

Engineering Countermeasures

Delaware Highway Safety Summit April 17, 2024



Excellence in Transportation Every Trip.

We strive to make every trip taken in Delaware safe, reliable and convenient for people and commerce.

Every Mode.

We provide safe choices for travelers in Delaware to access roads, rails, buses, airways, waterways, bike trails and walking paths.

Every Dollar.

We seek the best value for every dollar spent for the benefit of all.

Everyone.

We engage our customers and employees with respect and courtesy as we deliver our services.

Presentation Overview

- Statewide traffic fatalities
- Safe System Approach
- Countermeasures
 - Safety Messages
 - Enhanced Signage and Striping
 - Traffic Calming Devices
 - Intersection control
 - Electronic Safety Programs
 - Roadway Departure countermeasures
 - Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Initiatives
 - Wrong Way driving improvements
- Resources





Delaware Traffic Fatalities



2024 Delaware Traffic Fatalities										
as of 4/15/2024										
	2024		<u>2023</u>			<u>2022</u>				
	2024	Year	-to-Date	Totals	Year-	to-Date	Totals			
Fatalities	30	47	➡ -36%	137	42	↓ -29%	164			
Delaware Residents	26	37	-30%	110	32	-19%	122			
		Pe	erson Types							
Vehicle Occupant	20	33	↓ -39%	89	29	↓ -31%	103			
Pedestrian	6	9		28	9		32			
Bicyclist	1	2	➡ -50%	5	1	0%	7			
Motorcyclist	3	3	0%	15	3	0%	22			
		C	rash Types							
Curve Related	3	8	↓ -63%	28	6	↓ -50%	19			
Roadway Departure	11	23		69	14	↓ -21%	55			
Intersection Related	10	14	↓ -29%	37	14	↓ -29%	50			
Median Crossover	0	3	↓ -100%	8	2	↓ -100%	8			
Wrong Way	1	0	↑ N/A	1	2		7			
Work Zone	2	3	↓ -33%	9	0	↑ N/A	4			



(THE SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH

Zero is our goal. A Safe System is how we get there.

AND NOLLAID

Aims to eliminate fatal and serious injuries for all road users by:

Accommodating human mistakes

Keeping impacts on the human body at tolerable levels

Safe System Objectives

- Reduce the severity of conflicts between all road users
- 2) Modify travel speeds to match roadway conditions
- 3) Reduce impact forces so that collisions are never deadly



6 Safe System Principles

- Death/Serious injury is unacceptable
 - Prioritizes the elimination of these types of crashes
- Humans make mistakes
 - Mistakes and decisions that can lead or contribute to crashes is inevitable.
- Humans are vulnerable
 - Physical limits for tolerating crash forces before death or serious injury occurs.
- Responsibility is shared
 - Everyone: all levels of government, industry, advocacies, researches, public, law enforcement, educators, etc.
- Safety is proactive
 - Identify risks and mitigate risks
- Redundancy is crucial
 - If one part fails, the other parts still protect.



5 Safe System Elements

- ARTMENT OF ARE OF ARE OF A REAL OF A
- Safe Road Safe Vehicles Users **Post-Crash** Safe Speeds Care Safe Roads Source: FHWA.

- Safe road users
 - Walking, biking, driving, transit, other
 - Not distracted or impaired, following rules of the road, and acting within the limits of the road design
- Safe vehicles
 - Active safety (proven safety countermeasures)
 - Passive safety (seatbelts, crash-absorption devices, etc.)
 - Technology (connected and automated vehicles)
- Safe speeds
 - higher speeds increase crash severity leading to more fatalities and serious injuries.
- Safe roads
 - Prevent crashes
 - Separating users in space, separating users in time, and increasing attentiveness and awareness
 - Keep impacts on the human body at tolerable levels
 - Managing crash kinetic energy
- Post-crash care
 - 1st responders, medical care, crash investigation, incident management, and justice

Traditional approach vs. Safe System Approach



Safe System approach Traditional approach Prevent death and serious injuries Prevent crashes • Improve human behavior — Design for human mistakes/limitations Control speeding Reduce system kinetic energy Individuals are responsible — Share responsibility React based on crash history ----- Proactively identify and address risks

Source: FHWA.

Create Redundancy





Source: FHWA.

