Introducing the System-Wide Perspective to Highway Safety Planning

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What is the “System-Wide” Perspective to Highway Safety Planning?

• A ridiculous and extreme example:
  – To eliminate work-zone crashes eliminate work zones
What is the “System-Wide” Perspective?

Think beyond location to crash type
What is the “System-Wide” Perspective?

• Utopian essence of this perspective
  – Apply countermeasures everywhere a crash type may occur

• Practical application
  – Apply countermeasures everywhere feasible
Possible Practical Utopia?.

• Rumble Stripes (line painted over rumble)
  – National research = centerline w/edgeline rumbles typ. reduce fatal crashes 15-25%
  – Applied to one highway corridor in ND
  – 62.5 miles; total cost = $113,000 or $1800/mi
  – If applied to the entire 2-lane state/federal system in ND cost ~ $13M, excluding inflation
ND Process To Introduce System-Wide

• Team developed proposed Statewide Safety Program policy
• Director signed a foundational SSP policy
  – 7 main elements
ND Process To Introduce System-Wide

- Foundational SSP policy
  - Critical-crash corridor locations
  - Rural & urban high crash locations
  - Animal-crash countermeasures reviewed
  - Public comments
  - System-wide countermeasures
  - Flex spending HSIP $’s to behavior
  - Fatal-crash review team to review each fatal crash in detail
The Key

- Largest results will not come from location
- System-wide perspective will generate largest results
System-Wide Perspective
Is Crash

TYPE

TYPE

TYPE