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## Montana Crash FACT #1

In 2005, a total of **251** people died as a result of highway crashes. In economic terms, the loss to the State resulting from these crashes was more than **\$595 million** due to wage loss, medical expenses, insurance administration, and property damage. This figure does not account for the indirect costs of human suffering and loss resulting from these tragedies.

Source: CHSP 2010

## MONTANA CRASH FACT #2

There were **221** fatalities on Montana highways in 2009.

As of October 12, there have been **152** fatalities on Montana highways this year.

Source: MDT 2010

## What is a Community Transportation Safety Plan?

The MDT developed a Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan to address the state's highway safety needs and reduce the number of crashes and their consequences on Montana's roads. Individual Community Transportation Safety Plans will follow the model of the Montana Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan and identify statistically-based transportation safety concerns and needs within individual communities. *It is important to note that the Community Transportation Safety Plan is developed as a planning tool for communities to implement and improve the transportation safety in their area.* The Community Transportation Safety Plan will use the 4 E's of safety (Education, Enforcement, Emergency Services, and Engineering) to identify strategies to improve safety in the areas of highest concern in the community.

## Public Involvement Opportunities

*Education and public outreach are an essential part of fulfilling the local study partners' responsibility to successfully inform the public about the transportation safety planning process*

### How can the public / community become involved in the study?

The general public is invited to participate in the process through public meetings and ongoing project input. A study web site has been developed to provide on-line opportunities to comment on Hamilton's community transportation safety needs and later on the draft plan recommendations. Dates, times, and locations for all public outreach opportunities will be announced prior to the events through the local media and the project mailing list.

CDM, the City of Hamilton, and the MDT will collect and consider all public comment and input received to better understand the public view of potential safety issues. The team will then determine the next steps that best meets the study purpose and has the support of cooperating organizations, local governments, stakeholders, and the general public.

### When is the best time to give comments?

Because there is no formal comment period for this study, comments and input will be considered throughout the development and implementation process. This is a community led effort and will take the whole community working together to make this effort a success.

### How can I stay informed and be part of the process?

Those with a specific interest in the study are encouraged to join the **study mailing list**. They can do so by submitting their name and contact information to Jeff Key at the address or e-mail that follow or completing and returning the study comment sheets from the public meetings or found on the study website.

To keep the public informed about the study, project information is being published on the study web site, local media venues, and this newsletter. The public may also provide input or questions by contacting:



### Safety Summit #1>>>

#### Q: When is the Safety Summit?

A: The first Safety Summit is:

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Hamilton City Hall

222 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Hamilton

Presentation: 6:00 PM

Q & A: 6:30 PM

The public is encouraged and welcome to attend. We hope to see you there!

**Dennis Stranger**, City of Hamilton, 223 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Hamilton, MT 59840; (406) 363-3316; [planner@cityofhamilton.net](mailto:planner@cityofhamilton.net)

**Pam Langve-Davis**, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), Statewide and Urban Planning, 2960 Prospect Avenue (PO Box 201001), Helena, MT 59620-1001; (406) 444-7646; [plangvedavis@mt.gov](mailto:plangvedavis@mt.gov)

**Jeff Key, P.E.**, Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc. (CDM), CDM Project Manager, 50 West 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200, Helena, MT 59601; (406) 441-1400; [KeyJA@cdm.com](mailto:KeyJA@cdm.com)



## RAVALLI COUNTY CRASH STATISTICS

In 2009, alcohol-related crashes in Ravalli County were at their lowest number and percentage of overall crashes in over 27 years.

Source: MDT Crash Data 2010

## HAMILTON CRASH STATISTICS

Of the crashes documented in Hamilton between 2005 and 2009, 16% were from drivers between the ages of 15 to 19 and over 33% of the crashes were from drivers 50 years of age and older.

The highest contributing circumstances of drivers involved in crashes in Hamilton were noted as being inattentive, careless, failing to yield the right-of-way, or following another vehicle too closely.

