BETTER ROADS SAFER ROADS

MAKING
STREETSSTREETSSAFERTo Improve Safety and

To Improve Safety and Prevent Roadway Deaths





BETTER ROADS SAFER ROADS



Winter 2024 | TxLTAP.org

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Image: 1 TXDOT AMONG WINNERS OF INTERSECTION
SAFETY CHALLENGE

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BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION INVESTING IN HUNDREDS OF AMERICAN COMMUNITIES TO IMPROVE SAFETY AND PREVENT ROADWAY DEATHS

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FHWA ANNOUNCES \$729 MILLION TO REPAIR ROADS AND BRIDGES DAMAGED BY NATURAL DISASTERS AND EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

As part of the U.S. Department of Transportation's coordinated approach to help states repair and rebuild roads and bridges, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recently announced it is providing \$729.4 million to 34 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2023 NATIONAL ROADWAY SAFETY AWARDS!

The biennial National Roadway Safety Awards competition is sponsored by FHWA and the Roadway Safety Foundation (RSF) to recognize achievements in roadway safety that move the United States toward zero deaths and serious injuries on the Nation's roadways.

TxLTAP TRAINING & SERVICES

Contact TxLTAP for more information or to request training, services, or equipment.

The Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) is a nationwide effort financed by the Federal Highway Administration and individual state departments of transportation. Its purpose is to translate into understandable terms the best available technology for roadways, bridges, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and public transportation for city and county roadway and transportation personnel. The TxLTAP, operated by the University of Texas at Arlington, is sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration. This newsletter is designed to keep you informed about new publications, techniques, and training opportunities that may be helpful to you and your community.

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INTERSECTION SAFETY CHALLENGE

TXDOT AMONG WINNERS OF INTERSECTION SAFETY CHALLENGE

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) recently announced the winners of its <u>Intersection Safety Challenge</u>, awarding TxDOT for efforts to improve pedestrian safety at intersections. TxDOT and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute received a \$1.9 million federal grant earlier this year to develop a next-generation intersection that promises to improve safety for the most at-risk road users.

"Pedestrians and bicyclists are always at a higher risk on the road, especially at busy intersections," said Michael Chacon, TxDOT's head of traffic safety. "This new technology is proving to be a lifesaver, literally. Everyone involved in this project should be proud of the work they've accomplished."

One in five fatal crashes in Texas involve a pedestrian and one in 50 involve a bicyclist. The Smarter Intersections Project uses advanced communications technology to alert pedestrians and bicyclists to buses making turns. The project uses cellular signals transmitted from transit buses and emergency vehicles to hardware installed at intersections.

"This new technology is proving to be a lifesaver, literally."

First tested at two intersections in Texas, the new technology collects pedestrian behavior data using LiDAR sensors. The software is able to reliably observe pedestrian behavior and can help reduce conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles at signalized intersections.

The U.S. DOT's Challenge aims to transform roadway intersection safety by incentivizing new and emerging technologies that identify and address unsafe conditions involving vehicles, and vulnerable road users at intersections.

For the first stage of the Challenge, U.S. DOT received 120 innovative concept papers and selected 15 for prize awards.

2024 National Work Zone Awareness Week

Work Zones are temporary. Actions behind the wheel can last forever.

NWŻŻw

ASHIO

ARIBA

AGC of America 🔞

alliance

ATSSA

Taking you places!

NHTSA

VDOT



STAY ALERT

AND

SLOW DOWN

OBSERVING 2024 NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK

In 2022, 25,446 traffic crashes in Texas work zones claimed the lives of 205 people and seriously injured 789 people. But what many people fail to realize is the vast majority of people killed in work zone crashes are motorists and their passengers.

In its 25th year, National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) is a national public awareness campaign that spreads the message that we are all responsible for work zone safety. The annual spring campaign is held at the start of construction season and encourages safe driving through highway work zones. The key message is for drivers to use extra caution in work zones. This year's NWZAW is April 15-19, 2024 and the theme is "Work Zones are temporary. Actions behind the wheel can last forever."

