



The Local Link

A newsletter for Missouri's local agencies

Saving Lives, Connecting Communities and Enhancing Resources

July 2021



A Message from the Administrator

Every year, nearly 12,000 people die in the US from crashes when their vehicle leaves its travel lane on a rural road. That is equivalent to 30 people today, and every day. In Missouri, over 6,650 crashes and 71 deaths occurred on local, rural roads in 2019; 58% of those were run off the road crashes resulting in 59% of the fatalities and 14% were crashes involving trees resulting in 27% of the fatalities. This week is national Rural Road Safety Awareness Week, as designated by the Rural Safety Center, whose purpose is to promote rural road safety to the public, community leaders and potential partners by telling the rural story. The week is dedicated to highlighting actions to make a difference on the Rural Road to Zero fatalities and serious injuries. Each day the center will focus on a different rural story told through the theme of “Live, Work and Explore along the Rural Road to Zero”. Be sure to check out their social media pages for the daily focus story, visit their [website](#) and help get the word out.



Focus on Reducing Rural Roadway Departures (FoRRwD)

If you knew of a way to save those 30 people who die everyday, would you do it? [FoRRRwD](#), an FHWA Every Day Counts initiative, is aimed to assist local agencies by providing a list of proven, low-cost safety countermeasures that reduce rural roadway departures. These countermeasures fall into three categories; helping drivers stay in their lane, reduce the potential for crashes and minimize the severity of the crash, if it happens. Watch this [video](#) to learn more. If interested in learning more about these countermeasures, contact Missouri's [Safety Circuit Rider](#) at 573.246.0720.



Updates to the Request for Environmental Review (RER)

Additional information about traffic impacts has been added to the RER; specifically asking if the project will be closing a road or bridge and if so, for how long. This information is needed in order to determine a “major traffic disruption” as defined in [EPG 127.14.5](#). If the detour will be greater than 25 miles in rural areas or 5 miles in urban areas, a CE2 is required for the project. See [EPG 136.6.3](#) for more information regarding CE2s.

Traffic Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP) Funding Now Available

Don't miss out on a chance to receive \$12,000! TEAP allows local agencies to receive engineering assistance to perform a variety of traffic studies such as corridor safety and/or operational analysis, intersection(s) safety and/or operational analysis, speed limit review, sign inventory, pedestrian/bike route analysis, parking issues, and other traffic studies, etc. ADA Transition Plans are also eligible for TEAP funding. This program call will award \$135,000 in TEAP funds to local public agencies. Awarded projects must be completed by spring of 2022. Applications must be submitted by August 21, 2021. See [MoDOT website](#) for more information.