Countermeasures















Safety messages







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Traffic Control Device Reflectivity



County	2021-2022 Signs Inspected	2022-2023 Signs Inspected	2021-2022 Signs Replaced	2022-2023 Signs Replaced
y				
New Castle (above canal)	2250	437	164	320
Kent & New Castle (below				
canal)	1893	728	37	15
Sussex	347	2600	413	168
Total	4490	3765	614	503

- Increasing retroreflectivity of a STOP sign can decrease crashes by 9%
- Increasing retroreflectivity of pavement markings can decrease nighttime crashes in a rural setting by 14-28%

	Latex striping	
Calendar Year	(linear feet)	Cost
2021	19,159,532	\$3,189,259.9
2022	15,783,247	\$2,735,119.9
2023	19,412,908	\$3,672,181.5

Calendar Year	Epoxy striping (linear feet)	Cost
2021	6,385,848	\$2,443,744.3
2022	8,147,545	\$4,256,816.8
2023	6,057,211	\$3,313,891.5





Enhanced Signage and Striping















2000

CHE MAD MADE





November 1979

OG bridge: 11'-1" clearance circa 1883-1886

Casho Mill Road – Bridge 1-628

(78 Total Crashes, +6 in 2022)

BR 1-628 on Casho Mill Road



May 2016





Initial warning devices installed 2003



Casho

UR TRUCK

NO.

More emphatic but... ineffective installed 2017

"All-out design"

installed August 2022









"All-out design" installed

August 2022



Final Cost = \$330,000



Casho Mill Road – Bridge 1-628

(78 Total Crashes, +0 in 2023)





Traffic Calming Devices

- RATMENT OF RANSO
- Our Delaware Traffic Calming Design Manual (TCDM) outlines several traffic calming measures that can be used on Delaware roadways

Horizontal Measures

- Lateral Shift
- Chicane
- Realigned Intersection
- Traffic Circles
- Mini-Roundabouts
- Corner Extension / Bulbout
- Choker
- Median Island
- Partial Closure
- Road Diet
- Diagonal Diverters
- Intersection Barriers
- Forced Turn Islands

Vertical Measures

- Speed Hump
- Speed Cushion
- Speed Table / Raised Crosswalk
- Raised Intersection

Other Measures

- Yard Signs
- Radar Speed Signs
- One-Way Restrictions
- All-Way Stop Control (AWSC)
- Lane Narrowing
- Speed Reduction Markings



Traffic Calming Installations













Realigned Intersection – Independence Blvd, Dover

2018 - Cost was approx. \$55,000







Mini-Roundabout – Independence Blvd, Dover







New Pictorial Radar Speed Signs (pilot)

 Pilot program to determine effectiveness of 11 radar speed signs that display smiling and frowning faces based on speeds

Sito	Location	Average Spee	d Change (mph)
Sile	Location	At sign	Downstream
1	Grubb Road	-3.8	-2.8
2	Marsh Road	-0.6	-2.2
3	Mt. Lebanon Road	-1.9	-1.6
4	Milltown Road	-3.9	-2.8
5	Glasgow Avenue	-5.2	-1.8
6	Kirkwood St. Georges Road	-0.6	+0.9
7	Forrest Avenue	-6.9	-4.6
8	Peachtree Run	-0.6	-0.5
9	Johnson Road	-2.5	-0.9
10	Long Neck Road	-0.5	+0.5
11	Bayard Road	-1.3	+1.1



All-Way Stop Control (AWSC)

- Low-cost/step-wise countermeasure
- Increased usage of this countermeasure in last 5 years
- 2023 National Roadway Safety Award Recipient



Total Annual			Crash Type	Severity				
Crashes from All	Total	Angle	Rear	Single	All	PDO	Iniuna	Fatal
Study Intersections	Total	Angle	End	Vehicle	Others	PDO	injury	гацаі
Before	120.67	67.33	17.00	19.33	17.00	70.33	48.67	1.67
After	52.33	22.67	12.17	11.33	6.17	43.67	8.67	0.00
% Change	-57%	-66%	-28%	-41%	-64%	-38%	-82%	-100%

Table 2. Annual Crashes at 25 Newly Converted AWSC Intersections



Traffic Signal



Injury

1.11

Injury

1.46

31%

Rear End PDO Total Angle Other Before 3.83 1.21 1.73 0.89 2.72Total Rear End Angle Other PDO After 3.05 1.47 5.86 1.34 4.40 % Change 53% 152% -15% 51% 62%

Table 1. Annual Crash Rate Changes at New Signals



- New signals
- Design upgrades
- Left-turn phasing
- Advanced warning
- Yellow times
- Red Protect
- Pedestrian upgrades

Roundabouts

31 existing in Delaware Dozens in various phases of planning/design

	<u>PDO</u>	<u>PI</u>	<u>Fatal</u>	<u>Total</u>
Crash Rate Before	1.74	0.53	0.01	2.24
Crash Rate After	1.33	0.28	0.00	1.62
Crash <u>Reduction</u>	23.4%	46.1%	100.0%	27.7%

DelDOT Roundabouts: https://deldot.gov/Programs/roundabouts/index.shtml

Why a roundabout?

