

## Executive Leadership Team Meeting

October 31, 2019

1 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Delta Colonial Hotel

2301 Colonial Drive

Helena, Montana



**VISION ZERO**

zero deaths · zero serious injuries

**MONTANA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION**

### Attended by:

*Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction*

*Tim Burton, Executive Director, Montana League of Cities and Towns*

*Nanette Gilbertson, Montana County Attorney's Association*

*John Iverson, Government Affairs Director, Montana Tavern's Association*

*Beth McLaughlin, Administrator, Court Administrator's Office*

*Reginald D. Michael, Director, Montana Department of Corrections*

*Judge Greg Mohr for Judge Mary Jane Knisely*

*Bryan Page, Regulatory Program, Department of Labor and Industry*

*Captain Scott Van Dyken, Cascade Co. Sheriff's Office/ Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association*

*Michael Tooley, Director, Montana Department of Transportation & Governor's Highway Safety*

*Representative*

### Staff:

*Lynn Zanto, Rail, Transit and Planning Division Administrator, MDT*

*Pam Langve-Davis, Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan (CHSP), MDT*

*Kevin Dusko, State Highway Traffic Safety Impaired Driving Safety Planner, MDT and CHSP Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Chair*

### Not in attendance:

Governor Steve Bullock

*Tim Fox, Attorney General, Montana Department of Justice*

*Eric Bryson, executive Director, Montana Association of County Officials*

*Colonel Thomas Butler, Montana Highway Patrol*

*Sheila Hogan, Director, Montana Department of Health and Human Services*

*Rhonda Schaffer, Director, Office of State Public Defender*

*Jason Smith, Director, Office of Indian Affairs, Governor's Office*

*Gene Walborn, Director, Department of Revenue*

Following the 2019 Annual Transportation Safety Meeting, Director Tooley called for a brief Executive Leadership Team meeting to discuss with agency leaders' solutions to removing barriers to implementing safety strategy that were reported at the annual meeting.

Tooley reiterated that he supported the American Association of State Highway Traffic Officials (AASHTO) President Patrick McKenna's renewed focus on safety and zero goal by 2040. Tooley equated that to Montana's interim goal and said that would mean reducing the current (2018) fatalities and suspected serious injuries by half to 426 by 2030 with the goal of zero by 2040.

### Solutions to Addressing Hurdles

Discussion ensued among the agency leaders that focused on safety issues and strategy activities for consideration. The overarching strategy activity was public education. Those in attendance did agree

that a primary seat belt bill and DUI law bill should be pursued during the next Legislative session, but no leads were identified. The following safety issue and activity recommendations are listed below.

#### Roadway Departure & Intersection Crashes Emphasis Area Efforts

- Do more of what works. Continue implementing rumble strips because it keeps people in the lane.
- Continue doing roundabouts, they work and slow down traffic and reduce injury severity.
- Educate people on proven safety countermeasures and why they are being implemented.
- Implement rural road safety counter measures on low volume roads.

#### Occupant Protection Use Emphasis Area Efforts

- Continue pursuing primary seat belt law.
- Continue CPS training and recertification.
- Renew efforts with new mothers, medical community and the public on the importance of safety restraints.

#### Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Efforts

- Recodify DUI Laws with no general fund impact. Educate stakeholder groups on purpose in advance of Legislation.
- Need to increase opportunities and funding for early intervention and treatment; tailor treatment for individuals and educate on triggers.
- Promote mini-grants purpose and use.
- Educate public on what is a DUI.
- Renewed efforts to promote Department of Revenue's Alcohol Beverage Control program.
- Develop policy on substance abuse. Recreational marijuana is coming, and Montana needs to be prepared. Include Insurance Agencies.
- Educate public on CBD oil.
- Increased funding for DRE officers knowing that recreational marijuana is on the horizon. Grant funding is needed for DREs in the "big 7" communities.

#### General Safety Issues

- Improve safety culture- revise messaging. The right message for the right group.
- Support and promote 100% TIMS training for responders.
- Educate people about autonomous and connected vehicles. Don't let technology make you lazy. Distraction and liability issues.
- Educate public on distracted driving.

#### **Next Steps for 2020**

Recommendations will be shared with the Advisory Committee and Emphasis Area Teams for consideration and implementation. The CHSP will be updated in 2020 and recommendations will be incorporated as appropriate.

#### **Announcements & Adjournment**

The first Executive Leadership Team meeting for 2020 will include the six-month update and the 2019 preliminary crash data, and approval of the Impaired Driving Work Plan and the State's Response to the Impaired Driving Assessment Recommendations. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2020, in the second floor MDT Commission Room located at 2701 Prospect Avenue in Helena.