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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 20, 2015

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PennDOT, Health Department Offer Mature Driver Education Courses

PITTSBURGH – The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), in conjunction with the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) announced today that it will offer traffic safety education courses for mature drivers in Allegheny County. The programming will be offered free-of-charge throughout the summer to senior centers, community service clubs, and other groups of residents age 55 and older upon request.

Each interactive presentation includes updates and reminders of traffic laws, tips for aging drivers, pedestrian education, safety statistics, and information about community resources. Participants will also receive an educational workbook.

According to PennDOT, approximately 22% of licensed drivers in Allegheny County are considered a mature driver (over the age of 65). In the past five years, there have been 3,845 crashes involving a mature driver, 33 of which resulted in fatalities. Many of these crashes were caused by concerns that affect aging drivers including vision changes, mobility limitations, slowed reaction time, potential side effects from medications and cognitive changes.

For more information on PennDOT's mature driver programs, visit the Traffic Safety information page at www.JustDrivePA.com. To schedule a free presentation for mature drivers, please contact ACHD's Traffic Safety Education Project at 412-247-7945 or via email at adosheller@achd.net.

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