- Intersections is the #1 Primary Emphasis Area in the 2021-2025 Delaware Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)
 - Accounts for 39.4% of the fatal and serious injury crashes
- Success throughout the US (MD, MO, WI, etc.) and Countries (Europe/Australia)
 - Over 7,000 roundabouts in the US (<u>https://roundabouts.kittelson.com/</u>)
- Less delay in many situations
- Traffic calming
- Aesthetics / streetscaping / environmental benefits
- Lifecycle cost benefits
- Easier for novice and senior drivers
- Safety Benefits
 - Drastically reduces crash percentages
 - Proven safety countermeasure by FHWA

82% Reduction in severe crashes

Signalized Intersection to a Roundabout

78% Reduction in severe crashes

Roundabout Safety Benefits

- Reduced speeds (typically <25 mph)</p>
- Elimination of left-turn and right-angle conflicts
- Drastically reduces severe crash injuries
 - 90% reduction in fatal crashes
 - 75% reduction in injury crashes
 - 30-40% reduction in pedestrian crashes
 - 10% reduction in bicycle crashes
- Improves travel times
- Reduce pollution and fuel use

Grade Separated Intersections

- SR 1 Corridor, Dover to Lewes
 - All signals removed except for SR 16
 - ° GSI under construction, completion in 2025
 - 2 GSIs in design
- US 113 Corridor6 GSIs in design
- New Castle County
 - US 40 / SR 896
 - SR 896 / Bethel Church Road
 US 40 / SR 7

Corridor Capacity Preservation Program

Grade Separated Intersections

- SR 1/Thompsonville
 - 14 crashes per year with signal
 - 32% injury crashes
 - 7 crashes per year with GSI
 - 1 injury crash

Electronic Safety Programs

Electronic Red Light Safety Program

- State program started in 2004
- Data-driven selection process
- Currently, 46 signalized intersections; 102 approaches
 - Total crashes increased by 6%
 - Angle crashes reduced by 41%
 - Red Light Running crashes reduced by 25%
 - Rear end crashes increased by 10%
- CY2023: 59,716 violations issued
- Electronic Vehicle Obstruction/"Block the Box" Program
 - Signed October 2022 by Governor
 - Regulation, program business rules, and contract documents under development

Period	Inter Date		Total	Crash Severity ¹ Rates per Year						
	sections	Years	Years	к	A	В	с	ο	U	
Before	16	3.00	48.00	0.04	0.33	2.69	1.08	16.27	1.58	
After	16	6.54-7.10	109.38	0.00	0.09	2.08	1.33	15.08	2.51	
Average Annual Reduction		0.04	0.24	0.61	-0.25	1.19	-0.92			
Percent Reduction		100%	73%	23%	-23%	7%	-58%			

¹Legend: K: Fatal Injury A: Suspected Serious Injury B: Suspected Minor Injury C: Possible Injury O: Property Damage Only U: Unknow n

Electronic Speed Enforcement: I-95 pilot

 Epilogue Language Authorizing Pilot for the I-95 Restore the Corridor Project

- Cameras Installed January 17, 2022
- Warning Period from January 17 April 17
- Violations Started April 17
 - First Violation was a Warning
 - Second Violation was a Citation
- Cameras Removed in November 2022
- 63,714 Warnings Issued
- 8,765 Citations Issued

Daily Average Speeds								
	NB	<u>SB</u>						
Before Cameras	54.3	49.0						
After Cameras	49.0	43.1						
Difference (mph)	-5.4	-5.9						
% Difference	-9.9%	-12.1%						

2021 - Viaduct Under Construction

	2021	2022	Change
Total Crashes	267	141	-47%
Injury Crashes	42	23	-45%

Electronic Speed Enforcement

Electronic Speed Enforcement Devices (House Substitute 1 for House Bill 94) signed June 30, 2023

Horizontal Curve Warning Sign Program

Road departures

- Nationally 51% of fatalities
- Delaware 28% of fatalities and 16% of serious injury crashes

- Program began in 2014 (systemic vs. hot spot)
- Evaluate curves on roadways and ramps for traffic control devices
 - Systemic 3,761 curves statewide
 - 1,938 New Castle County
 - 724 Kent County
 - 1,099 Sussex County
 - Hot Spot 1,990 curves statewide
 - 438 New Castle County
 - 479 Kent County
 - 1,073 Sussex County

Implementation ongoing

Dynamic Curve Warning System (pilot)

