

Roadway Departure & Intersection Crashes CHSP Emphasis Area Meeting

MDT Planning Conference Room A
Les Schwab Building- 2960 Prospect Avenue – Helena, MT
Wednesday, February 27, 2019 from 10:00 – noon



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

Attendees:

Roy Peterson, Traffic & Safety Engineering, (MDT) - chair
Marcee Allen, FHWA
Audrey Allums, Grants Bureau (MDT)
Eric Belford, Commercial Vehicle Operations (MDT)
Patricia Burke, Safety Engineer (MDT)
Capt. Art Collins (MHP)
Sheila Cozzie, Cultural Liaison (MDT)
Pam Langve-Davis, CHSP Program Coordinator, (MDT)
Chad Newman, Law Enforcement Liaison, (MDT)
Via Skype
Gina Beretta, NHTSA
Fran Penner-Ray, Traffic Education (OPI)
Bill Squires, Highways Design Engineer (MDT)
Ann Svendsen, FMCSA

Crash Data

Year to Date 2019 Crash Data, as of February 25, 2019, there have been 16 fatalities compared to 18 last year at this time.

Old Business –

Strategy 1: Cable median barrier warrants- Roy Peterson reported that a draft warrant study is underway. CDM Smith is finalizing the draft report that will have recommendations for MDT to consider. The Traffic and Bureau staff will review the report and then present it to others within the department for final approval. If approved by management, then cable barrier projects will be programmed. Project reviews will include MDT, Motor Carriers, and MHP staff.

- Project Status: report still anticipated to be completed by Spring 2019.

Strategy 3: Reduce roadway departure and intersection crashes through education. Research Project: MVD Safety Content Project - Roy Peterson reported that work is being done to finalize project. Project will utilize MSU-Billings to coordinate research activities. 7-8 safety videos are planned to be shown at specific license/ registration stations. The research team will conduct post surveys to determine what was seen and if it was impactful.

- Project Status: Anticipated kickoff Fall semester of 2019.

Strategy 3: Reduce roadway departure and intersection crashes through education- Traffic Incident Management (TIMS) Marcee Allen reported that the Steering Committee continues TIM training with responders. Responders include state/ county law enforcement, local fire departments, EMTs/ local community ambulance, tow truck operators, state/county/local road department staff. Principal instructor is Sgt. Alex Betz, MHP. The focus is to provide consistent incident training to achieve the three objectives of the TIM National Unified Goal (NUG) of responder safety, safe and quick clearance, and prompt, reliable, Interoperable Communications. Training has been added to the MLEA basic training. Upcoming training is scheduled at the annual Montana Tow Truck Association Convention, September 2019.

- Project Status: To date 34% of the state's responders have been trained. The goal is 45% by end of September 2019. Committee continues to identify potential safety partner to promote training opportunities.

Strategy 3: Reduce roadway departure and intersection crashes through education – Drive skills training

2018 calendar report out on driver safety programs: AARP, OLS, Drivers Ed, Montana Motorcycle Riders Safety, Teen Peer-to-Peer, etc.

- Teen Peer-to-Peer, it was reported that during the 2018-19 school year, 16 FCCLA school chapters participated in developing safety campaigns focusing on risky driving behaviors and includes distracted driving this year. Students have been implementing these campaigns since October. Awards will be announced March 22 on the top three chapters.
 - Sheila Cozzie will report out at the March meeting.
- AARP- Carl Peil reported the 2018 Driver Safety Classes included
 - AARP Driver Safety held 177 classroom classes in Montana during 2018 with 2072 participants.
 - There were 794 participants in AARP's On-line Driver Safety Classes in Montana during 2018. (About 57% were females)

Following the meeting the following reports were submitted.

- OPI Driver's Education – Fran Penner-Ray reported:
 - 8,467 students completed traffic education during the 2017-18 school year. This represents 68 % of the public and private high school students eligible to enroll in traffic education.
 - 132 high school districts offered a state approved traffic education program.

New Business-

Strategy 6: Explore and implement best practices for reducing road departure... Research Project: Developing a Methodology for Implementing Safety Improvements on Low-Volume Roads in Montana

Purpose: Develop a methodology for identifying and prioritizing locations on local roads at the network level deserving of Highway Safety Improvement Projects. Project will be presented to Montana Association of County Road Supervisors (MACRS) to inform stakeholders of ongoing project and solicit feedback. Kick off meeting was held on 2/25.

