

# WHOLE SYSTEM. WHOLE SAFETY.

Behavior • Organizational • Built

## Fact Sheet | 2019–2020

CDOT doubles down on safety by introducing a new strategy to improve safety on our roads. **Whole System. Whole Safety. *Bringing everyone home safely.*** This strategy capitalizes on current and planned safety efforts to help reduce traffic injuries and deaths.

**PROBLEM:** Despite a three percent reduction in 2018, traffic fatalities are up 40 percent since 2010 (from 450 in 2010 to 628 in 2018).

**GOAL:** Improve the safety of Colorado's transportation network by reducing the rate and severity of crashes and improving safety conditions for those traveling via all transportation modes.

**VISION: Zero Deaths.** The *Toward Zero Deaths* initiative was launched in 2015 when the *Strategic Highway Safety Plan* was released.

**METRICS:** Reduce fatalities and injuries by at least two percent per year – meaning fewer people get hurt and more people live. Those people could include you or someone you know.

**PROGRAM:** Continue the newly developed systematic statewide safety program that combines the benefits of CDOT programs. This approach addresses human factors, physical assets and organizational culture to fully integrate safety in everything that CDOT does and supports real time operations.

## EXAMPLES OF ONGOING SUCCESS:

- Seat belts saved 229 lives in Colorado in 2017.
- Record seat belt use achieved in 2018 (86 percent).
- Highest ownership of personal breathalyzers in the country.
- Cable rail on I-25 and wildlife barriers save lives and prevent crashes.
- For every \$2 million spent on safety programs, a life is saved and 60 fewer persons are injured (proven by before/after analysis).

**SPECIFIC PROGRAMS:**

**Multimodal Options.** Increase choices across the state to provide a more sustainable, efficient and equitable transportation network – reducing per capita Vehicle Miles Traveled by one percent annually. Fewer vehicles on roadways increase safety. Examples include:

- Programming \$50 million in 2019 to advance multimodal hubs.
- Increasing CDOT funding of ride-sharing programs.
- Expanding *Bustang* and *Bustang Outrider* service.

**Physical Assets.** Safety depends on keeping infrastructure in good repair, better managing congestion and accommodating population growth. Integrating new technology will provide a system with improved efficiency and safety. Goals include:

- Delivering 100 projects each year worth over \$100 million to specifically fix safety issues.
- For every \$2 million spent, a life will be saved and 60 fewer persons will be injured. Because of this dedicated funding, 50 fewer people will die each year and 3000 fewer people will be injured.

**Safety Activities.** Continue and originate projects delivering low cost and high impacts.

- Six-inch striping
- Roundabout
- Cable rail
- Smart work zone technology
- Crash attenuators
- Rumble strips
- Wildlife barriers
- Variable speed limits

**Human Factors.** Focus on influencing human behavior to improve safety. Examples include:

- Deploying best-in-class safety awareness campaigns on DUI, seat belt use, distracted driving, and others topics.
- Supporting local traffic safety grantees.
- Collaborating with DMV to help drivers adapt to changes in technology, driving conditions and rules of the road.
- Supporting law enforcement in high-visibility enforcement campaigns.

**Organizational Changes.** Realign CDOT's structure to improve safety. Examples include:

- Integrating maintenance and operations to streamline incident command and response.
- Rapidly deploying CDOT resources to quickly clear to reduce secondary crashes.
- Maximizing available technology and existing resources for accident and incident detection along congested corridors.
- Using photo, video and data for early detection of crashes and incidents to communicate quickly with maintenance staff to deploy resources to mitigate hazards to the public.
- Developing a comprehensive weather forecasting network and response planning that includes state and local resources.
- Increasing staffing of snowplow operators to maximize CDOT equipment resources during weather incident response statewide.
- Creating new standards for using temporary rumble strips leading into work zones.

*Bringing Everyone Home Safely*