMMUNITY Police and other agencies charged with traffic law enforcement

responsibilities, traffic engineers, and city legal staff members.

IMPLEMENTATION Develop guidelines for law enforcement requirements (fiscal,

technological, space, procedural, etc.) and define limitation of

capabilities.

EFFECTIVENESS The results will improve the likelihood of success of IVHS efforts.

TITLE Adapting IVHS Technology for Law Enforcement Use

PROBLEM Technological advancement in communications and identification

mechanisms related to IVHS operations have direct application to law enforcement. Rather than wait until the developers of these technologies to identify alternative uses, a proactive approach should be taken to apply the technology contemporaneously.

OBJECTIVE Determine how new technologies related to IVHS can be applied to

the functions performed by law enforcement.

KEY WORDS IVHS, law enforcement.

RELATED WORK Automated law enforcement, electronic vehicle identification, driver

identification, remote vehicle control devices, etc.

URGENCY/PRIORITY Immediate. This activity needs to be undertaken as the technology

emerges.

COSTS \$200,000.

USER COMMUNITY Police and other agencies charged with traffic law enforcement

responsibilities, traffic engineers, and city legal staff members.

IMPLEMENTATION Identify uses and potential uses of new technology to tasks

performed by traffic and criminal law enforcement agencies.

EFFECTIVENESS The results will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of law

enforcement agencies and improve safety.

TITLE

Investigating Innovative Enforcement Techniques

PROBLEM

With technological advances being applied to the development of Intelligent Vehicle Highway Systems (IVHS), it is imperative that potential technological contributions to enforcement procedures be identified, tested, and evaluated. Possible avenues of exploration include:

- digital driver's license data;
- automated surveillance and enforcement:
- drone aircraft applications;
- automatic vehicle identification;
- ticketing by mail.

OBJECTIVE

Test and evaluate the impact of specific innovative enforcement techniques on personnel requirements, violation rates, and public response.

KEY WORDS

Enforcement; videotape surveillance; photo radar; IVHS; drone aircraft; AVI; ticketing by mail.

RELATED WORK

CHP laptop computer and software applications; automated citation device; SYSTAN study of "Use of Videotape in HOV Lane Enforcement" for CALTRANS and CHP; Current NHTSA Municipal Speed Enforcement Study.

URGENCY/PRIORITY

Immediate. Advances in enforcement should parallel similar advance in transportation. If enforcement lags behind transportation technology, new sets of problems will emerge. The impacts of technology currently in use (i.e. photo radar, airplane speed enforcement) have not been fully documented, and public acceptance can be an issue with approaches (video surveillance, photo radar) which appear intrusive. The impacts of these approaches on enforcement personnel requirements are not well understood.

COSTS

\$200,000 (Average cost – will vary with specific technology to be tested).

USER COMMUNITY

State and local law enforcement agencies; traffic engineers; FHWA; NHTSA; researchers; consultants, IACP.

IMPLEMENTATION

Widescale introduction, use and acceptance of innovative enforcement techniques.

EFFECTIVENESS

More efficient and effective enforcement procedures; reduced requirements for enforcement personnel; improved enforcement documentation.

TITLE Exploring the Cost and Benefits of High Speed Police Pursuits

PROBLEM High-speed police pursuits pose an increased risk to life and

property for all in the path of the operation. Increased attention given to police pursuits by the courts and the media, raises the dilemma of suspect apprehension versus high civil judgments and loss of community support. Research is needed to (1) quantify the costs and benefits of police pursuits and (2) identify methods to

reduce costs and increase benefits.

OBJECTIVE Determine the costs of police pursuits in terms of loss of life and

property, civil judgments, and loss of pubic support. Determine the deterrent effect of pursuit versus nonpursuit policies. To what extent do non-pursuit policies increase the likelihood of flight and subsequent escape? Determine the benefits of police pursuits in terms of suspect apprehension. Develop methods to reduce the

costs and increase the benefits.

KEY WORDS Pursuits, high-speed pursuits, chases, police pursuits.

RELATED WORK National Institute of Justice (1989); Center for the Environment and

Man (July, 1970); Journal of Police Science and Administration (1987); California Highway Patrol Study (July 1983); American

Journal of Police (1988).

URGENCY/PRIORITY Near-Term. The frequency of high-speed police pursuits and the

associated risks represent an urgent need for effective research in

this area.

COSTS \$100,000.

USER COMMUNITY Enforcement agencies, courts, researchers, legislators.

IMPLEMENTATION Development of consistent standards and guidelines for engaging

in high-speed police pursuits.

EFFECTIVENESS Increased awareness of the costs and benefits of police pursuits

and improved policy development.

TITLE Demonstrating Strategic Transportation Planning Approaches

Using Multidisciplinary Teams

PROBLEM Too often enforcement agencies and other experts are not

consulted at the planning stages of transportation projects which will eventually require significant commitment of enforcement resources. HOV lanes are an example of such projects.

Demonstration projects are needed that combine the talents of law

enforcement officers, engineers, planners, traffic experts, administrators, and record-keeping personnel in strategic

transportation planning activities.

