

Executive Leadership Team Meeting
May 24, 2023
1:00-2:00 p.m.



Attended by:

Colonel Steve Lavin, Montana Highway Patrol
David Gerard, Deputy Director, Department of Public Health & Human Services
John Iverson, Government Affairs Director, Montana Tavern Association
Laurie Bakri, Motor Vehicle Division-Department of Justice, delegate for Attorney General's Office
Mac Long, Director & ELT chair, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)
Mark Wlazlak, Safety Coordinator, delegate for Department of Corrections
Nanette Gilbertson, Executive Director, Montana County Attorney Association
Pam Langve-Davis, CHSP Manager & ELT secretary, MDT
Kevin Dusko, Impaired Driving Program Coordinator, MDT
Under Sheriff Scott Van Dyken, Montana Sheriffs & Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)

Invited guests:

Rob Stapley, Administrator, Planning, Rail & Transit Division, MDT
Carol Strizich, Bureau Chief, Multimodal Planning, MDT
Tammy Ross, Transit and Grants Bureau, MDT

Meeting purpose: Provide an overview of the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan (CHSP), the role of the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) as the Statewide Impaired Driving Task Force, and review of the draft Statewide Impaired Driving Work Plan in advance of the June 27 approval meeting.

This meeting was scheduled in response to the October 2022 ELT members request to schedule a virtual meeting to discuss the draft Impaired Driving workplan in advance of the approval meeting.

The draft impaired driving workplan is comprised of three documents and was sent to the ELT on May 12, 2023, and included the Impaired Driving Statewide Plan, the Impaired Driving Assessment with the State's Response to Assessment Recommendations, and Projects Implemented for Impaired Driving Activities. A project funding element is still under development and how spending supports Montana's impaired driving program and achievement of performance targets.

Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan (CHSP) overview and federal requirements was provided which highlighted the requirements that it be data driven, include the 4Es of transportation safety and multiagency coordination. Additionally, the CHSP purpose is to focus resources strategically where opportunities for safety improvements are greatest; and Vision Zero- zero fatalities and zero serious injuries on Montana's roadways were reiterated.

Of the four emphasis areas Impaired Driving overlaps with the others-Roadway Departures & Intersection-related Crashes, Unrestrained Vehicle Occupants, and Emergency Response- After-Crash Care.

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) is comprised of state agency and organization directors, whose role is to

- Provides leadership and collaboration across agencies. The ELT is the guiding authority and has the responsibility to
 - 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 actively participate on the emphasis area teams.
 - Serves as Montana’s Statewide Impaired Driving Task Force as required per 23 CFR 1300.23
- Prioritize and institutionalize Vision Zero across agencies.
- Commit personnel and technical resources revenue to implement statewide safety initiatives.

Montana ‘s Statewide Impaired Driving Workplan

Montana is classified as a high-range state for alcohol-impaired driving fatalities. High-range classification are for states that have a .60 or higher for alcohol-impaired driving fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled. Montana was at .64 for the calendar years of 2018-2020 (Fatality Analysis Reporting System Data).

There are extra federal requirements for high-range states to receive Impaired Driving Counter Measure funding from the National Highway Traffic Administration (NHTSA). In addition to having a Statewide Impaired Driving Task Force with Authority (Executive Leadership Team), the extra requirements include:

- Impaired Driving Statewide Plan that adheres to the NHTSA’s Programmatic Guide for Impaired Driving.
- Conduct an Impaired Driving Assessment and provide a State’s Responses to assessment recommendations.
- Projects that will be Implemented with NHTSA funding related to Impaired Driving Activities.
- Description of spending and projects implemented for impaired driving activities contribute to the State’s performance targets.

All the elements described above will be considered Montana’s Statewide Impaired Driving Plan.

Impaired Driving program coordinator, Kevin Dusko, presented an overview of the three documents provided to the ELT for approval. Kevin requested follow-up comments or questions be sent to him so that he may incorporate as needed.

The final documents, including a more detailed project funding element will be sent out June 20, 2023, for the workplan approval meeting scheduled on June 27, 2023.

Next ELT meeting: June 27, 2023

- Agenda Item: Approval of Impaired Driving Workplan. Outlook calendar meeting to be scheduled.