Everyone plays a role in work zone safety. NWZAW highlights the deadly dangers of inattention at highway work areas. Make plans now for the 2024 weeklong commemoration including:

- Monday, April 15 Work Zone Safety Training Day:
 - Emphasizes the importance of laying the groundwork for safety through training of personnel. Employers are encouraged to pause during the workday for safety demonstrations, discussions about safety policies and other prevention steps.
- Tuesday, April 16 National Kickoff Event: NWZAW 2024 kickoff event will be hosted by the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) at a location and time to be determined. More information will be posted at <u>nwzaw.org/</u> <u>participate</u> as it becomes available.
- Wednesday, April 17 Go Orange Day: All roadway safety professionals are encouraged to wear orange as a visual reminder to others of work zones and to proudly show support for work zone safety. Show your support on social media by posting your orange pics and use the hashtags #NWZAW and #Orange4Safety.
- Thursday, April 18 Social Media Storm: Organizations, companies, institutions and individuals are asked to share messages and use hashtags #NWZAW and #WorkZoneSafety throughout social media between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. CT. Draft your own post or use one of these samples:
 - If we slow down, we can save lives. Together we can achieve zero deaths on our roads and in our work zones! #NWZAW #Orange4Safety



- Work zones are a sign to slow down. #NWZAW #WorkZoneSafety
- You can be a part of the work zone safety solution Slow down. #NWZAW #WorkZoneSafety
- Friday, April 19 Moment of Silence: The Moment of Silence started in 2022 and encourages companies and families to join together for a moment of silence as a tribute to the people who lost their lives in a work zone incident.

If you're interested in hosting a local event for National Work Zone Awareness Week, then you're in luck. The <u>NWZAW Event</u> <u>Planning Guide</u> is a comprehensive guide for all individuals and organizations planning to host NWZAW events in their community. The guide includes event setup guides, sample invitations, examples of opening and closing remarks, a sample schedule for the kickoff event and more.

To learn more about NWZAW, visit NWZAW.org.

THE SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH FOR SPEED MANAGEMENT REPORT AND A NEW NHI SPEED MANAGEMENT TRAINING COURSE



Safe System Approach for Speed Management Framework (Source: FHWA)

The correlation between speed and injury crashes has been well documented throughout the scientific literature on traffic safety, and achieving lower speeds has been proven to save lives and reduce serious injuries. To achieve a truly safe transportation system, road safety practitioners should not only manage speeds, but make achieving safe speeds on all roads a cornerstone of their safety policies.

The <u>Safe System Approach for Speed Management</u> report will help practitioners understand the impacts of speed on traffic safety and explore the link between speed management and the Safe System Approach by introducing a five-stage framework. These five stages are establishing a vision and building consensus for speed management, collecting, and analyzing speed and safety data, prioritizing locations for speed management proactively, selecting speed management countermeasures, and conducting ongoing monitoring, evaluation, and adjustment. The "Designing and Operating Roadways for Safe Speeds"

online course delivers free, self-paced training that provides learners with the knowledge and skills they need to design safe roads effectively, set safe speeds, and select treatments that mitigate crash severity. Participants will learn how incorporating innovative design concepts and new approaches to setting speeds—such as self-enforcing roadways, target speed, and injury minimization—can reduce the likelihood of fatal and serious injury crashes for all roadway users. To register, or to learn more, visit the <u>National Highway Institute</u> (course number: FHWA-NHI-380128).



A screen capture from the self-paced Designing and Operating Roadways for Safe Speeds course. (Source: FHWA)

The <u>FHWA Resource Center</u> is also pleased to announce the availability of a one-day, instructor-led training course that builds on the web-based training. The instructor-led training includes engaging exercises and focuses on the process for setting speeds based on target speed and injury minimization objectives to serve all roadway users.

For more information on these new resources, please contact Anyesha Mookherjee at <u>anyesha.mookherjee@dot.gov</u> or Jeff King at jeff.king@dot.gov.

WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED BY TTI'S **VICKICH LEADS TO SAFER AND MORE EFFICIENT ROADWAYS**

Mike Vickich, a Texas A&M

software engineer in the **Research & Implementation**

dedicated over 25 years

to developing technology-

solutions to improve the

safety and efficiency of

Houston office, has

based transportation

Transportation Institute (TTI)



(Courtesy of Texas A&M Innovation)

transportation networks. Photo of Mike Vickich Through his work at TTI, Vickich has contributed to patented products that are being utilized to manage traffic and optimize transportation network operations throughout Texas and the United States.

One innovative technology solution developed by Vickich, along with co-inventor and retired TTI Research Scientist Darryl Puckett, is called "Anonymous Wireless Address Matching for Traffic Information," (AWAM), US Patent No. 10,726,717. AWAM operates by anonymously capturing and analyzing wireless signals emitted by smartphones and other devices with BLUETOOTH® that are carried by commuters. Advanced algorithms and artificial intelligence are employed to collect and match these signals to specific locations while safeguarding the privacy of individuals, hence, its anonymous operation. This capability enables transportation engineers and planners to monitor travel movements in real-time, analyze traffic congestion patterns, and identify areas in need of infrastructure improvements, all without compromising data privacy.

Vickich highlighted the significance of privacy and security in the development of AWAM, stating, "Respecting individual privacy

has been a fundamental principle in the creation of AWAM. We have implemented rigorous privacy safeguards to ensure that personal identities remain protected throughout the data collection and storage process."

AWAM is at the center of an exclusive license agreement between The Texas A&M University System and Post Oak Traffic Systems, Inc., a startup founded in 2010 by Vickich, Puckett, TTI Research Engineer Darrell Borchardt, P.E. and Tony Voigt, P.E. to commercialize innovative traffic monitoring technologies developed at TTI. This collaboration brought AWAM to the forefront of transportation data analysis, enabling more efficient and cost-effective traffic data systems throughout the country.

With a wide range of applications, AWAM is now extensively utilized by transportation agencies throughout the United States and Canada and has been deployed to monitor traffic on some of the busiest and most critical roadways in North America.

"Since developing the first iteration of the technology years ago, we've continued to evolve it to take advantage of improved methods for collecting data and more robust transportation system monitoring," said Vickich. "TTI and Texas A&M have provided support for the development of AWAM technology, thus facilitating the creation of a safer and more efficient transportation network."

As areas continue to grow and face increasing challenges in managing transportation networks efficiently, innovative solutions developed by Vickich and his colleagues at TTI pave the way for more efficient and livable communities.

The story was originally posted by Texas A&M Innovation.

BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION INVESTING IN HUNDREDS OF AMERICAN COMMUNITIES TO IMPROVE SAFETY AND PREVENT ROADWAY DEATHS

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The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) recently announced \$813 million from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for 385 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grants. The SS4A program grants go directly to regional, local, and Tribal communities for implementation, planning, and demonstration projects driven at the local level to improve safety and help prevent deaths and serious injuries on the nation's roadways. The funding helps communities address roadway safety through a comprehensive approach that uses all types of interventions, which aligns with DOT's National Roadway Safety Strategy. These funds will help tackle the preventable crisis of deaths on the nation's roads through safer people, roads, and vehicles, appropriate vehicle speeds, and improved post-crash care. This first-of-its-kind program was created by the President's infrastructure law and is a part of the more than \$14 billion in the law dedicated to roadway safety.

"USDOT is committed to making our nation's roadways safer and more livable for all who drive, walk, bike, and roll."

"Through the Safe Streets and Roads for All program, we have now announced safety funding going directly to communities representing seventy percent of the people living in this country," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "We are acting to confront the crisis of safety on our nation's roads, helping communities work to reduce traffic deaths to the only acceptable number: zero."

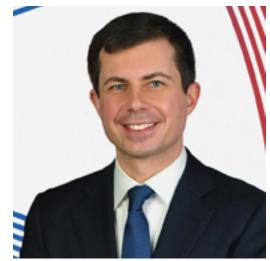


Illustration By Forbes. Photo: Us Federal Government

"USDOT is excited to support communities all across the country as they design and deliver safer roadways," said U.S. Deputy Transportation Secretary Polly Trottenberg. "USDOT is committed to making our nation's roadways safer and more livable for all who drive, walk, bike, and roll."

