

RURAL TRANSPORTATION
SAFETY AND SECURITY
CENTER (RTSSC)

August 2006



Vision



- Establishment of a Center for **Rural Transportation Safety and Security** at North Dakota State University.
 - Collaborative effort.
 - To promote and enhance the region's transportation safety and security through research, education, and outreach, in a partnership with stakeholders.

Mission



- Develop a thorough understanding of the dynamics of transportation safety and security in the region's rural environment.
- Use that information to develop a research, education, and outreach program geared specifically for rural organizations and interests.

Expected Outcome



- A safer, more secure transportation system for the citizens of the state and region.

What's Unique About Rural?



- 21% of population
- 40% vehicle miles of travel
- **60% OF NATION'S FATALITIES**

(cont.)



- More multiple fatalities
 - 11% vs. 7%
- More rollovers
 - 1 in 4 vs. 1 in 10
- More ejections
 - Twice as often

Security



- 300-mile border
 - 18 immigration and custom stations (3-24/7)
 - Numerous local/backwoods roads
- Infrastructure
 - Missouri River and Sakakawea
 - Interstate highways
 - Air landing facilities
 - Railroads
 - Pipelines
 - Power generation and transmission

(cont.)



- Sparse population
- Higher proportion commercial bridge traffic
- Limited staffing and funding (safety/security)
- Volunteers (safety/security)
- **General trusting nature of citizens**

Goals



- Improve communication and coordination within the state and region for addressing rural transportation safety and security concerns.
- Improve information for clients and stakeholders to use.
- Improve tools needed to aid in implementing projects or programs for enhancing rural transportation safety and security.
- Improve rural transportation safety and security environment.

Target Areas



- Initial
 - North Dakota
 - U.S./Canada Border
- Ultimate
 - North Central portion of country
 - Other rural states
 - Provinces

Challenge



- Meet a new contact/partner
- Learn something new
- Share an idea with someone
- Don't be an IWI or a PWI
 - Complacency

Meet the Staff



- Co-Directors
 - Gary L. Berreth
 - Kimberly Vachal
- Jerry Horner
- Tamara VanWechel
- Kathryn Harrington-Hughes
- UGPTI Support Staff
- UGPTI Coordinator
 - Dr. Denver Tolliver

Center Management



- UGPTI and NDDOT Collaborative Effort
- FHWA Guidance
- Center Advisory Board
 - Director of NDDOT, Chairperson
 - Terry Dwelle, M.D., ND Health Department
 - Tom Balzer, NDMCA
 - Gene Griffin, UGPTI
 - Greg Wilz, ND Homeland Security

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- Mark Johnson, NDAC
- Col. Bryan Klipfel, NDHP
- Cheryl Kulas, Indian Affairs Comm.
- Gary Ness, ND Aeronautics Comm.
- Allan Radliff, FHWA ND Div.
- Dan Smith, INFRAGARD
- Connie Sprynczynatyk, NDLC
- Wayne Stenehjem, Attorney General

Contact Information



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