- Project Timeline: The research project timeline is 18 months. Updates will be provided as they occur.

Legislative Issues/Concerns-

- HB 49 Create a vehicle occupant safety pilot program, Primary Sponsor: Frank Garner (R) HD 7, <https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2019/billpdf/HB0049.pdf>
- HB 389, Exempt certain vehicles from height restrictions, "AN ACT EXEMPTING CERTAIN VEHICLES TRANSPORTING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS; AND AMENDING SECTION 61-10-103, MCA." This bill seeks an exemption for vehicle transporting or returning from transporting agricultural products from a point of loading to a point of unloading not more than 150 miles apart Primary Sponsor: Joel G Krautter (R) HD 35, Current Bill Progress: In First House Committee—Nontabled. <https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2019/billpdf/HB0389.pdf>
- HB 393 Change truck speed limits, RAISING THE SPEED LIMIT FOR TRUCKS ON FEDERAL-AID INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS TO 70 MILES AN HOUR AT ALL TIMES; RAISING THE SPEED LIMIT FOR TRUCKS ON OTHER PUBLIC HIGHWAYS TO 65 MILES AN HOUR AT ALL TIMES; Primary Sponsor: Joshua Kassmier (R) HD 27, Current Bill Progress: Transmitted to Second House . <https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2019/billpdf/HB0393.pdf>
- HB 440- Revise special speed zone law-primary. *This bill removes the 50 mile restriction for setting special speed limit zone if a study recommends it and allow for variable speed limits "AN ACT REVISING SPECIAL SPEED ZONE LAWS; ALLOWING FOR SPECIAL SPEED LIMITS FOR HIGH CRASH FREQUENCY CORRIDORS; ALLOWING FOR TEMPORARY & SPECIAL REDUCED LIMITS IN EVENT OF EMERGENCY, ADVERSE WEATHER, OR OTHER FACTORS IMPACTING SAFE TRAVEL; AND AMENDING SECTION 61-8-309, MCA."* Primary Sponsor: Denley M Loge (R) HD 14, Current Bill Progress: In Second House Committee—Nontabled. <https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2019/billpdf/HB0440.pdf>

- HB 580 - Require public notice for rumble strip projects. This bill would require a project to be classified as significant if rumbles are placed 600 feet from a residence. Primary Sponsor: Rhonda Knudsen (R) HD 34, Current Bill Progress: Transmitted to Second House. <https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2019/billpdf/HB0580.pdf>
- SB 65 Generally revise drug and alcohol laws, Primary Sponsor: Keith Regier (R) SD 3, Current Bill Progress: In First House Committee—Nontabled. <https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2019/billpdf/SB0065.pdf>
- SB317, Revise transportation weight limits and permits, "AN ACT CREATING A WINTERTIME 10% OVERWEIGHT PERMIT AND A DURATIONAL 10% OVERWEIGHT PERMIT; REQUIRING A FEE TO OBTAIN THE PERMIT; AMENDING SECTION 61-10-125, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE." Primary Sponsor: Mike Lang (R) SD 17, Current Bill Progress: In First House Committee—Nontabled. <https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2019/billpdf/SB0317.pdf>
- HB395, Revise bicycle passing laws, Primary Sponsor: Frank Garner (R) HD 7, Current Bill Progress: In First House Committee--Tabled
- SB 249, Generally revise transportation laws related to bicycling, Primary Sponsor: Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10, Current Bill Progress: In First House Committee—Tabled

Other – As of 2/28/19 there have been 27 snow plows hit

Future Agenda Topics-

- 2020 5- year average safety performance targets

Upcoming Meetings Scheduled & Adjournment

- Next EA Meeting: Wednesday, March 27, 2019, 10 am-noon, Conference Room A
- Next ELT Meeting: Thursday, May 9
- Next Advisory Committee Meeting: Thursday, May 16

Meeting Adjourned

2019 Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, April 24, 2019, 10 am-noon, Conference Room A*

Wednesday, July 24, 2019, 10 am-noon, Conference Room A

Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 10 am-noon, Conference Room A**

Wednesday, November 27, 2019, 10 am-noon, Conference Room A

*Last meeting before the Executive Leadership Team meeting (5/9) & the Advisory Committee (5/16).

** Last meeting before the Annual Meeting (10/9&10)