These funds will help communities in the development of road safety action plans and improve unsafe roadway corridors by implementing effective interventions. Additionally, these funds can be utilized to test out safety features such as separated bicycle lanes or curb extensions at intersections. The next Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for SS4A is scheduled to open in February 2024. For more information on future SS4A opportunities and to learn how to apply, visit <u>https://www.</u> transportation.gov/grants/ss4a/how-to-apply.

TEXAS COMMUNITIES AWARDED SS4A GRANTS

LEAD APPLICANT	PROJECT NAME	TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDING	TOTAL PROJECT COST	RURAL/ URBAN
City of Dallas	MLK Jr./Cedar Crest Blvd Complete Street & Safety Upgrades	\$21,800,000	\$27,250,000	Urban
City of El Paso	Prioritizing Vulnerable Roadway Users in El Paso Network-Wide Safety Improvements along El Paso's High Injury Network	\$9,900,065	\$12,375,082	Urban
Greater Northside Management District	Greater Northside and International Districts Safe Streets Project	\$10,143,200	\$12,679,000	Urban
City of Alvarado	Alvarado Multimodal Transportation Safety Plan	\$236,000	\$295,000	Rural
City of Arlington	City of Arlington - ADA Transition Plan	\$385,000	\$750,000	Urban
City of Austin	City of Austin Planning Activities	\$288,000	\$360,000	Urban
City of Balch Springs	SS4A Action Plan Grant for the City of Balch Springs, Texas	\$160,000	\$200,000	Urban
City of Baytown	A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for Baytown, Texas	\$400,000	\$500,000	Urban
City of Brackettville	City of Brackettville's Action Plan Project - Accept Zero	\$120,000	\$150,000	Rural
City of Brownsville	Brownsville Safety Demonstration Project	\$256,244	\$320,306	Urban
City of Frisco	City of Frisco TX Safety Action Plan	\$280,000	\$350,000	Urban
City of Gladewater	Safe Streets and Roads for All	\$240,000	\$300,000	Rural
City of Mansfield	Mansfield Active Transportation and Safety Plan	\$548,800	\$686,000	Urban
City Of McKinney	City of McKinney Safety Action Plan	\$240,000	\$300,000	Urban
City of Mesquite	SS4A Action Plan Grant for the City of Mesquite, Texas	\$256,000	\$320,000	Urban
City of Midlothian	Midlothian Mobility Safety Action Plan	\$107,284	\$134,105	Urban
City of Port Arthur	City of Port Arthur - Transportation Safety Plan	\$1,931,696	\$2,414,620	Rural
City of Richardson	Richardson Comprehensive Safety Action Plan	\$320,000	\$400,000	Urban
City of Saginaw	Saginaw Comprehensive Safety Action Plan	\$184,000	\$230,000	Urban
City of Terrell	City of Terrell Road Safety Action Plan	\$168,000	\$210,000	Rural
City of Watauga	Watauga Safe Streets and Roads for All Action Plan	\$160,000	\$200,000	Urban
City of Weatherford	Weatherford Comprehensive Safety Action Plan	\$224,000	\$280,000	Rural
East Texas Council of Governments	East Texas Council of Governments Regional Road Safety Proposal	\$768,000	\$960,000	Rural
Greater Southeast Management District	Safety Actions for Houston Southeast	\$320,000	\$400,000	Urban
North Central Texas Council of Governments	Advancing Regional Safety in the Dallas-Fort Worth Region	\$4,000,000	\$5,000,000	Urban
South Plains Association of Governments	South Plains Association of Governments Safe Streets and Roads for All Action Plan	\$960,000	\$1,200,000	Urban
Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization, City of Waco	Place-Based Planning and Demonstration Projects for Vulnerable Road User Safety in McLennan County, TX	\$1,200,000	\$1,500,000	Rural

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM -NOTEWORTHY PRACTICES

Innovative approaches to delivering Federal-aid road safety projects.



