Rail Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Solutions Break out Session

June 22, 2010
Enforcement requires effective education and communication:

- Citizens are resistant to enforcement solutions if they feel that they have not been adequately warned in advance of the risks and unacceptable conduct.
- Courts are resistant to enforce the maximum penalties if they feel that offenders were under-informed about the risks and penalties.
What is the appropriate penalty?

• There may be a backlash if the enforcement process is seen as just a way to generate revenue from penalties
• Is the penalty of the ticketed person missing their train a sufficient penalty in itself?
• Are alternatives to cash penalties, such as the community service ordinance just approved by the City of Lake Forest more effective and acceptable?
Need to communicate the goal of enforcement:

- Unlike the situation with, say, Driving Under the Influence where a major objective of police action is to remove the impaired driver from the road to protect other road users, the objective here is protect the pedestrian from their own bad judgment.