#### Safer People

# Safer People: Importance of High Visibility Enforcement and Community Collaboration

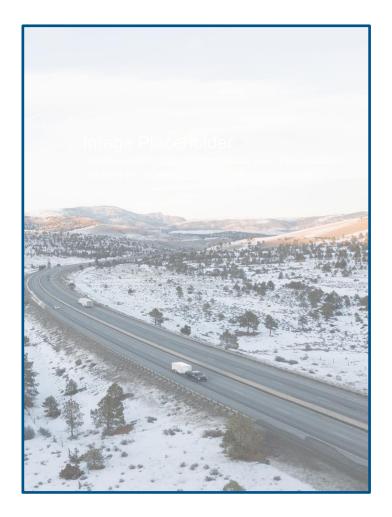
Spencer Harris, Law Enforcement Liaison, State Highway Traffic Safety Section (SHTSS) Montana Department of Transportation

Sergeant Benjamin Panas & Trooper Brian Inman Montana Highway Patrol

Lieutenant Jayson Zander, Helena Police Department

2024 Annual Transportation Safety Meeting
Delta Colonial Hotel
Helena, Montana

October 16, 2024





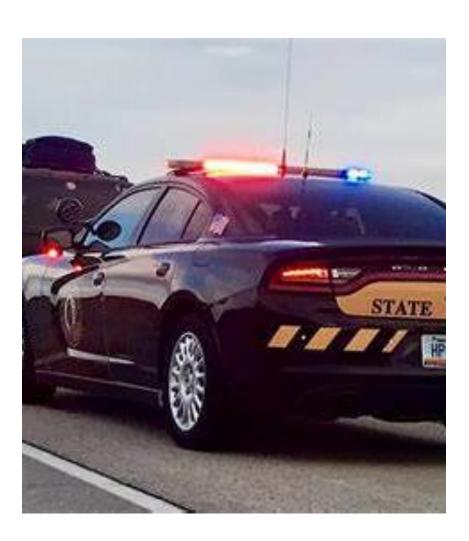
#### **High Visibility Enforcement**

Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) combines enforcement of traffic safety laws, education and communication with the public and participation in mobilization periods with increased patrols.

- 2023: Over 29,152 citations and warnings were issued and over 10,860 hours worked on the grant program. Speeding, seat belt use, DUI were among the top "behaviors" in citations issued.
- Over 5,000 citations and warnings were issued during the "mobilization" periods of Winter Holiday, Memorial Day Click it or Ticket and Labor Day Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.



#### **High Visibility Enforcement**



Safety Enforcement Traffic Team (SETT) - Montana Highway Patrol

- Dedicated patrols to improve public safety by deterring and detecting impaired driving, speeding, restraint enforcement, and other traffic offenses. Provide education to the motoring public.
- Concentration in high crash corridors
- High visibility during special events and time frames – St. Patrick's Day in Butte, Memorial Day & Labor Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

### **High Visibility Enforcement**



Full-time Dedicated Traffic Safety
Officer

- Deploy an officer dedicated to High Visibility Enforcement (fulltime) working an average of 40 hours a week. The officer will focus on impaired drivers as well as unrestrained occupants. The officer will also enforce all traffic laws.
- Similar requirements as STEP
- Conduct at least one education session each quarter with the community.

## Law Enforcement Liaison and Mini Grant Program

Law Enforcement Liaison – dedicated law enforcement outreach to recruit mostly rural law enforcement agencies to participate in the STEP and Mini Grant program.

Law Enforcement Mini Grants – available up to \$8,500 for non-STEP participants for sustained enforcement, local high visibility events such as rodeos, county fairs, concerts, and other large gatherings.





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