OBJECTIVE To demonstrate and document the effectiveness of a

multidisciplinary approach to strategic transportation planning on projects requiring a significant commitment of enforcement

resources.

KEY WORDS Multidisciplinary; strategic planning; enforcement.

RELATED WORK California HOV lane planning; Pennsylvania Corridor project;

Illinois Arterial Incident Management Study.

URGENCY/PRIORITY Near-Term. It is important to recognize the importance of the

multidisciplinary team approach in all situations involving strategic transportation planning. When HOV lanes were first developed, in many areas in California law enforcement representation was excluded from the planning stages and, as a result, key concerns (i.e. the safety of officers and the public at enforcement stops were

not considered.

COSTS \$100,000.

USER COMMUNITY State and local law enforcement agencies; traffic engineers;

planners; administrators; FHWA; AICP.

IMPLEMENTATION Guidelines for identifying and involving the necessary parties in

carrying out the multidisciplinary approach in strategic

transportation planning.

EFFECTIVENESS Improved planning practices; projects better adapted to the needs

of enforcement personnel; enhanced safety for officers and public.

TITLE Analyzing Traffic Enforcement Duties in a Crime-Ridden Urban

Environment

PROBLEM Due to sharp increases in violent crime, drugs, and social

dysfunction, urban police agencies have become call or incident driven, and the number of hours devoted to traffic law enforcement has dropped in spite of increases in traffic density. Yet traffic law enforcement provides the potential deterrent of a visible police presence, and many felony arrests are made subsequent to traffic stops. Research is needed to document the relationship between traffic law enforcement, urban police duties, criminal activity, traffic

accidents, and calls for service.

OBJECTIVE Document the relationship between urban patrol officers, traffic

enforcement, criminal activity, calls for service and accidents.

KEY WORDS Urban criminal activity, traffic citations, urban police officers, calls

for service, accidents, traffic enforcement.

RELATED WORK Northwestern University Traffic Institute "Effect of Traffic

Enforcement on Crime" (funded by NHTSA); NHTSA Municipal Speed Enforcement Study; IIHS Study "Police Enforcement Resources in Relation to Need: Changes During 1978-1989."

URGENCY/PRIORITY Near-Term. Of primary interest to urban law enforcement

agencies. The accelerating slide in traffic enforcement in urban areas may suggest that this has significant safety implications.

COSTS \$150,000.

USER COMMUNITY Urban law enforcement agencies; legislators; state and local traffic

safety personnel; IACP; IIHS.

IMPLEMENTATION Development of consistent standards and guidelines for reporting

personnel assignments and citations; preparation of training curriculum for law enforcement managers and officers; improved allocation of personnel; increased priority for urban police traffic

patrols.

EFFECTIVENESS Increased traffic citations; possible lowering of traffic accident

rates; more cost effective personnel allocation.

TITLE Analyzing the Impact of Traffic Law Enforcement on Criminal

Activity

PROBLEM The presence of marked patrol vehicles in a given area during

periods of concentrated enforcement should also reduce crime in that area. If possible, the extent of this reduction should be

documented to provide an incentive for increasing the priority given

to police traffic services.

OBJECTIVE Document the relationship between traffic enforcement patrols,

reported criminal activity, and criminal arrests in specific urban

areas.

KEY WORDS Criminal activity; criminal arrests; traffic citations; personnel

allocation; marked patrol vehicles.

RELATED WORK Northwestern University Traffic Institute's study of "Effect of Traffic

Enforcement on Crime" under NHTSA sponsorship; past studies in Kansas City and other municipalities have shown a positive relationship between traffic law enforcement and criminal arrest

activities.

URGENCY/PRIORITY Near-Term. Primarily of interest to municipal agencies,

documentation of a positive relationship between traffic law enforcement and criminal arrests could lead to more effective and efficient allocation of traffic patrols and other law enforcement

personnel.

COSTS \$150,000.

USER COMMUNITY Municipal law enforcement agencies; legislators.

IMPLEMENTATION Increased priority for police traffic patrols; improved personnel

allocation.

EFFECTIVENESS More cost effective personnel allocation; increased traffic citations

and criminal arrests; possible lowering of traffic accident rates and

criminal activity.

TITLE

Investigating and Evaluating Pre-Arrest Means of Influencing

Driver Behavior

PROBLEM

The personnel limitations of law enforcement agencies tend to restrict their efforts to after-the-fact enforcement. As such, these efforts serve to punish the offender rather than to prevent the offense from occurring. Many programs have attempted to influence driver behavior prior to the commission of a violation. In the traffic enforcement field, these include public information and

education campaigns, high-visibility patrol tactics, and

reinforcement of good driving behavior.

OBJECTIVE

Demonstrate and evaluate techniques for influencing driver behavior which do not involve after-the-fact enforcement.

KEY WORDS

Public information and education, high-visibility patrols; safe driving campaigns; driver training; licensing tests.

RELATED WORK

Evaluations of specific public information campaigns (i.e. the NHTSA-sponsored DRIVER project, the CHP's Sober Graduation Campaign); Deterrent models; Evaluations of Sobriety Check Points in Maryland and California; NHTSA evaluation of designated

driver programs.

