

Roadway Departure & Intersection Crashes CHSP Emphasis Area Meeting

MDT Planning Conference Room A
Les Schwab Building- 2960 Prospect Avenue, Helena, MT
Wednesday, March 28, 2018 from 10:00 am to noon



VISION ZERO
zero deaths · zero serious injuries
**MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION**

Attendees:

Roy Peterson, Chair - Traffic & Safety Engineering Bureau (MDT)
Melinda Barnes, Executive Director, Bike Walk MT
Danielle Bolan, Operations Engineer (MDT)
Patricia Burke, Safety Engineer, (MDT)
Capt. Art Collins (MHP)
Jim Combs, Highways Design Engineer (MDT)
Shari Graham, EMS & Trauma Systems (DPHHS)
Dennis Hult, Motor Carriers-Operations (MDT)
Pam Langve-Davis, CHSP Program Coordinator, (MDT)
Chad Newman, Law Enforcement Liaison, (MDT)
Carl Peil, AARP Driver Instructor
Bob Walker, President, Last Chance Motorcycle Riders
Michelle Wheat, State Bike/Ped Coordinator (MDT)
Via conference call:
Marcee Allen, Safety Engineer (FHWA)
Jim Morrow, Director Montana Motorcycle Rider Safety (MMRS)
Fran Penner-Ray, Traffic Education (OPI)

Approval of the January 24, 2018 Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved by consensus

Data

As of March 26, 2018, there have been 19 fatalities on Montana's roadways to date, compared to 29 fatalities last year at this time. There have been no fatalities for 30 days, but drivers still need to exercise caution as spring driving season is quickly approaching.

Old Business

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)-

Traffic Operations Engineer, Danielle Bolan provided an update that the patenting issue has been resolved. Bolan submitted a request to FHWA for statewide approval to use on all roads in Montana. Bolan will provide an update as information comes available.

Public Information / Roundabouts

Three different public information firms are in the process of developing Montana specific roundabout outreach to include testimonials from various industries representatives that have used them. The project is being managed through by Kris Christensen in the Public Involvement Office.

- Peterson will request an overview of the roundabout outreach campaign when it is completed.

Marcee Allen that FHWA will be providing training on Roundabouts on April 3-5. There will be two different course offerings each day for different target groups to include: roundabout training for public and how to address negative perceptions, trucking industry, stakeholder training (i.e. OPI, Bike Walk MT, AARP among others), Geometrical design, and Motor Carrier Services/ Maintenance/ Farm Bureau and Road Designers.

Jim Combs shared an issue he recently became aware of regarding intersection crashes. Roundabouts are challenging to those that may be visually impaired, specifically because there is not a direct path to follow. He noted that consideration serve as a reminder in pre-planning.

New Business-

Roy Peterson presented on a Sinusoidal (Sinus) Rumble Strips. This treatment reduces interior and exterior noise while increasing vibration to alert inattentive or distracted drivers. The pattern provides enhanced reflectivity at night and in wet conditions. Tapered edges allow smooth entry and exit for cars, trucks and motorcycles. An experimental test location to mill in this center line treatment will be in the Glendive District this construction season on a current project south of Colstrip. Three different types of patterns will be tested. Research and Environmental staff will be assessing whether these test treatments, also called mumble strip, are effective in reducing noise.

- Next step- Roy Peterson will include sinus rumble strips in public information outreach.

Legislative Issues-

The team needs to begin tracking potential bills of interest for the 2019 session. No specific bills have been identified. Melinda noted that Bike Walk MT will be working on a safe passage by motorist bill.

Strategy Updates-

Melinda Barnes and Bob Walker reported ~ 90 people attended BikeWalk MT in Bozeman, which included several MDT representatives who attended and presented. BikeWalk MT is working pedestrian videos.

Patricia Burke reported that Safety Manual development is moving forward and is scheduled to be wrapped up in December 2018.

Michelle Wheat reported that the Bicycle Pedestrian Plan is moving forward. Next steps include conducting public involvement workshops in every MDT District, develop a Bicycle Pedestrian Plan website and a survey to involve public and bicycle and pedestrian stakeholders. The development process is anticipated to be a year long process.

Audrey Allums reported that the Family, Career Community and Leaders of America (FCCLA) annual meeting was held March 17-18 in Billings. Sheila Cozzie and Allums provided educational and outreach materials and conductive simulated impaired interactive activities to relay the risky involved with impaired driving. MDT's Teen Peer-to-Peer Traffic Safety program with funding provided by Ford's Driving Skills for Life awarded safety grants to winning FCCLA chapters who developed traffic safety programs in their schools. First place was North Star High School (Rudyard), second place was Garfield Co. High School (Jordan), third place was Three Forks High School.

Announcements-

- 2018 Montana Traffic Education Conference- April 22-24
<http://www.mteaonline.org/annual-conference.html>
- CHSP Advisory Committee – May 10
- Annual Transportation Safety Meeting – October 10-11, 2018

Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 25, from 10 a.m.- noon in the MDT Conference Rm A.
Melinda Barnes is on the agenda to present on pedestrian education.