Source: MDT Crash Data 2010

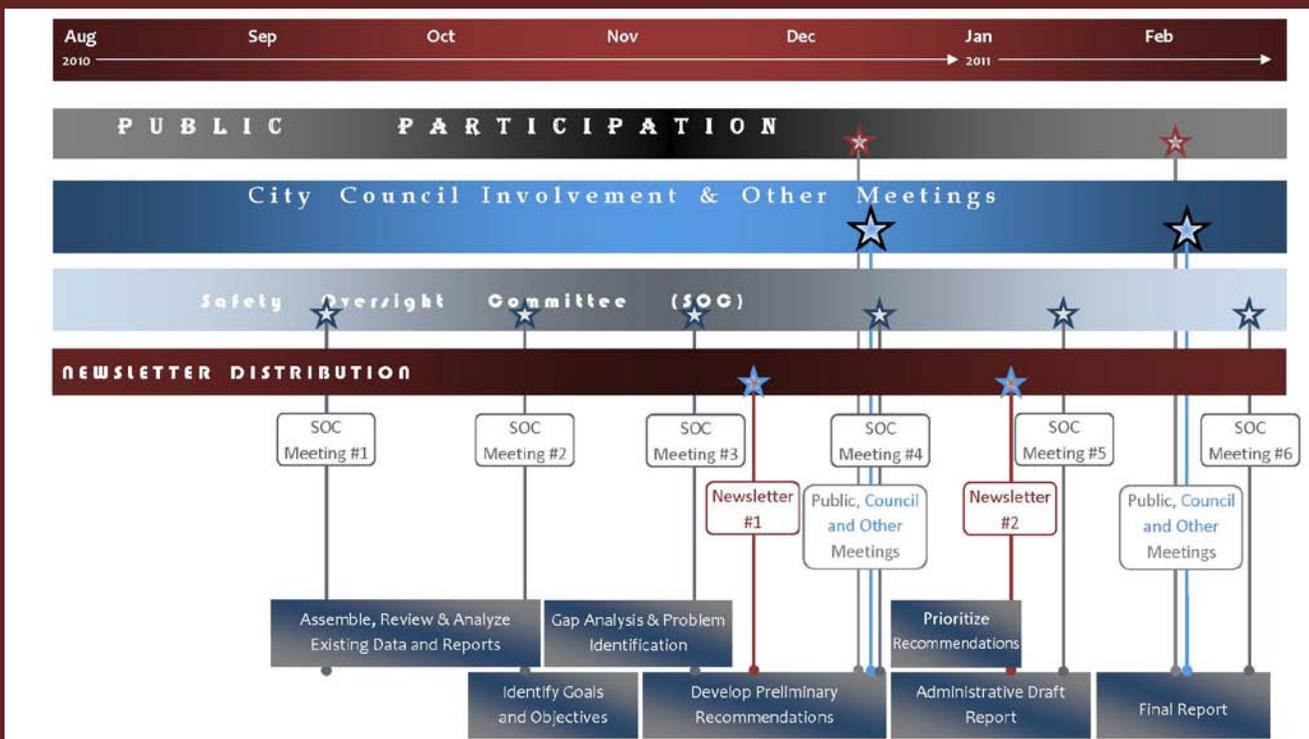
## Emphasis Areas for Safety Plans

Q: What transportation safety areas will Community Transportation Safety Plans focus on?

The development of Community Transportation Safety Plans will use a process similar to what MDT used to develop the CHSP. Safety areas of interest portrayed in the CHSP and areas that may be considered in the Hamilton Community Transportation Safety Plan include the following:

- Safety Belt Usage
- Alcohol and Drug Impaired
- Native Americans
- Single Vehicle Run-Off-The-Road
- Traffic Records Management
- Young Drivers
- High Crash Corridors/Locations
- Truck Crashes
- EMS Delivery
- Urban Area Crashes
- Motorcycle Crashes
- Older Driver Crashes

## Study Schedule





The City of Hamilton, MDT, and CDM attempt to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person participating in any service, program, or activity associated with this project. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request. For further information call (406) 441-1400 or TTY (800) 335-7592, or call Montana Relay at 711. Accommodation requests must be made at least 48 hours prior to any scheduled meetings and/or other activities.

## What is coming next?

The next steps in the plan development process include analyzing and interpreting available data, drafting community transportation safety goals and objectives, and identifying problem/emphasis areas. Long term steps include: engaging the community, implementing strategies identified in the plan, and tracking the implementation progress. These steps will be led by the City of Hamilton in coordination with MDT, with input by the Safety Oversight Committee through the 4 E's of transportation safety (Education, Emergency Services, Enforcement, and Engineering).

**Visit the Transportation Safety Plan website:**

**<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/hamiltonsafety/>**

## Montana Department of Transportation

2701 Prospect Avenue  
PO Box 201001  
Helena, MT 59620-1001

[www.mdt.mt.gov](http://www.mdt.mt.gov)