

**Executive Leadership Team Meeting  
MDT Commission Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
2701 Prospect Avenue, Helena  
May 17, 2022**



**Attendees:**

Deputy Director Julie Brown, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)  
Jake Sandau, Occupational Health & Safety, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)  
Bryan Page, Safety & Health Bureau Chief, DLI  
Lauri Bakri, Administrator, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Justice (DOJ)  
Dwight Nelson, Traffic Education Director, OPI; Proxy for Superintendent Elsie Arntzen  
Nanette Gilbertson, Executive Director, Montana County Attorney Association (MCAA) and Proxy for Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)  
Deputy Director, Scott Mendenhall, Department of Revenue (DOR); Proxy for Director Brendan Beatty  
Colonel Steve Lavin, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP) and Proxy for Attorney General Knudsen  
Staff:  
Pam Langve-Davis, ELT staff secretary and CHSP manager  
Kevin Dusko, MDT staff and Impaired Driving Program Coordinator, State Highway Traffic Section- MDT  
Invited: Marcee Allen, Traffic/Safety/ Design Engineer, FHWA

**Following introductions** Deputy Director Brown provided a meeting overview of what needed to be accomplished at the meeting, background on the Comprehensive Highway Safety (CHSP), and opportunities to collaborate. No public comment was presented.

Pam Langve-Davis provided an overview of the CHSP, which is a federal requirement in response to increased traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Montana's CHSP continues to meet the requirements that it be data driven, include multiagency state agency partners, include performance measures and consistent targets; report, track and evaluate efforts and progress, and be updated every 5 years. It is Montana's plan to reach Vision Zero- zero fatalities and zero serious injuries on Montana's roadway.

**Executive Leadership Team role is to**

- Provides leadership and collaboration across agencies and has the authority to commit resources.
- Prioritize and institutionalize Vision Zero across agencies.
- Commit personnel and technical resources revenue to implement statewide safety initiatives
- Identify & remove barriers within and between agencies to achieve Vision Zero
- Incorporate common safety strategies and initiatives into agency and organization plans and policies
- Delegate appropriate staff to participate actively on the Advisory Committee and the Emphasis Area Teams to implement safety initiatives.
- Serves as Montana's Statewide Impaired Driving Task Force as requires by 23 CFR 1300.23

**Emphasis Area Update**

**Roadway Departure & Intersection- Related Crashes Emphasis Area**

- OPI's Driver Education 2020-21 School Year: 8,358 students completed drivers ed.
- MT D.R.I.V.E. 2022 classes are filling fast and have less than a week available. Of the nine weeks of classes, two weeks are set aside for teen drivers. The remaining seven weeks are for state agency staff and the public.
- Continue to implement the Highway Safety Improvement, Roadway Departure, and Intersection Safety Plans.
- Long term research study on effectiveness of Sinusoidal centerline rumble strip
- Railway-Highway Crossings program continues to address safety projects at all public crossings *-(Currently 24 projects. 12 signals, 9 upgrades, and 3 special projects)*
- Highway Rail Safety Plan has been submitted and is under review by FRA

- Currently upgrade of MDT's Safety Information Management System (SIMS) crash database with AASHTOWare
- AARP Driver Skills Training refresher course covers current rules of the road and defensive driving techniques. In 2021, there were 714 classes offered online.
- Montana Motorcycle Rider Safety (MMRS) resumed classes in 2021, with a total of 34 classes (31 Basic Rider Course (BRC), 1 BRC2 course, & 2 Advanced Riders Course (ARC)).

### **Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Team Accomplishments**

Continue to sustain and expand DUI Courts

- Five NHTSA funded **DUI Courts in Montana**
  - 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial District: STEER
  - Missoula County: ROAD Court
  - 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District
  - Butte-Silver Bow
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District
- Montana has 45 Treatment Courts statewide- DUI, Veteran, Family . Often coordinated and occur at the same time.
- Support strengthen Montana DUI Laws
  - Reorganization of Montana Code Annotated (MCA) during 2021
    - Title 61, Chapter 8, Part 10, [https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title\\_0610/chapter\\_0080/part\\_0100/sections\\_index.html](https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title_0610/chapter_0080/part_0100/sections_index.html)
    - HB 115, to increase penalties for fourth and subsequent DUI's was noted by Nanette Gilbertson as a critical bill that Montana County Attorneys Association (MCAA) strongly supported as they have grown tired of the multiple DUI's often hitting double digits. The bill was passed and went into effect January 1, 2022, and is reflected in MCA 61-8-1008 [https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title\\_0610/chapter\\_0080/part\\_0100/section\\_0080/0610-0080-0100-0080.html](https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title_0610/chapter_0080/part_0100/section_0080/0610-0080-0100-0080.html)