- Enhancement to existing curve warning signs and chevrons
- Flashing LED lights mounted to sign face
 - Solar powered
 - Activated based on approach speeds
- Pilot program 2 locations
 - I-95 SB approaching Brandywine River Bridge
 - Ramp from I-95 NB to SR 1 SB

Longitudinal Rumble Strips

- Edge Line and Shoulder Rumble Strips
- Installed on all freeways (SR 1, I-95, I-495, etc.)
- Implementation of sinusoidal rumble strips (aka "Mumble" strips)
 - Minimize noise impacts to residential properties (less than a 2 dBa change from distances 50 feet or greater)

High-Friction Surface Treatment

- Thin epoxy-based pavement overlay
- Aggregate designed to resist polishing
 - Maintains friction longer than traditional aggregates
- 40+ installations statewide
- Curves and stop-controlled approaches
- Before/After crash results
 - 55% reduction in wet weather crashes where HFST is installed
 - 56% reduction in roadway departure crashes where HFST is installed

2017 National Roadway Safety Award Recipient

Median Barrier

- Program began in 2009
- Installed median barrier on majority of freeway system to close unprotected medians
 - Interstate 95
 - Interstate 495
 - SR 1 from C&D Canal to south of Dover Air Force Base
 - 38+ miles of barrier installed
- SR 1 from Barker's Landing to SR 30 (in construction)
- US 301 (in design)

Roadway Reconfiguration/Road Diet

- Involves converting an existing 4-lane undivided roadway to a 3-lane roadway consisting of 2 through lanes and a center two-way left-turn lane (TWLTL).
- Safety Benefits
 - Reduction in total crashes by 19-47%¹
 - Reduces vehicle-to-vehicle conflicts that contribute to rear-end, left-turn, and sideswipe crashes.
 - Reduction in vehicle operating speed which decrease crash severity.
- Operational Improvements
 - Reduce delays at intersections due to separate left-turn lane.
 - Comfortability improved from side-street traffic.
 - Consistent traffic flow vs. "accordion-style"
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Benefits
 - Reallocate space for bike lanes, sidewalks, and median refuges.
 - Reduces pedestrian-to-vehicle conflicts due to fewer travel lanes.
- Quality of Life Benefits

Lea Blvd - Roadway Reconfigurations/Road Diets

- AADT: 6,130 vehicles/day
- Posted speed: 35 mph
- 85th percentile speed: 44.8 mph
- 1/1/05 to 12/31/21:
 - 100 total crashes (approx. 6 crashes/year)
 - Angle and front to front crashes account for 46% of the crashes

- Length: 3,200 feet
- Duration: 2.5 days
- Approx. Cost: \$75,000
- 7/27/23 to 2/29/24:
 - 4 total crashes (2 injury crashes)
 - 0 angle or front to front crashes

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Initiatives

Typical Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Countermeasures:

- Painted crosswalks at signalized intersections
- Pedestrian and bicycle signalization
- Marked crosswalks at appropriate mid-block crossing locations
- Active/enhanced pedestrian crossing systems (i.e., RRFBs)
- Corner sight distance improvements
- Curb bump outs to decrease crossing distances
- Median refuge areas
- Audible pedestrian signals
- Transit improvements
- Sidewalk connectivity improvements
- Traffic calming
- Improved warning signage
- Barriers to prevent undesired mid-block crossings

Pedestrian Safety Audits

Two-stage Bike Boxes

• SR 1, Dewey Beach

Caltrans

- Delaware's first ever application
- FHWA interim approval issued 2017
- Allows cyclists to safely make a left turn from the right shoulder/bike lane without having to merge across through lanes and into a left-turn lane
- Includes specialized in-pavement loop detectors for passive bicycle detection to call the side street phase

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)

- Pedestrian-actuated warning device used at uncontrolled, marked crosswalks
- Intended to improve compliance with motorists yielding to pedestrians in marked crosswalks
- First installation in April 2016
- 25% average improvement in motorist yielding compliance across all sites

High intensity Activated crosswalk (HAWK) Signals

- 5 locations statewide
 - SR 72 at Farm Ln, 2 along SR 1 in Rehoboth, and SR 8 at Heatherfield Way
- Compliance Study completed in May 2020
 - Motorist compliance down 25%-29% from 2016 to 2019
 - Total crashes increased at both SR 1 locations in Rehoboth
 - 27% increase at Rehoboth Ave and 114% increase at Holland Glade Rd
 - Frequent driver and pedestrian/bicyclist confusion and non-compliance observed
- Study Recommendations:
 - HAWKs should be considered at mid-block locations only and should no longer be installed at intersections.
 - HAWKs should only be considered when a single-stage pedestrian crossing can be accommodated.

