



VISION ZERO 

zero deaths · zero serious injuries

**MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION**

2019 Annual Transportation Safety
Planning Meeting



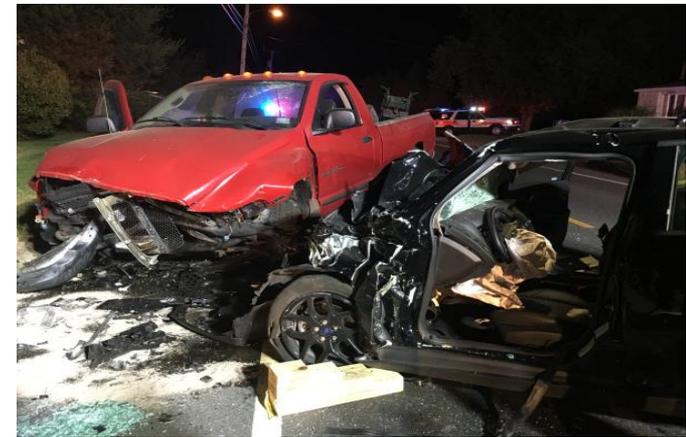
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Breaking Down Barriers

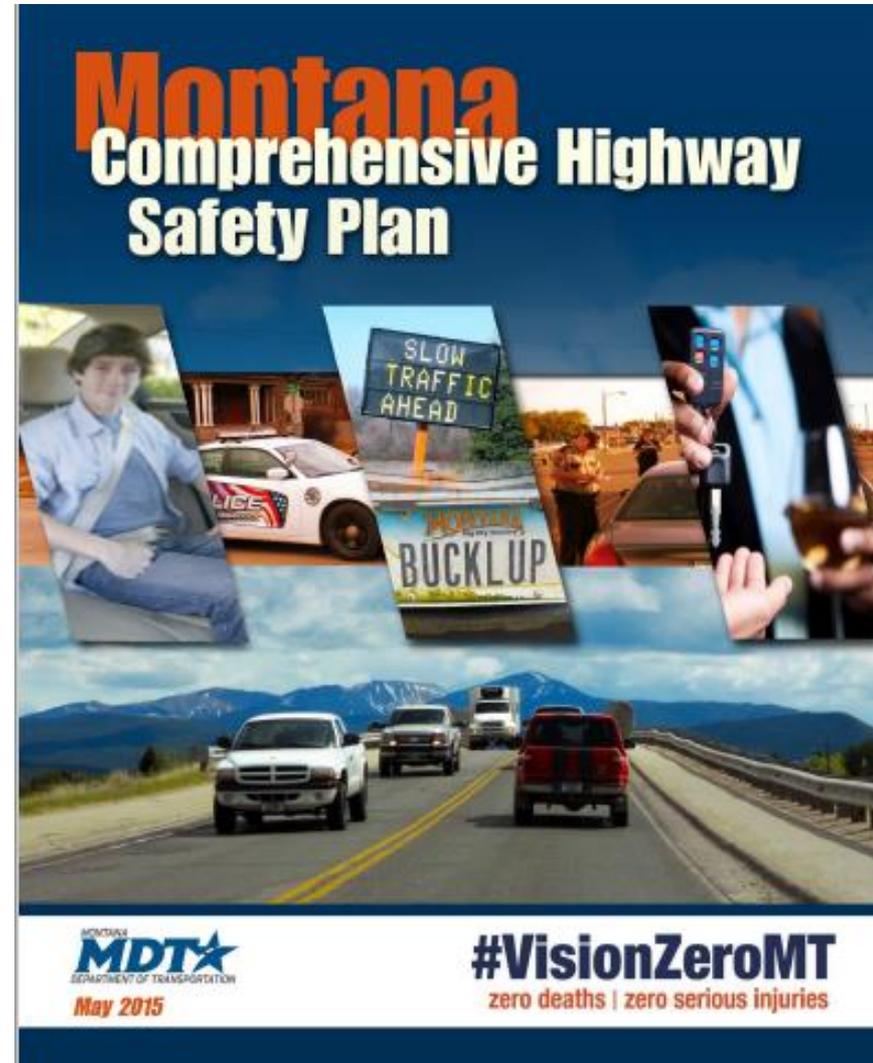
**2019 Annual
Transportation Safety
Planning Meeting
October 30 & 31, 2019
Helena, MT**

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



The Plan

- Identified data driven issues
 - Roadway Departure & Intersection Crashes
 - Roadway Infrastructure
 - Impaired Driving
 - Driver Behavior
 - Unbelted Occupants
 - Driver & Passenger Behavior
 - Other contributing factors
 - Speeding
 - Distractions/
Inattentiveness



The Subject Experts



- Consideration of 4Es of Transportation Safety
 - Education – Educators, Prevention Specialist
 - Enforcement – State and Local Law, Tribal, Motor Carriers, and Judicial Courts
 - Emergency Medical Services – Injury Prevention, Emergency Medical Providers, Trauma Teams, Emergency Response Teams
 - Engineering- Planning; Traffic, Safety, and Operations; Maintenance & Road Departments



The Strategies

- Roadway Departure Crashes
 - Road Safety Audit, Safety Edge, Chevron Delineation & Friction Control, Median Barriers
- Intersection Crashes
 - Roundabouts, Retroreflective Backplates, Pedestrian Median & Island Crossings, Dedicated Turn Lanes at Two-Way Stop Controlled Intersections



The Strategies

- Impaired Driving-
 - Strong DUI Laws
 - High Visibility Enforcement
 - Effective Prosecution & Adjudication
 - Alcohol Problem Assessment & Treatment
 - Alcohol Screening & Brief Intervention
 - Enforcement of Drug-Impaired Driving

- Unrestrained Vehicle Occupants
 - State Primary Seat Belt Use Law
 - Short-term, High Visibility Seat Belt Law Enforcement
 - Communication and awareness in supporting enforcement



The Partners



Montana Transit Association



The Barrier

-Inadequate Laws-

Attempt to Improve Alcohol-Impaired Driving Law
(Proven safety countermeasure)

- SB 65- Generally revise drug and alcohol laws

-Did Not Pass-

66th Legislative Session



The Barriers

-Inadequate Law-

Primary Seat Belt Law (proven safety countermeasure)

- HB 49- Create the Vehicle Occupant Protection Safety Pilot Program
- Public surveys have shown that Montana residents support a primary seat belt law.

Did Not Pass - 66th Legislative Session

- Numerous efforts at Primary Seat Belt Legislation since 2001 by 4 different Republican Legislators & by 3 different Democrat Legislators



The Solutions

Needs a primary seat belt bill with strong sponsors – one from each party.

Need to revisit Reviewing the Drug and Alcohol Impaired Driving laws for the next Legislative Session.



The Solutions

Promote Safety Driver Behaviors

Remove “accidents” when speaking about transportation or traffic data.

Improve Montana’s driving standards and laws