INNOVATIVE CONTRACTING **APPROACHES TO GET SAFETY PROJECTS DONE FASTER AND CHEAPER**

The Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) at the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regularly produces "Noteworthy Practices" focused on streamlining safety project delivery. Recently, the program highlighted innovative contracting methods that various States are using, in cooperation with FHWA Division Offices, to implement Safety projects faster and at a lower cost. Each practice is described in a two-page fact sheet. An explanation of the approach along with two State experiences are discussed for each HSIP Noteworthy Practice:

- Design-Build Contracting. Florida and Missouri have bundled several low-cost safety projects under single contract vehicles to address multiple smaller scale safety projects quickly and efficiently.
- Force Accounts. Alabama and Mississippi are using public maintenance workforces to implement needed, low-cost safety improvements at high-risk locations to improve safety now.
- Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ). In Montana, job order contracting provides a way for the State DOT to deliver common, low-cost safety projects at HSIP project sites, while Delaware uses a combination of open-ended contracts with no treatment locations specified as well as contracts that list only some treatment sites, leaving others to be determined.

• Materials Procurement. Maine is using HSIP funds to buy materials for localities to install on local roads, while the Ohio LTAP invites the counties with the most challenging crash problems to apply for a Township Sign Grant to fund the purchase of signs for installation on local roadways.

The States highlighted in these Noteworthy Practices demonstrate that effective alternatives to traditional contracting paths exist. While the use of innovative methods is not limited to the featured States, these States provide notable examples of how contracting techniques can be applied effectively to increase safety, including on local and rural roadways. By using these approaches, States have shown that safety projects can be installed faster and at lower cost, which results in more lives saved, more serious injuries reduced, and more resources available for other safety projects.

If your State is interested in pursuing one of these innovative project delivery methods for your safety projects, please contact your FHWA Division Office. For more information on the HSIP Noteworthy Practices, please contact Rick Drumm at rick.drumm@ dot.gov.

TXDOT URGES TEXANS TO JOIN IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is raising awareness about the dangers of human trafficking and working with other state agencies to help stop this horrific crime.

During National Human Trafficking Prevention Month in January, TxDOT continued its "<u>On the Road to End Human Trafficking</u>" campaign and worked with other state agencies through the Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Coordinating Council and the Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force. The Texas Legislature passed <u>SB1527</u> in 2023, which added TxDOT to both groups.

"In the fight against human trafficking, it takes all of us working together," TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams said. "We're empowering our people to be on the lookout to spot the signs of human trafficking and with more than 13,000 employees across the state, we can make a difference."

TxDOT recently updated its Human Trafficking Awareness employee training video to include information on the various types of trafficking, red flags commonly associated, how transportation is used to aid traffickers and ways individuals can safely report suspicious activity. On January 11th, TxDOT joined other agencies around the state to recognize Human Trafficking Awareness Day by wearing blue as part of the Department of Homeland Security's <u>Blue Campaign</u> to raise awareness about human trafficking.

Texas consistently has the second highest number of calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline. It is important for all of us to be aware, stay vigilant, and report signs of human trafficking. There are several ways to report human trafficking situations:

- Call 911 for emergencies.
- Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-373-7888 or text 233733.
- Call iWatchTexas at 844-643-2251 or submit a report through their website, <u>iwatchtx.org</u> or through the iWatch app on your mobile device.

By being alert and "trusting your gut," you can help play a role in preventing the tragedy of human trafficking.



FHWA ANNOUNCES \$729 MILLION TO REPAIR ROADS AND BRIDGES DAMAGED BY NATURAL DISASTERS AND EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

As part of the U.S. Department of Transportation's coordinated approach to help states repair and rebuild roads and bridges, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recently announced it is providing \$729.4 million to 34 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. The funds will be used to support repair needs following natural disasters, extreme weather, or catastrophic events, such as hurricanes, flooding and mudslides. These events will receive federal reimbursement funding under the FHWA's Emergency Relief (ER) program as the result of major disaster declarations.



"As the climate crisis accelerates, more Americans are feeling the consequences in the form of extreme weather that devastates communities and destroys vital infrastructure," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "These funds will help restore critical transportation connections across the country as communities continue to repair and rebuild infrastructure damaged by extreme weather."

FHWA's Emergency Relief Program supports the Department's priority of addressing climate change by providing funding to help states perform repairs following major natural disasters and extreme weather events.