Roadway Lighting

- Driver Safety and Comfort
- Increased visibility
- Increased driver comfortability
- Can see oncoming traffic at intersections
- Vehicular safety
 - Can reduce fatal nighttime crash rates by 65% ¹
 - Nighttime fatalities are 3x that of daytime
 - Can reduce nighttime injury crashes on rural and urban highways by 28%²
 - Can reduce nighttime crashes at rural and urban intersections by 33 – 38%²
- Pedestrians and Bicyclists safety
 - Can reduce nighttime injury pedestrian crashes by 42% at intersections²

¹Federal Highway Lighting Handbook ²Handbook of Road Safety Measures, Elvik, R. and Vaa, T.

Would you be able to see someone on a bike? What about a pedestrian? What if you were walking along one of these roads? Where would you feel safer?

Pedestrian Median Barrier

SR 1, Dewey – Delaware's First-Ever!

Pedestrian Median Barrier

AND NOLTAD

"Pilot" Median Barrier Project Limits – Saulsbury Street to Read Avenue

- Cost: \$470,000
 - Funded by DelDOT Traffic with Town and local legislator contributions
- Limits based on historical pedestrian / bicycle crash clusters and adjacent land use
- ~1,500 linear feet

SR 1, Dewey - Pedestrian Median Barrier

Median Pedestrian Barrier Constructed over 2021-2022 "Off-Season"

- Intended to "funnel" pedestrians to crosswalks and deter mid-block crossings
- Nautical post-and-rope theme
- Removal of 8,500 SF of existing concrete and replacement with 1,000+ low-level native plantings and mulch
- Extension of the town's lighting system from Houston Street to Bayard Ave
- Town Agreement → Town to own and maintain barrier system, landscaping, and additional lighting

Inspiration Photos

SR 1, Dewey - Pedestrian Median Barrier

- <u>1</u> reported pedestrian crashes along SR 1 from time of installation (April 2022) through February 2024!
- Phase 2:
 - Collins Avenue to Read Avenue and Saulsbury Street to Clayton Street
 - Anticipated construction: end of 2024/early 2025
- Community feedback has been overwhelmingly positive

Do Not Enter/Wrong Way Signage and Striping

- March 2019 Initiated Do Not Enter/Wrong Way Safety Project (ongoing)
 - Every Interchange ramp that terminates at an intersection
 - 143 locations statewide
 - 117 ramp locations
 - 26 emergency median crossovers

Wrong Way Prevention System (pilot)

- Implemented at Bay Road and SR 10/SR 1 northbound Off-Ramp/Dover Air Force Base North Gate
- Selected based on risk severity (i.e., prevent crashes)
- Operation upon detection:
 - LEDs flash on the Do Not Enter and Wrong Way signs facing the wrong way driver.
 - System provides alerts to DelDOT's Transportation Management Center (TMC).

Resources

C M F CRASH MODIFICATION FACTORS CLEARINGHOUSE

ABOUT THE CLEARINGHOUSE USING CMFs DEVELOPING CMFs ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The **Crash Modification Factors Clearinghouse** provides a searchable database of CMFs along with guidance and resources on using CMFs in road safety practice.

ENTER SEARCH TERIAS			Co	ountermeasi	ur e Nam e	~	SEARCH			
	FREQUENT SEARCHES:	ROUNDABOUT	SIGNAL	PEDESTRIAN	COMPLETE STREETS	; <u> </u>	TSMO	BROWSE ALL		

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Proven Safety Countermeasures

FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures initiative (PSCi) is a collection of 28 countermeasures and strategies effective in reducing roadway fatalities and serious injuries on our Nation's highways. Transportation agencies are strongly encouraged to consider widespread implementation of PSCs to accelerate the achievement of local, State, and National safety goals. These strategies are designed for all road users and all kinds of roads—from rural to urban, from high-volume freeways to less traveled two-lane State and county roads, from signalized crossings to horizontal curves, and everything in between. Each countermeasure addresses at least one safety focus area – speed management, intersections, roadway departures, or pedestrians/bicyclists – while others are crosscutting strategies that address multiple safety focus areas. <u>Search Proven Safety Countermeasures</u>.

DELAWARE 2021-2025 Strategic Highway Safety Plan: Toward Zero Deaths

Thank you for your time and interest in safety on Delaware's roadways.

Peter Haag, P.E., PTOE Chief of Traffic Engineering Peter.Haag@delaware.gov

To Report a Road Condition: https://deldot.gov/Traffic/ReportRoadCondition/index.shtml