



Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Suicide Prevention Program

2012 ROW Trespassing Workshop

August 15, 2012



Purpose

- Provide an informational briefing on Metro suicide-related death and injury investigations
 - Demographics
 - Occurrences
 - Statistics
- Current status of the Suicide Intervention Program
- Other transit properties suicide awareness/prevention activities
- Communications Poster



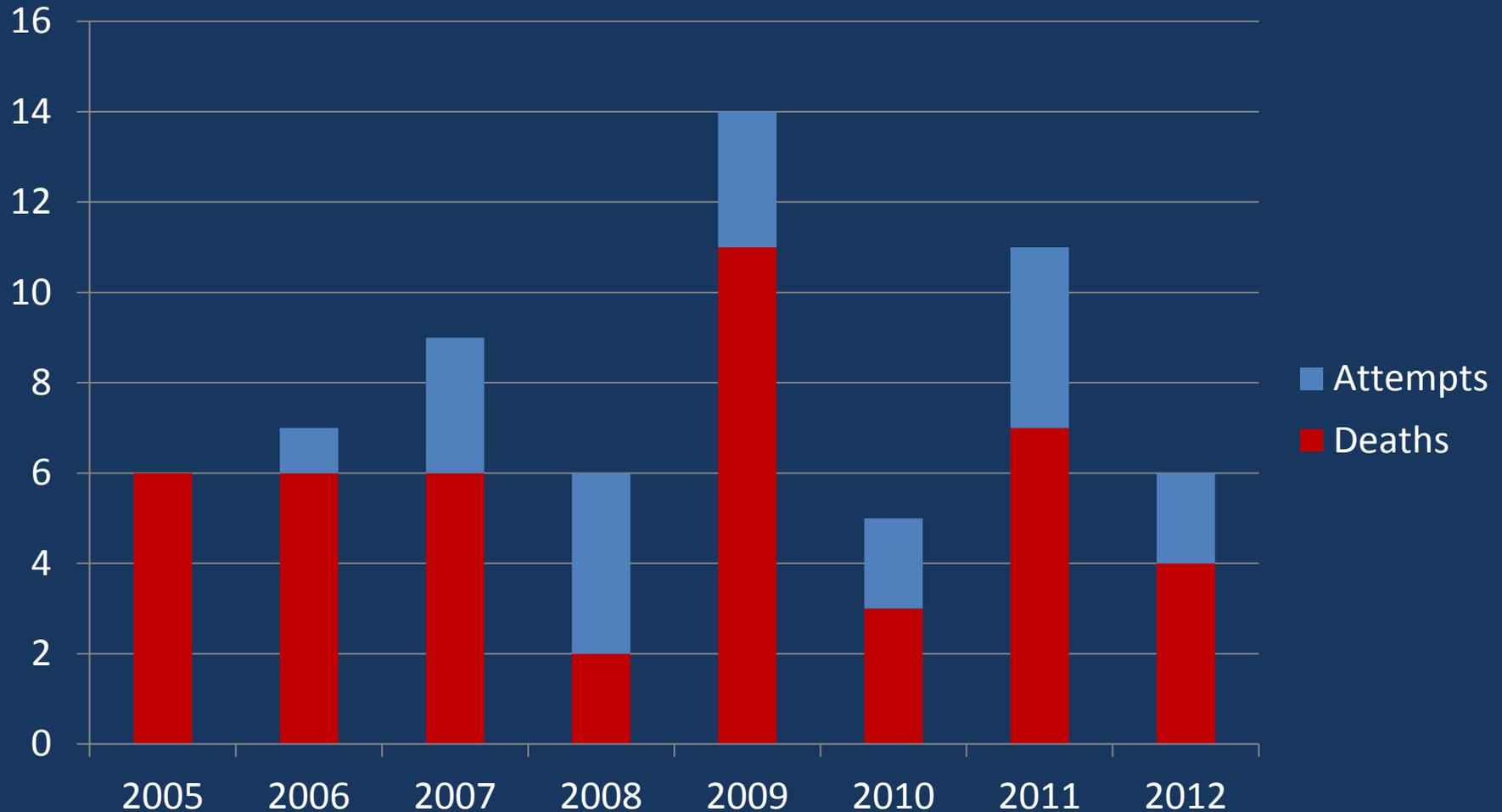
Background

Suicide-Related Death and Injury Investigations

- Suicide-Related Death and Injury Investigations from 2005 to present yield the following information:
 - They carry no specific, identifiable demographics and span gender, race, age, and socio-economic class
 - 70% of persons struck by train resulted in fatalities
 - Suicides have been attempted at over half of our stations
 - Occur most frequently on Saturday, followed by Sunday and Monday
 - Post incident investigations have revealed that 90% of victims had a history of depression
- In 2011, 217M passengers utilized the Rail system
 - Of the total utilization in 2011, 7 deaths and 4 attempts were investigated



Total Attempts/Suicides (2005 – Present)





Suicide Intervention Program

MILESTONES	TIMELINE
Vendor Contracts Awarded <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Phase 1: Assessment & Program Design Recommendations➤ Phase 2: Training & Communications	March – June 2011
Initial Training of Train Operators in Awareness (541 trained to date)	June 2011
Awareness Training incorporated into Train Operators ongoing Recertification Training and with Station Manager Training	October 2011
MOU with DC Department of Mental Health for supplemental training for identified staff and access/usage of DC's Crisis Hotline executed	March 2012
Development of Communications/Posters	July 2012
NEXT STEPS	
Implementation of Crisis Hotline	September 2012
Continued Training of Train Operators & Stations Managers (Goal: 896 by January 2013) and identification of additional positions to be trained	



National Transit Properties with Suicide Intervention Programs/Initiatives

PROPERTY	SPECIFIC INITIATIVES
Boston	Conducted poster campaign for 1 year
San Francisco (BART)	Posted crisis intervention materials and partnered with 2 mental health organizations
NJ Transit	Committee established November 2011 to study approaches for suicide intervention and created an in-school outreach program on train safety
Toronto	Employee Training, Poster Campaign & Public Education
CALTRAIN	Safety and Suicide Prevention top priority – accomplished through fencing, barriers & posters, enforcement and education. Posters utilized by CALTRAIN are part of a national study funded by the FRA: 



Suicide Intervention Program

**YOU TALK, WE LISTEN.
TOGETHER WE SURVIVE.**

SUICIDE HOTLINE



**855-320-LIFE
(5433)**



DC Department of Mental Health