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For immediate release

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Sahuarita Teen Advisory Council partners with PAG on creating video to discourage distracted driving

Four teens in a car talking, laughing, texting. Four teens in a different vehicle talking, laughing, texting. One driver faces a ticket for distracted driving. Another driver and her passengers face a worse outcome.

A new video that presents the woes of **#DistractedDriving** is targeted to teenagers and was created by the Sahuarita Teen Advisory Council (STAC) in collaboration with Pima Association of Governments. PAG is partnering with youth/teen advisory councils in Pima County to develop an action plan targeting youth to promote transportation safety for all modes such as bicycling, walking, riding the bus and driving a vehicle. The video can be viewed at www.WalkSafeDriveSafe.com.

“The video project was selected as a launch project to help raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving,” said PAG Executive Director Farhad Moghimi.

Crashes among teen drivers have increased significantly because of cell phone use, social media use, texting, eating and speeding while driving. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) data show that 3,179 people were killed in 2014 in distracted driving crashes.

The teen advisory council researched facts on distracted driving and produced a video to share the message with youth in Pima County. May is National Youth Distracted Driving month, and the STAC video will be shared with media outlets to run as a public service announcement to raise awareness on the dangers of distracted driving.

“STAC has been instrumental not only in helping to provide engaging activities and events for Sahuarita youth but also in encouraging teens to be aware of health and public safety,” said Sahuarita Town Manager Kelly Udall. “We’re proud of STAC and how effective they are and all that they do for our community.”

Pima Association of Governments is an association of local, state and tribal governments with a mission to build consensus among its members and the public on regional planning for transportation, watershed, air quality and economic vitality. Please visit www.PAGregion.com or www.facebook.com/PAGregion for more information.

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