

**CHSP Roadway Departure & Intersection Crashes**  
**Emphasis Area**  
Strategy Updates  
August 30, 2020



**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.*

Measurement of Success: Reduction in crashes, both number and severity. (All Crashes)

- 2020 All Crashes: 189 Fatal/590 Serious Injury = 779 F & SI Crashes
- 2019 All Crashes: 166 Fatal/597 Serious Injury = 763 F & SI Crashes
- 2018 All Crashes: 168 Fatal/622 Serious Injury = 790 F & SI Crashes

*S1.2 Continue to support & implement Roadway Departure Plan- Ongoing. Standard.*

Measurement of Success: Reduction in number and severity of roadway departure crashes.

- 2020 Roadway Departure Crashes = 121 Fatal/346 Serious Injury=467
- 2019 Roadway Departure Crashes = 84 Fatal/ 319 Serious Injury=403
- 2018 Roadway Departure Crashes = 117 Fatal /302 Serious Injury=419

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

*S2.1 – Continued Implementation of Speed Enforcement Campaigns, -Spencer Harris, Law Enforcement Liaison-State Highway Traffic Safety Section, MDT*

Measurement of Success:

Output Measure: Implement STEP program. Annual report to be completed after the first of the calendar year (2023).

Outcome Measure: Reduction in speed related citations. Annual citation report will be available after end of fiscal year & once received from law enforcement.

- 2022 NHTSA Labor Day "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign ran from August 17- September 5.

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

Measurement of Success: Reduction in number and severity of intersection-related crashes.

- 2020 Intersection-related Crashes= 16 Fatal/ 127 Serious Injury=143
- 2019 Intersection-related Crashes= 21 Fatal /132 Serious Injury=153
- 2018 Intersection-related Crashes=19 Fatal / 157 Serious Injury=176

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

No update.

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

*S3.1 - AARP Driver Skills Training refresher course, Carl Peil, AARP Driver Instructor Trainer*

Measure of Success: Number of classes/participants:

- AARP authorized their Driver SAFETY Instructors to begin holding classroom courses in March of this year with certain conditions. To date five (5) of Montana's eight (8) Districts have now scheduled and conducted classes. Twenty-one (21) classes have been completed with 200 participants. Unfortunately, the number of On-line participants in Montana is currently unavailable.

*S3.2 Sustain and continue to provide Share the Road and No-Zone training focusing on operating around large vehicles.*

Measure of Success: Number of classes/participants:

- April 2022: Montana Trucking Association with the American Trucking Association presented Share the Road to the Montana Traffic Educators Association (MTEA) Conference in Helena. Share the Road was presented to the traffic educators, of which of the approximately 120 attendees of the conference, less than ½ half were knowledgeable about the program at the beginning of the conference. All attendees were given the opportunity to experience the entire program, just as a student would and were provided a tool kit on how to host their own events.

- June 2022: Collaborative effort in providing education to 180 Butte High School driver's ed students about the risks of distracted driving. Students attempted to navigate a course with a golf cart while texting a friend or wearing beer goggles. In addition to the distracted driving courses, students also learned to handle the road when large trucks and emergency vehicles are nearby. Event coordinated by St. James Healthcare Trauma Clinic with contributions from the Montana Highway Patrol, Butte Police Department, Butte Fire Department, Montana Trucking Association 'Share the Road Program', and A1 Ambulance. The distracted driving course was partially made possible by a grant from the Butte-Silver Bow DUI Task Force and golf cart donations from the Butte Country Club.
- June 13-15, 2022: Montana Trucking Association sponsored a Share the Road event with the Billings School district and over three days took approximately 500 students through the program.
- August 2022: Montana Trucking Association took 200 students in Billings through the Share the Road program.
- Another round of Share the Road training is planned in Billings for the Month of October for approximately 200 students. Montana Trucking Association are in-process of planning our winter trainings. We are working on ways of expanding this program into other areas of the state. We are currently looking for sponsors to help grow this program. Our first step was presenting to the traffic educators, so that they can see the value of the program.

*S3.3- Continue to sustain and support the implementation of MT D.R.I.V.E skills training/ MONTANA D.R.I.V.E CDL – Dwight Nelson, Traffic Education Director, OPI.*

Measure of Success: Number of classes/participants:

- Montana DRIVE: Over 450 adults and 36 teens have taken the workshops this past summer (2022). It's now more than 17,000 people over the last 43 years who have attended.
- **Traffic Education new program: Montana DRIVE CDL**, to train and test new school bus route drivers for school districts. This program would allow Class B drivers holding a Learner's Permit to take the new workshop and in 10 days of training, and passing the tests, be ready to drive students and be CPR trained.