"Climate change is devastating communities across the U.S., in every state. Our transportation system was not designed to handle the climate impacts we are seeing in the 21st Century," said FHWA Administrator Shailen Bhatt. "Since January 2022, FHWA has distributed over \$1.3 billion in Emergency Relief dollars to help states make repairs because of climate-related events. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is providing new programs and funding opportunities to help our transportation system be more resilient to climate change and get people and goods where they need to go safely."

The program funding will be used to reconstruct highways and bridges and protect the traveling public from further damages and



allow for resiliency improvements as damages are repaired. The State of Texas received over \$3.8 million to repair damages from severe storms and flooding experienced in April 2019.

These funds will help restore critical transportation connections across the country as communities continue to repair and rebuild infrastructure damaged by extreme weather.

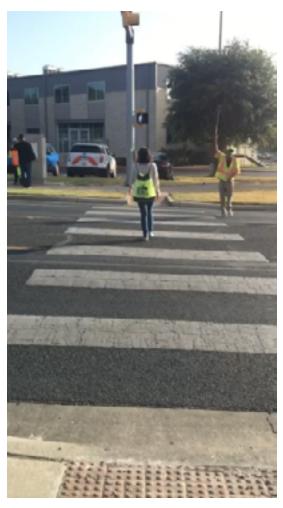
The funds are part of the Biden-Harris Administration's holistic approach to building more resilient infrastructure, in order to make our transportation infrastructure better able to withstand damage from catastrophic events caused by climate change. Additional programs to address these challenges include the <u>Promoting</u> <u>Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving</u> <u>Transportation (PROTECT)</u> Formula and Discretionary Grant programs, providing a total of \$8.7 billion. A listing of FY 2024 Emergency Relief Program allocations with funding information for each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico can be found at www.fhwa.dot.gov/specialfunding/er/240123erfafunds.cfm.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2023 NATIONAL ROADWAY SAFETY AWARDS!

The biennial National Roadway Safety Awards competition is sponsored by FHWA and the Roadway Safety Foundation (RSF) to recognize achievements in roadway safety that move the United States toward zero deaths and serious injuries on the Nation's roadways. The 2023 awards ceremony was held on November 29, 2023 in Washington, D.C. Speakers included Senator Tom Carper (D-DE), FHWA Administrator Shailen Bhatt, and FHWA Associate Administrator for Safety Cheryl Walker. The Infrastructure & Operational Improvements category winners included the Acadiana Planning Commission, Florida DOT, Illinois Tollway, North Carolina DOT, and Texas DOT. The winners in the Program Planning, Development & Evaluation category included Caltrans, Delaware DOT, Minnesota DOT, the Port Authority of NY & NJ, and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization; with honorable mentions going to Nevada DOT and Virginia DOT. Visit the RSF website to view all the winning projects and honorable mentions.

TXDOT 2023 NATIONAL ROADWAY SAFETY AWARD SPOTLIGHT MOBILITY35 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROGRAM



In 2017, FHWA conducted a Road Safety Audit (RSA) at the request of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and City of Austin to address pedestrian safety. Through the RSA, one segment of I-35 from 51st Street to Rundberg Blvd. was identified as experiencing disproportionate numbers of pedestrian crashes and fatalities. Three target demographics were identified as high-risk pedestrians: children under the age of 17, mature adults between the ages of 50-65, and people experiencing homelessness. Data also revealed that over 90 percent of pedestrian fatalities occurred after dark.

Due to this high incidence of pedestrian fatalities and forthcoming construction activities, the TxDOT Austin District with the help of the TxDOT Traffic Safety Division innovated an infrastructure improvement as a pedestrian safety countermeasure and developed an educational pedestrian safety initiative called "Be Safe Be Seen." Activities included providing reflective bags to at-risk populations to enhance nighttime visibility. Additionally, the Mobility35 Initiative to Address Homelessness created a coalition of local and state officials and nonprofit and faith-based organizations that engaged in outreach and communicated information regarding upcoming construction projects, safe pedestrian routes in the area, and other resources. The goal of the coalition was also to humanely relocate individuals to safe, dignified housing or shelter.

