

NFIC Members,

Below is a copy of an email that was distributed by Jim Crawford concerning the recent Vision 20/20 meeting in Washington, D.C. I had the opportunity to attend this meeting and voice some of our NFIC concerns regarding the NFIRS program. Most attendees were very aware of the need for complete and timely data and understood that more work was needed to support and improve NFIRS. Data collection was brought up repeatedly during our discussions. I hope that more positive results will be forthcoming and I will keep you updated when I can.

More information can be found at <http://strategicfire.org>

Virginia Garza, NFIC

To interested parties and participants of Vision 20/20:

The Forum for Vision 20/20 was held in in Washington DC on March 31st and April 1st. More than 170 participants from fire departments, national fire and related safety organizations attended the two day planning session to begin developing strategies that could improve fire prevention efforts in the US over the next 12 years.

Since that event the working group and the Steering Committee have been communicating about the next steps in the planning process - and we thought it appropriate to let you know where we're headed. It is important to remember that what happened in the Web Forum locations, and at the Forum in DC is really the beginning of the process. There is plenty of work to do, and we will be in touch for those who volunteered, and others who may have an interest, to talk about how you can stay involved in the process.

But for now we want you to know that the process is moving - if a little slowly because we are largely volunteer - steadily forward toward the action steps we all want to see occur. Several things have happened and more are in the works.

- Since we've adjourned the Steering Committee has had one meeting to talk about next steps, communicated via e-mail and is planning to meet again physical in late June.
- A survey has been conducted to gauge participant reaction to the Forum in DC, and has provided us with numerous suggestions for follow up, improvement and generally demonstrated a positive reaction to the Forum.
- The web page will be updated with Forum results and periodically updated with notice to participants about progress on action steps.
- The refined version of the Forum results is in process and should be completed well before the Steering Committee meeting in late June. It will be distributed to participants and other interested parties when it's complete.
 - The refined version will include priorities for importance, more easily completed action items (not necessarily the same thing), and the beginning recommendations for forming work groups around strategies and action items.

- Formation of the working groups for each strategy and prioritized action items will take us a little longer, and will more than likely come out after the Steering Committee meeting in late June.
- The sustainability plan for Vision 20/20 is in the works - but will be a longer term effort. You should know that our team is committed to finding the funding necessary to keep the effort going - but any specific contacts and ideas are always welcome as we continue our planning.
- Concurrently, another DHS grant deliverable product (model prevention performance measures) is being developed by select members of the Steering Committee, other interested parties and the Center for Public Safety Excellence. These model prevention measures will be distributed widely with an explanation on their use for measuring the performance of fire prevention efforts.

We are committed to the continuation of the energy obvious at the Forum and demonstrated by Web Forum participants. We will be communicating with you to keep you posted about our progress, and ask your patience and support as we move forward.

We can't stress enough how important your continued monitoring, support and involvement will be for the effort we've undertaken. It is part of what makes Vision 20/20 special - and especially part of the process that keeps the whole thing moving forward.

Thank you,

Jim Crawford

Vision 20/20 Project Manager