### **Support and expand DUI Task Forces**

- 35 County DUITF's representing 38 Counties
- Drive Safe Missoula - driver behavior education program focused on high school & college aged students.
- Yellowstone County – Big Sky Drug and Alcohol Symposium planned for late spring/early summer
- Madison County Prosecution Training

### **Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Team SOAR-Northern Tribes DUI Task Force Accomplishments**

- Northern Tribes DUI Task Force
  - NHTSA funding assisted with expenses associated with DUI Task Force Meetings
- Conducted an Impaired Driving campaign during summer FFY21
- Developing new campaign for summer FFY22 that has not been finalized
- Fort Peck DUI Court
  - Requested national training for FFY22

### **Unrestrained Vehicle Occupant Emphasis Area Team Accomplishments**

- Continue to support community -based Buckle Up Montana (BUMT) programs
  - Four coalitions provide outreach to a total of six of Montana's 56 counties, covering over 35% of the state's population.
  - 26% of Montana's population is covered by Safe Kids Yellowstone County and the Greater Gallatin Safety Coalition focusing strictly on Child Passenger Safety.
- Sustain and grow the Child Passenger Safety Certification Training Program & inspection stations with an enhanced focus on high-risk populations.
  - Montana's recertification is 59.4% compared to national rate of 47.5% There are 33 registered Inspection Stations statewide.
- Continue to support and sustain purchase and distribution of child passenger safety seats.

- In FFY21, MDT purchased 235 convertible child safety seats and 253 high back booster child safety seats for distribution to low-income families. Efforts will be coordinated this year as well.
- Ongoing efforts to educate public and emphasize the importance of seat belt use has shown as tangible results of reaching 92.2% in the 2021 summer observations seat belt count – puts MT at a high use rate state.

### **Unrestrained Vehicle Occupant Emphasis Area SOAR (Safe On All Roads) Team Accomplishments**

Sustain and grow the Safe On All Roads (SOAR) Native American program focused on seat belt and child passenger seat use.

- National Native American Heritage Month
  - November 2021 campaign for Heritage Month (Fort Peck Tribal member featured).
- Child Passenger Safety Certification Training Program & inspection stations.
  - Indian Health Services secured CPS Certification training for Tribal Members. 7 new certified technicians.
- Buckle Up Teen Basketball Campaign
  - Local tribal teens represented the campaign across the state. Billboard, radio, posters, Facebook venues used. (Fort Belknap team shown.) Rolled out February 2022.
- Safe On All Roads (SOAR) was recognized and awarded the 2022 NHTSA Public Service award at the LifeSavers Conference in February.

### **Emphasis Area: Emergency Response- After Crash Care Accomplishments**

#### **Access to the Emergency Response System; On Scene Care Training & Education**

- Support Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) training for all dispatch centers.
  - June 2022 will be last course at MLEA

In 2020, Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) training for all dispatch centers was at 71%. As people age out or change jobs the knowledge base on emergency dispatch training will evaporate.

Bryan Page with DLI asked about length of classes and offered up a potential opportunity to hold classes during Safety Fests that are starting back up and are offered around the state.

### **Safe & Rapid Transport of Crash Victims and Training of Emergency Responders**

- Support ongoing education and training of emergency care responders.
  - Prehospital Trauma Life Support is occurring across the state. Collaborating with SIM-MT for future classes.
  - Excellence in Prehospital Injury Care of the Traumatic Brain Injured patient has 49 trained instructors, 44 provider classes taught, 159 people trained.
- Support and promote MDT Emergency Medical Equipment Grant Program
  - 7 EMS Grants awarded of which 5 were ambulances and others were equipment (power load/cots & radios, FFY 2022).

### **Hospital-Based Trauma Care**

- Support on-going education and training of the trauma team
  - **Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)** is taught to providers (doctors and mid-levels) that work in the Emergency Departments
    - ATLS: 90 people trained (5 courses) in 2021.
    - 5 trainings courses scheduled for 2022
  - **TEAM=Together Everyone Achieves More-** this trauma course that goes out to each trauma facility and provides training on how the trauma system in their community can best be prepared to care for patients.
    - 9 TEAMs courses in 2021.
- Continue to support and promote the Rocky Mountain Rural Trauma Symposium (RMRTS)
  - RMRTS is the largest trauma system conference held in Montana each year. It draws over 300 prehospital and hospital staff from across the state. It has been virtual the past 2 years due to covid but this one will only be held in-person. MDT typically participates in providing educational safety materials and resources at the conference. Sept 15-16, 2022, at the Delta Colonial

### Support and further trauma center designation for all Montana facilities that care for injured persons

- Currently 43 of 65 are designated Trauma Centers.
  - 21 scheduled trauma designation reviews planned in 2022.
- Support and further Pediatric Ready Recognition for all Montana facilities Pediatric Ready Communities is a recognition through the EMS for Children program to ensure facilities and EMS services are prepared to care for the injured child.
  - 5 facilities will be working towards recognition in 2022.

