

# MOUNTAIN-PLAINS CONSORTIUM

RESEARCH BRIEF | MPC 22-450 (project 602) | September 2023

## Local Road Safety Practices and Perceptions in North Dakota



### the **ISSUE**

The local road safety program strategy has been proven effective in reducing crashes on rural roads. In this study, local road managers were surveyed about road safety activities with special emphasis on the western counties in the oil impact region. The survey provides insight for improved local road safety program delivery and monitoring.

### the **RESEARCH**

A mail survey to local road managers was administered to collect information about safety activities, practices, and projects. Responses were collected in collaboration with the NDLTAP, which provided valuable field support in encouraging participation. Survey results and an inventory of FHWA Highway Safety Improvement-funded local road projects were used to summarize the state of practices, investments, and future opportunities.



A University Transportation Center sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation serving the Mountain-Plains Region. Consortium members:

Colorado State University  
North Dakota State University  
South Dakota State University

University of Colorado Denver  
University of Denver  
University of Utah

Utah State University  
University of Wyoming



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### Project Title

Local Road Safety  
Program Evaluation:  
Perceptions, Experiences &  
Implementation

### Sponsors | Partners

NDDOT, in-kind – crash records

NDACE in-kind – collaboration  
on follow-up survey

USDOT, Research and  
Innovative Technology  
Administration

## the FINDINGS

Compared with a previous survey, there was a notable expansion in counties adopting low-cost safety strategies. Benefits of federal and state support in instituting local road safety practices were evident in funding sources and planning activities reported by counties. Several opportunities to carry this forward in proactive safety opportunities for individual counties with specific crash-type prevention strategies and for systemwide site-based safety countermeasures were evident.

## the IMPACT

A major emphasis area for NDDOT is local road crashes. This project will provide valuable information for future policy, program refinement, asset management tools, and outreach aimed at reducing crashes. Several opportunities were identified for implementing proactive safety improvements for individual counties with specific crash-type prevention strategies and for systemwide site-based safety countermeasures.

For more information on this project, download the Main report at <https://www.ugpti.org/resources/reports/details.php?id=1140>

For more information or additional copies, visit the Web site at [www.mountain-plains.org](http://www.mountain-plains.org), call (701) 231-7767 or write to Mountain-Plains Consortium, Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, North Dakota State University, Dept. 2880, PO Box 6050, Fargo, ND 58108-6050.



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