Along with educational and outreach efforts, TxDOT engineered a pedestrian crossing deterrent as an infrastructure solution for the interstate. In December 2020, TxDOT added two-foot panels to the top of the center median concrete barrier along a 3.5-mile stretch of I-35 between 51st Street and Rundberg Blvd.

As of June 2023, the pedestrian safety efforts have resulted in an overall reduction of 64 percent in pedestrian fatalities and an 89 percent reduction in pedestrian

fatalities involving people experiencing homelessness. Given this success, TxDOT completed installation of 21 additional miles of barrier by April 2023, with similarly positive results.

For more information, visit TxLTAP.org

Call 817-272-2581 or email txltap@uta.edu to request training, technical assistance or equipment.

EQUIPMENT LENDING LIBRARY

Equipment, such as traffic counters, a portable radar speed sign, handheld retrorefelctometer, digital ball bank indicator, fall protection gear, dynamic cone penetrometer and more, is available for loan at nocost to local government agencies throughout Texas.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT RODEO

Heavy equipment operators will learn and practice new skills while stressing safety and excellence. Operators will use maintainers, backhoes, dump trucks, loaders, and more to steer through a series of exercises designed to test their abilities.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Contact TxLTAP to schedule training or request assistance with developing a no-cost training program tailored to the unique needs of your organization. TxLTAP serves all Texas cities and counties, and instructors deliver training in accordance with all local safety guidelines.

BUILD A BETTER MOUSETRAP

The BABM is a competition by the Federal Highway Administration to discover, share, and celebrate innovations in road construction. Submit your innovative ideas, then TxLTAP selects nominations to be federally recognized.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

TXLTAP TRAINING AND SERVICES ARE Delivered by seasoned industry Professionals with extensive Transportation knowledge TxLTAP instructors, subject matter experts, and staff include former maintenance managers, heavy equipment operators, road crew chiefs, civil and transportation engineers, inspectors, and public works directors who have all worked on Texas' roads and have the unique experience and knowledge to support local safety, maintenance, and innovation efforts.

In addition to delivering training classes, publishing Better Roads, Safer Roads, and providing information exchange opportunities at conferences, TxLTAP provides local roadway agencies an opportunity to consult directly with carefully selected subject matter experts to specifically address organizations' unique issues and offer meaningful solutions. Like all resources TxLTAP offers, there is no charge to receive technical assistance.

Do you need information on proper methods for repairing your lingering road problem? Would it help if someone came out to watch your road crew perform a repair and offer suggestions on how to save time and money in the future? Could you use the help of a traffic engineer who could assess a problematic intersection? Would it be a benefit to you if a subject matter expert came to ride and evaluate local roads or develop a no-cost training model specific to the needs of your workforce?

Take advantage of technical assistance services! Call 817-272-2581 or email txltap@uta.edu to request assistance.

TXLTAP

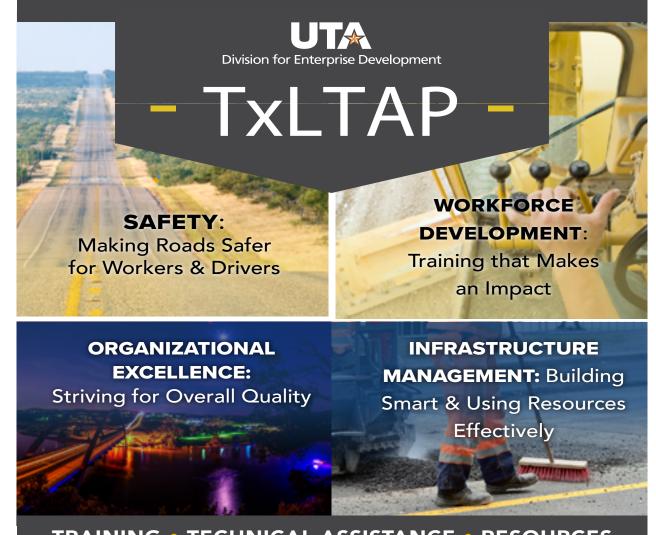
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