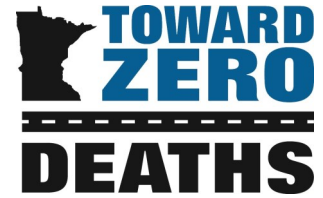




# Minnesota Report on Safety SCOHTS Meeting

Minneapolis, Minnesota  
April 14-16, 2015



## Minnesota District Safety Plans, Second Edition: *A Roadmap to Safer State Highways*

From 2008 through 2012, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Office of Traffic, Safety and Technology developed the first District Safety Plans. These safety plans offered a systemic risk assessment of Minnesota's Trunk Highway Network and a selection of engineering countermeasures to address overall risk on Minnesota Trunk Highways. Over the last year, the Minnesota Department of Transportation revised new Minnesota District Safety Plans.



2016 District Safety Plan Workshop

Beginning in 2016, the Minnesota Department of Transportation is revising the Minnesota District Safety Plans. The District Safety Plan, again, offers a systemic risk assessment of rural Minnesota roads and identifies nearly 4,000 appropriate projects to address safety risks. This project is the result of collaboration between Traffic Engineers, the Office of Traffic, Safety and Technology, and consultants. The update process includes formal data analyses, network screening, and district-wide workshops. Our transportation districts may expect final District Safety Plans by Summer 2016.



District Safety Plans will inform future traffic safety funding decisions and expedite project selection processes. Minnesota does not have to wait for summer to realize the benefits of the updated District Safety Plans!

According to Derek Leuer, "already, nearly 12 million dollars' worth of projects featured in the Safety Plans and Safety Plan Workshops have been selected and are in the implementation process!" In order to improve roadway safety in Minnesota, the District Safety Plans offer District Traffic Engineers reliable and rigorous analyses and recommendations.

For more information, contact: Derek Leuer, Assistant Traffic Safety Engineer, Minnesota Department of Transportation  
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## Coming Soon: *Minnesota's Safety Projects are on the Map*

**M**innesota Department of Transportation funded safety projects are now tracked using a geo-located software program. This tracking program documents locations and dates of installations.

### Benefits of the new Safety Project Tracking System

- ◆ More efficient reporting process i.e. annual HSIP reports
- ◆ Foster more efficient outcome evaluations and program evaluations
- ◆ Improve transparency of safety funding decisions

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## New Leadership in the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Office of Traffic, Safety and Technology

**T**he Minnesota Department of Transportation, Office of Traffic, Safety and Technology has a new Director, Jay Hieptas.

**J**ay's career includes more than 20 years of experience in the private sector and with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. His experience includes traffic analyses, signal and sign design, work zones, roundabout design and traffic impact analyses. Jay also served MnDOT as a design-build program manager, construction project engineer, design engineer, and a pre-construction engineer.

**Welcome Jay!**

## Consider the Alternatives!

**T**he Minnesota Department of Transportation continues to encourage innovative safety countermeasures such as alternative intersection designs and alternative rumble strips, also known as mumble strips.

**C**urrently, nine Reduced Conflict Intersections are installed and more are on the way. Reduced Conflict Intersections improve safety by reducing the number of potential conflict points from 42 to 24. To learn more about Minnesota's Reduced Conflict Intersections please visit: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/roadwork/rci/>

**O**ne other alternative intersection design is the Diverging Diamond. Minnesota currently has 4 Diverging Diamond Interchanges and more are planned. To learn more about Minnesota's Diverging Diamond Interchanges, please visit: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/roadwork/divdiamonds.html>.

**I**n order to address concerns about nuisance noise, alternative rumble strip designs are under consideration.

For more information, contact: Derek Leuer, Assistant Traffic Safety Engineer, Minnesota Department of Transportation  
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