

REGIONAL SAFETY WORKING GROUP
Purpose and Goals

PURPOSE

Assist in the development of regional safety policies, programs, procedures, projects, and activities that will help improve traffic safety throughout the region. Discuss and prioritize regional safety initiatives in terms of need: immediate, short-term, and long-term for the North Central Texas region.

GOALS

Priority: CURRENTLY DOING OR COMPLETED ACTIVITY

1. Support regional safety efforts by developing ideas, encouraging activities, gathering and exchanging information, reviewing developments in the transportation safety field and identifying opportunities for additional outreach opportunities.
2. Develop sound, secure and environmentally conscious safe practices for road construction and maintenance programs.
 - a. Monitor best practices and new technology which have the greatest potential to create a safe, clean and cost effective work zone environment
 - b. Review existing practices for each level of government and industry.

Priority: HIGH

3. Identify, prioritize, and collect safety related data and data sources.
 - a. Identify our current resources that can be utilized to aid in having a safer traveling environment in the region (i.e. utilizing our crash data to identify areas of concern).
4. Implement the Regional Safety Information System that will be used to identify motor vehicle crash hot spots; provide a central location for regional traffic crash data; and identify regional high crash sites and develop possible solutions.
 - a. Determine the most prevalent types of fatal, injury and property damage crashes stratified by type of roadway (e.g., freeway/tollway, arterial, collector, local)
 - b. Identify locations with above average crash histories.
 - c. Improve traffic safety by primarily focusing on (a) the identification of locations with high numbers of injury collisions.
 - d. Assist in the development of regional strategies for data collection, analysis, and archiving.
 - e. Assist in the development of safety information partnerships throughout the region with TxDOT, local governments, local police departments, TTI, the general public, and other organizations.
 - i. *Increase interactions with police and fire departments that collect crash and safety data. Emphasize with them the need/importance of reporting procedures.*
5. Reduce the total number of crashes and crash severity within the NCT region.
 - a. *Promote and advocate for the proper installation and maintenance of pavement markings and signage.*

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Priority: MEDIUM

6. Develop region-appropriate countermeasures that address crash types and locations.
 - a. Develop and implement countermeasures that address recurring crash types and locations.
 - b. Determine countermeasure effectiveness and adapt accordingly.
 - c. Institute a “blackspot” campaign to implement safety countermeasures at high crash locations.
 - d. Improve traffic safety by primarily focusing on the design, funding and implementation of countermeasures effective in reducing collision frequency and severity.
 - e. Rank and prioritize improvements.
 - f. Recommend improvements based on safe practice; environmental principles; existing and future budget constraints and availability of resources.
 - g. *Develop categories/rankings that address identified areas of safety concerns and implementation plans.*

7. Identify safety-related issues in an effort to advance initiatives to preserve, maintain, and improve transportation safety in the Dallas/Ft. Worth region.

8. Coordinate efforts to increase the public awareness of transportation safety
 - a. Develop a publicity campaign to educate the public on measures travelers can take to reduce crashes.
 - b. *Address the increased occurrence of unintentional pedestrians on regional roadways.*
 - c. *Increase awareness of need for continued driver education programs for young drivers – Teens in the Driver Seat Program expansion to more campuses.*

Priority: GENERAL

9. Work towards adequate funding of safety initiatives
 - a. Eliminate jurisdictional and funding barriers to implementing safety countermeasures.