*S3.4 Continue to sustain and support implementation of the OPI Teen Drivers Education, Dwight Nelson, Traffic Education Director, OPI*

Measure of Success: Number of classes/participants:

- 2021-2022 school year: X,XXX student participants- yet to be reported
- 2020-2021 school year: 8,358 student participants

*S3.5 - Montana Motorcycle Rider Safety (MMRS) Training, Jim Morrow, Montana Motorcycle Rider Safety, UM-Havre & Sheila Cozzie, Motorcycle Safety program- State Highway Traffic Safety Section- MDT*

Measure of Success: Number of classes/participants:

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

- 2022 classes have not yet been completed. Final numbers will be provided.

*S3.6 - Continue to promote Operation Lifesaver (OLS)- RR safety program, John Althof, RR Safety*

Measure of Success: Number of classes/participants:

- OLS continues to try to fill the vacant coordinator position

*S3.7 - Continue to provide and enhance traffic safety information for bicyclist and pedestrians and other non-motorized transportation system users, update provided by Shelby Clark, State Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator*

Measure of Success: Program implementation

- Contribute to Newline and provide social media posts regarding safety tips. Currently there are two upcoming events in the Helena area that have requested bikes/runners on roads signs.
- Coordinating upcoming bicycle and pedestrian design training workshop.
- 16 events requested Bicycles /Runners on Road signage to date.

**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, John Althof, Railway Highway Safety-MDT*  
No update.

*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. Tricia Burke, Safety Engineer-MDT*

Measure of Success: Implementation of annual program in identifying safety issues.

Core program implementation is ongoing.

- New AASHTOWare Numeric data development is underway.

**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. Tricia Burke & Gabe Priebe, Traffic & Safety Engineering Bureau, MDT*

Measure of Success: Update MDT's Safety Information Management System (SIMS) crash database.

- MDT is working with MHP to 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).*

*-Tricia Burke & Gabe Priebe, Traffic & Safety Engineering Bureau, MDT*

Measure of Success: Develop & rollout of crash data dashboards to provide consistent data for all stakeholders and partners.

- No updates.

**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 conducted in conjunction with MHP, update from Eric Belford, Motor Carrier Services-MDT.*

Measure of Success: Implementation of Annual Campaigns

August 2022: The Montana Department of Transportation/Motor Carrier Services with the Montana Highway Patrol completed another Operation Safe Driver, a CVSA (Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance) and FMCSA (Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration) special operation associated with MCSAP. Montana's "Safe Driver" special operation is an innovative, proactive, and collaborative effort between MHP, MCS officers and MCSAP inspection teams.

- This was the second of three events planned this year in our state. Montana utilized these resources to improve highway safety for the entire motoring public. These operations have ability to impact many drivers through commercial motor vehicle inspections and traffic enforcement of vehicle operating around the test CMV.
  - MCS inspection teams working on HWY 93 & HWY 35 around Flathead Lake completed 15 level I, 15 level II and 3 level III inspections noting 5-vehicle out of service violations and 2-driver out of service violations while operating commercial motor vehicles. In addition to our commercial motor vehicle inspections MCS and MHP completed traffic enforcement utilizing a CMV operating in the corridor with an MHP officer in the CMV calling out traffic violations. This 2-day event resulted in 11 vehicle stops, with a total of 11 warnings and 5 notices to appear written. In addition to the traffic stops MCS and MHP assisted with 1 stranded vehicle, and a crash event that happened while patrolling.

*S6.2 Continue to support the Montana Highway Patrol (MHP) high visibility enforcement to reduce roadway departure and intersection related crashes due to risky driving behaviors,- Mark Keeffe, Data Analyst & Spencer Harris, Law Enforcement Liaison-State Highway Traffic Safety Section, MDT*

Measure of Success: Annual maps.

Crash maps to assist enforcement in identifying enforcement corridor or crash clusters to focus on risky driving behaviors to reduce roadway departures.

- No update

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

*S7.1 Research effectiveness of highway safety public education at Montana Motor Vehicle Division and Vehicle Registration Stations by streaming safety videos.- Gabe Priebe, Traffic & Safety Engineering Bureau, MDT*

Measure of Success: Effectiveness of Highway Safety Public Education at DMV and Vehicle Registration Offices.

- Research project is ongoing.

*S7.2 Proposed: Research safety evaluation of sinusoidal centerline rumble strips,-Gabe Priebe, Traffic & Safety Engineering Bureau, MDT*

Measure of Success: Evaluation of sinusoidal centerline rumble strips.

- Challenges with obtaining enough respondents to provide feedback on videos. Expect to wrap up the viewing of the videos in the next few weeks and complete follow-up surveys.

*S7.3 Continue to track and consider implementation of advances in automated vehicle and roadway technologies.*

*- Gabe Priebe, Traffic & Safety Engineering-MDT & Eric Belford, Motor Carrier Services-MDT*

As automated vehicle technology advances are deployed, transportation policy and planning will be critical. Approaches to fully address the needs of the traveling public, businesses, and freight operators will need to be adapted

- Updates will be provided as they become available.