




Florida Department of
TRANSPORTATION

Florida Lane Departure and Intersection Safety Coalition Overview

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FDOT Situation

- Florida is an FHWA focus state for Lane Departure and Intersection Safety. (ref http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/fas/docs/signed_memo2015.pdf)
- Between 2011 and 2014 In Florida Lane Departure and Intersection fatal and serious injury crashes combined accounted for 75% of fatal and serious injury crashes (38% Lane Departure and 37% Intersection)

 U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION:** Focused Approach to Safety-2015 changes to selection criteria and Focus State/Focus City selections for 2015

Date: JUL 29 2015

From: Tony Furst
Associate Administrator for Safety

To: Division Administrators
Safety Field

In Reply Refer To: HSST

Since 2004, the Focused Approach to Safety (FAS) has allowed FHWA to identify areas of opportunity and to focus its resources to drive down fatalities and serious injuries on the Nation's highways. We have periodically adjusted the FAS based on current data and feedback on its implementation. We last made changes to the FAS in 2011; this memo outlines changes we made in 2015 and lists the Focus States and Focus Cities.

In this adjustment, we used the most recent three years of available fatality data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), 2011-2013; applied the 2014 definitions¹ for the FHWA focus areas, which includes adding bicyclists to the Pedestrian focus area; and changed the selection criteria as described below.

New Selection Process

Intersection and Roadway Departures Focus States

In the previous iteration of the FAS, the Intersection and Roadway Departure focus areas included in their selection criteria the comparison of the fatality data in a State to the national average fatality number. This resulted in a bias toward larger States, so we removed the comparison of a State's data to the national average to remove this bias. The new process calculates the expected fatalities in a State for three measures of exposure - vehicle miles of travel (VMT), population, and center line miles of roadway - by comparing the State's urban and rural data to the national data. We then compare those expected values with that State's actual fatalities. Those States with a ratio (actual/expected) greater than 1.0 for all three measures of exposure (VMT, population, and

¹ The recent update to the FHWA focus area definitions are documented in a July 29, 2014 memorandum available at the Internet Web Site: www.safety.fhwa.dot.gov/fas/docs/focus_area_data_memo.pdf

- FHWA delivered a Florida Roadway Departure Implementation Plan Workshop on December 2 – 3 in Tallahassee.
 - The plan provides a framework for implementation of specific countermeasures.
- FHWA assisted with developing an Intersection Implementation Plan in 2008 of which will need to be updated to implement specific countermeasures including the advancement of innovative intersections.

- Multi agency coalition met 4 times in 2015 (July thru November)
 - FHWA
 - CO staff from Safety
 - Traffic Operations
 - Roadway Design
 - Planning
 - PD&E
 - Maintenance
 - Construction
- Discuss
 - Team roles
 - Objectives
 - Resources
 - Training
- Establishing a Florida Lane Departure and Intersection Safety Coalition.

- Tom Byron, Chief Engineer, will be the coalition champion.
- Office leads for the coalition will be shared between:
 - Traffic Operations (Alan El-Urfali) for Intersection and
 - Roadway Design (Michael Shepard) for Lane Departure.

- Objective of the coalition is as follows:
 - To develop and implement strategies to reduce statewide fatal and serious injury crashes on all public roadways in support of the Florida Strategic Highway Safety Plan, with a focus on lane departures and intersections.

- The team first started meeting in July 2015 and received approval to move forward with a coalition in November 2015.

- Resources
 - Explore Chief Engineer’s contract for quick support to hand-hold the Coalition, similar to other coalitions.
 - Explore Research opportunity with Universities. Explore University Master Agreement. Coordinate with FHWA.
- Team Roles
 - Seek district commitment along with local agency representation.
 - Establish timelines for setting up Working Groups.
- Implementation Plan
 - Update Intersection Implementation Plan

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