### Impaired Driving Program Overview

Kevin Dusko, Impaired Driving program manager with the State Highway Traffic Safety Section provided an overview referencing the Impaired Driving Workplan document provided in advance to the Executive Leadership Team (ELT).

Kevin highlighted the items that were updated, stated that the CHSP ELT serves as Montana's Statewide Impaired Driving Task Force as required by 23 CFR 1300.23.

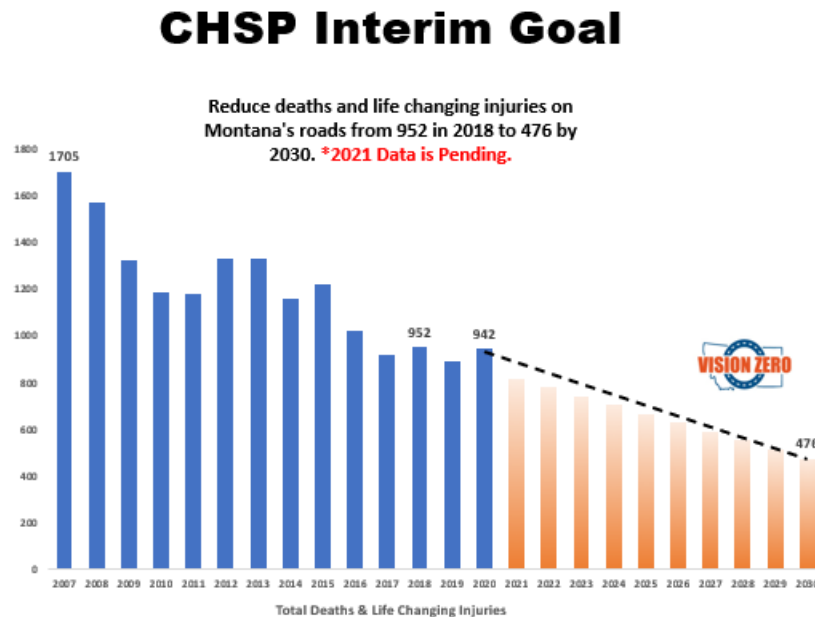
### Impaired Driving Workplan Approval

Deputy Director Julie Brown asked if there were any further discussion and if not is there a general consent to approve the workplan. The committee attendees all approved the workplan. Deputy Director Brown asked for a motion to approve the workplan as written.

Nanette Gilbertson made a motion to accept the workplan as written, Bryan Page second the motion. All in attendance APPROVED the workplan as written.

### Montana's Crash Trends, 2011-2020

While Montana's vision is zero deaths and serious injuries the CHSP has an interim goal used to track progress. The interim goal shows progress from when the CHSP was first implemented in 2007 and where Montana was as of 2020.



- 58% of All Fatalities & Serious Injuries involved a Roadway Departure
- 20% of All Fatalities & Serious Injuries were Intersection-related.
- 88% of All Impaired Driving Fatalities & Serious Injuries occurred in Rural Areas
- 41% of All Unrestrained Vehicle Occupant Fatalities & Serious Injuries occurred during the summer months (Jun/Jul/Aug/Sep).

- 69% of All Non-Motorized Fatalities & Serious Injuries were Pedestrians.
- 91% of All Older Driver Involved Fatalities & Serious Injuries occurred during summer months (Jun/Jul/Aug/Sep).
- 78% of All Young Driver Fatalities & Serious Injuries occurred in Rural Areas
- 69% of All Motorcyclist Fatalities & Serious Injuries were Single Vehicle Crashes.

**Open Discussion**-How can agencies/organizations help achieve Vision Zero?

- Bryan Page offered classroom at SafetyFest for EMS dispatch training.  
[https://safetyfestmt.dli.mt.gov/?pk\\_vid=67f515dbcaf946281652882935ebd683](https://safetyfestmt.dli.mt.gov/?pk_vid=67f515dbcaf946281652882935ebd683)
- Expand Share the Road / No Zone with more high schools
- Check Motor vehicle records before handing over keys. State agencies in coordination with Motor Pool.
- Mirror check stations when leaving motor pool
- MHP Data Analyst needed to for records and heat maps
- Increase Special Enforcement Traffic Teams (SETT) to two teams that travel the state.
- Include distracted driving module in drivers' education curriculum, also mindful of marijuana impairment when driving.
- Update safety videos being played in vehicle registration offices, primarily in the county building level. Need fresh content.
- DOR to look at regulatory licensing of alcohol provider business to review marijuana provider businesses
- Focus on opportunities to increase training for Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), Advanced Roadside Impairment Driving Enforcement (ARIDE), and marijuana impairment driving for all levels of law enforcement for cities, towns, and counties.
- Research Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) to identify areas to focus as it relates to young people and the emphasis area. <https://opi.mt.gov/Leadership/Data-Reporting/Youth-Risk-Behavior-Survey>