

**CHSP Roadway Departure & Intersection Crashes
Emphasis Area
Virtual Meeting**
Thursday, April 14, 2022



Attendees:

Marcee Allen, FHWA
Bruce Holmes, Montana Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)
David Gray, Transportation Planner- Infrastructure and Mobility Planning, Missoula MPO
Gabe Priebe, Traffic & Safety Bureau, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)
John Althof, Rail Highway Safety, Traffic & Safety (T&S) Engineering, MDT
Mark Keeffe, Data Analyst, SHTSS, MDT
Patricia Burke, Safety Engineer, T&S, Engineering, MDT
Shari Graham, EMS Systems Manager- Department of Public Health & Human Services
Sheila Cozzie, SOAR/Teen/Motorcycle Program Manager, SHTSS, MDT
Stan Brelin, Traffic Operations, MDT

Meeting Purpose – Six-month strategy updates, activity/ project status, next steps

Strategy 1: Reduce and mitigate roadway departure crashes through data driven problem identification and the use of best practices.

S1.1 Continue to Implement the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) -Ongoing.

- Identified 2 lists. April and June Commission Meetings. Also looking at next annual list. Some studies such as ped studies being worked on as well. Several sites this year and last year identified on off system routes such as BIA routes on reservations. Several county routes.

Strategy 2: Reduce and mitigate speed-related roadway departure/intersection crashes

S2.3 - Continue to implement and consider speed management methodologies appropriate for Montana.

- GIS map for the public to provide status of speed zone studies and where requests are located. Looking at additional tools such as NCHRP report for guidance and support around roadway context.

S2.2 - Intersection Safety. Ongoing. Anticipate projects this fall (2022).

Strategy 3: Reduce roadway departure and intersection crashes through traffic safety education

S3.1 - AARP Driver Skills Training refresher course

- Number of classes / participants: National Office reports 2021 completed on-line Driver Safety Classes in at 714. In-person classes in Montana remain shut down.

S3.2 - Continue to sustain and support the implementation of MT D.R.I.V.E skills training - Ongoing.

- Students are signing up and class is filling up. Teen week, July 18-21 is almost full. Still some public opening in August.

S3.4 Continue to sustain and support implementation of the OPI Teen Drivers Education. - Ongoing.

- 2020-2021 school year: 8,358 student participants

S3.5 - Montana Motorcycle Rider Safety (MMRS) Training

- Many classes, most sold out. Lots of interest and expected to pick up more as the year progresses.

S3.6 - Continue to promote Operation Lifesaver (OLS)- RR safety program

- Still struggling to find state coordinator. Digital company on board to provide media outreach for rail safety. Latest is a trespasser campaign. School Bus training.

S3.7 - Continue to provide and enhance traffic safety information for bicyclist and pedestrians and other non-motorized transportation system users.

- 2022 Bike Big Sky data map is completed.
- Contribute to Newsline and provide social media posts with safety tips as often as we can. Currently there are three events in the Helena area requesting bikes and runners on roads signs this summer.
- Planning to coordinate bike/ped design training.

Strategy 4: Reduce and mitigate intersection crashes through data-driven problem identification and the use of best practices.

S4.1 Implement the Railway-Highway Crossings (Section 130) Program. Ongoing.

- Currently 24 projects. 12 signals. 9 upgrades. 3 special.
- Highway Rail Safety Plan has been submitted and is under review by FRA

S4.2 Continue to implement and enhance proven countermeasures such as, but not limited to improving sight distance at intersections and availability of gaps in traffic and assist drivers in judging gaps; access management; traffic signalization, control, operational, and other infrastructure improvements for all transportation system users.

- New AASHTOware Numetric starting.

Strategy 5: Continue to improve the accuracy, completeness, integration, timeliness, uniformity, collection, and accessibility of safety (fatality and serious injury, traffic, and roadway) data used in traffic safety analysis

S5.1 Enhance and upgrade MDT's Safety Information Management System (SIMS) crash database. Continue to identify, analyze and track HSIP projects that reduce the number of fatal and serious injuries.

- Numetric. Working with MHP to try and get caught up with data.

S5.2 Create crash database dashboards for groups including CHSP, Planning Division, etc. This could include other agencies such as MHP (focusing enforcement efforts) and DPHHS (focusing educational efforts).

- Dashboard for Environmental Staff at MDT.

Strategy 6: Support and increase enforcement of proper road use behaviors by all road users (motorized and nonmotorized) identified through crash data.

S6.1 - Continue to conduct and implement Operation Safe Driver campaigns.

- Bruce Holmes reported scheduled July 2022, Operation Safe Driver training in conjunction with MHP.

S6.2 - Continue to support the Montana Highway Patrol (MHP) high visibility enforcement STEP and SETT programs

- High Visibility Enforcement applications are in and being reviewed.

Strategy 7: Explore and implement best practices for reducing roadway departure, including distracted and fatigued driving, in addition to other behavioral factors.

S7.1 Conduct low volume rural roads research project to prioritize and identify areas of need. Completed.

S7.2 Research effectiveness of highway safety public education at Montana Motor Vehicle Division and Vehicle Registration Stations by streaming safety videos.

- Challenges with Videos. Looking at going a different direction engaging the public - use of electronic instead of videos on site.

S7.3 Proposed: Research safety evaluation of sinusoidal centerline rumble strips.

- Researcher under contract and beginning to develop data. Long term study.

Dave Gray – Missoula Neighborhood traffic management program. Uncontrolled intersections at residential streets. Getting around sight triangles via speed reduction. Developing dashboards with current crash data.

Shari - EMS busy on data collection improvement with all agencies.

Meeting Schedule

Thursday, August 18, 10:30- noon

Thursday, November 10, 10:30- noon

Annual Meeting scheduled for October 11&12, 2022 in Helena at Delta Colonial

Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan

<https://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero/plans/docs/chsp/current-chsp.pdf>