

# Montana Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan



MONTANA  
**MDT**  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
May 2015

**#VisionZeroMT**  
zero deaths | zero serious injuries

## Impaired Driving Crashes Emphasis Area

2015 Annual Transportation Safety  
Planning Meeting  
The Gateway Center - Helena, MT  
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# Impaired Driving Crashes Emphasis Area Team

# Safety Issues

Impaired driver involved crashes accounted for 35% of Montana's roadway fatalities and serious injuries.

# Overarching Strategies

- Improve the accuracy, completeness, integration, timeliness, uniformity, and accessibility of data used in traffic safety analysis;
- Support the essential role of EMS in reducing the severity of injury outcomes and the technologies and systems necessary to advance collaboration with all safety partners; and
- Collaborate across agencies, organizations and with the public to improve the safety culture and promote the institutionalization of Vision Zero.

# Impaired Driving Crashes Strategies

1

*Reduce impaired driving through improved processes and regulations*

2

*Reduce impaired driving through enforcement*

3

*Reduce impaired road users through prevention education*

4

*Continue to support and build collaborative partnerships to reduce impaired driving*

## 1 *Reduce impaired driving through improved processes and regulations*

- Support stronger impaired driving laws that increase penalties and/ or arrest rates
- Support efforts to reduce the over-service of alcohol
- Support efforts to develop local and as statewide social host law
- Support efforts to allow sobriety checkpoints in statute

## 2

### *Reduce impaired driving through enforcement*

- Sustain Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) and related training, and increase collaboration between DREs and law enforcement agencies
- Support targeted enforcement based on demonstrated crash patterns and/or high-risk rivers (i.e., Selective Traffic Enforcement Program)
- Support local and state law enforcement efforts that include, but are not limited to, High-Visibility Enforcement

2

*Reduce impaired driving through enforcement*

- Sustain Law Enforcement Liaison program
- Support and encourage law enforcement agencies to enforce the criminal violation of sellers or server of over-service of alcohol, and report violation of alcohol over service to the Department of Revenue (DOR) for administrative action on the liquor license holder
- Identify and support implementation of existing or new alcohol and drug detection technologies



## 3

### *Reduce impaired road users through prevention education*

- Monitor the impact of marijuana legislation on roadway crashes and countermeasures in peer states
- Develop public education campaign of impaired driving topics
- Research underlying beliefs and behaviors of high-risk groups to better understand them; develop and implement strategies by using the appropriate proven and innovative educational materials and outreach communication channels

4

*Continue to support and build collaborative partnerships to reduce impaired driving*

- Support increase of crime lab resources to improve crime lab capacity and speed
- Support increased compliance with mandatory alcohol/drug treatment, and an increase in alcohol and drug abuse treatment options, to prevent repeat DUI offenses
- Support and promote training for criminal justice professionals and medical staff
- Improve MIP processes in Montana

### 4

#### *Continue to support and build collaborative partnerships to reduce impaired driving*

- Increase the number of drug and alcohol courts and provide training to judges and court personnel
- Increase proven effective training for law enforcement, judges and prosecutors to ensure consistent adjudication of all traffic offenses, including impaired driving violations.
- Support development of a statewide DUI Task Force
- Increase usage of the 24/7 DUI monitoring program and other programs to prevent repeat offenses (i.e., ignition interlock)

# Implementation

*strong leadership & active engagement* of all safety partners at all levels, from agencies, organizations, schools, and community members

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**One life lost is one too many.**

*"The Department of Transportation and our partners are united in our mission to save lives on Montana roads."*

—Mike Tooley, MDT Director

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Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero/plans/chsp.shtml>  
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