URGENCY/PRIORITY

Near-Term. Proactive law enforcement agencies <u>must</u> attempt to bring about voluntary compliance. The critical need is to identify which programs work best and disseminate information on effective approaches. While general deterrence is well-covered territory, solid evaluations of such programs are generally lacking.

COSTS

\$100,000 to \$200,000, depending on the program.

USER COMMUNITY

State and local law enforcement agencies; researchers; consultants; traffic safety agencies; motor vehicle departments; NHTSA; FHWA.

IMPLEMENTATION

Guidelines documenting the contact and results of successful programs resulting in widespread dissemination of effective approaches.

EFFECTIVENESS

Heightened public awareness; increased levels of voluntary compliance; potentially reduced accident rates.

TITLE Parking Enforcement and Its Impact on Urban Street Capacity

PROBLEM The movement of traffic on urban streets, particularly during peak

hours, is directly related to the amount of traffic capacity available. The number of lanes open to traffic is related to parking. If parking is eliminated by enforcement on a continuous basis, particularly double parking, capacity increases. As delays are eliminated and

traffic moves more smoothly, air quality will increase.

OBJECTIVE Quantify how much an effect parking enforcement can have on

improving urban street capacity. Also quantify how much an effect parking enforcement can reduce accidents by reducing double parking and lane blockages. Public perceptions of parking policies

and parking enforcement should also be monitored.

KEY WORDS Accidents, highway capacity, parking, enforcement.

RELATED WORK Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) "Parking Enforcement Code

of Practice;" Transport Reviews "Illegal Parking and the Enforcement of Parking Regulations: Causes, Effects, and

Interactions;" TRL "A Cost/Benefit Study of Parking Enforcement."

URGENCY/PRIORITY Mid-Term. As urban capacity becomes more of a problem, the use

of innovative techniques will become more important.

COSTS \$150,000.

USER COMMUNITY Urban traffic engineer/law enforcement.

IMPLEMENTATION Development of recommendations on levels of enforcement which

are likely to influence available capacity.

EFFECTIVENESS Based on reports which have not been quantified, it would appear

a potential self-supporting method of improving urban street

capacity has not been fully explored.

TITLE Measuring the Performance of Traffic Law Enforcement Personnel

in an Urban/Suburban Setting

PROBLEM In addition to traffic enforcement duties, traffic squad members of

major police departments spend time on a variety of other tasks such as traffic control for community events, public relations work, parking lot security, and school crossing control. Research is needed to determine the number of personnel hours actually devoted to traffic law enforcement and to evaluate the productivity of these hours in terms of such specific enforcement activities as citations issued, accidents worked, speed checks recorded, etc.

OBJECTIVE Document the time spent by traffic law enforcement personnel on

off-patrol duties (i.e. educational programs, public relations work)

and assess the effectiveness of these programs.

KEY WORDS Public information and education; public relations; parking lot

security; special events; personnel assignments.

RELATED WORK Northwestern University Traffic Institute "Development of

Performance Measures for Police Traffic Services" (funded by NHTSA); German study of 50 urban/suburban settings, Universteet

Karlsruhe.

URGENCY/PRIORITY Mid-Term. Reliable personnel formulas are needed so that law

enforcement agencies can make effective decisions regarding the allocation of officers to non-patrol activities such as public relations

and public information.

COSTS \$150,000.

USER COMMUNITY State and local law enforcement agencies; traffic safety agencies.

IMPLEMENTATION Personnel allocation guidelines.

EFFECTIVENESS Improved personnel allocation.

TITLE Exploring the Management and Information Needs of First-Line

Supervisors

PROBLEM Different agencies use different algorithms for assigning personnel

to traffic duties and different guidelines for evaluating personnel performance. Research is needed to (1) document the key management and information needs of first line supervisors; (2) identify the means of providing that information efficiently and accurately; and (3) assess the effectiveness of different algorithms

for applying the information to personnel assignments.

OBJECTIVE Document the key management and information needs of first-line

supervisors; identify the means of providing that information efficiently and accurately; and assess the effectiveness of different algorithms for applying the information to personnel assignments.

KEY WORDS Personnel assignments; management information; personnel

allocation algorithms; manpower formulas.

RELATED WORK

Northwestern University Manpower Formula for Law Enforcement

Agencies (NHTSA-funded); California Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS) Quarterly Output Reports; The ranking of high DUI accident locations for DUI checkpoint validation; CHP formulas for allocating HOV enforcement on basis of violation

rales.

URGENCY/PRIORITY Mid-Term. Several general models have been developed for

allocating resources to problem areas. These and others should be applied to traffic law enforcement so that they can be evaluated and improved. Every agency has some means of allocating personnel. Rules need to be examined and evaluated periodically in the light of available models and information. If an agency places a high priority on traffic law enforcement, the necessary

information will be self-generating.

COSTS \$100,000.

USER COMMUNITY State and local law enforcement agencies.

IMPLEMENTATION Standardized information procedures; personnel allocation

auidelines.

EFFECTIVENESS Improved personnel allocation.