

**SOUTH DAKOTA  
ROAD SAFETY AUDITS/REVIEWS**

**CLIFF REUER**

**TRAFFIC & SAFETY ENGINEER**

**SDDOT**

**OFFICE OF PROJECT  
DEVELOPMENT**

**605-773-5361**

# SD Road Safety Audits/Reviews

- LTAP TRAINING - July 2001
  - ◆ Dr. Eugene M. Wilson – University of Wyoming
  - ◆ Dr. Martin E. Lipinski – University of Memphis
  - ◆ Returned from Scanning Tour

# SD Road Safety Audits/Reviews

## ■ TRAINING RECEIVED BY:

- ◆ Local Transportation Assistance Program (LTAP) Field Reps
- ◆ 4 - DOT Region Traffic Engineers
- ◆ DOT Traffic Operations Engineer
- ◆ DOT Traffic & Safety Engineer
- ◆ FHWA

# SD Road Safety Audit Review

- First Road Safety Audit Reviews Conducted in August 2001
- Conducted 12 RSARs on the County, Tribal & State Systems
- Conducted 3 RSAs on the Interstate and State Highway System

# SD Road Safety Audit Review

- RSAR Findings Divided Into 4 Categories:

1. Immediate safety improvements that should be made.

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2. Low cost improvements that could have a positive impact on safety and should be considered in a reasonable period of time.

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3. High cost improvements that should be considered when funds are available for a major rehabilitation or reconstruction.
4. Recommendations for design – mostly State System

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- FINDINGS: (Examples)

- Immediate Needs

- ◆ Vegetation along the roadway has grown to the point where mowing is needed to prevent animal vehicle conflicts.

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## ■ Low Cost Improvements

- ◆ Stop sign should be upgraded to a 30" sign face and mounted at least 5' above the roadway.
- ◆ Restricted sight distance. The trees should be trimmed.
- ◆ Mailbox supports

# SD Road Safety Audit Review

## ■ Low Cost - Continued

- ◆ At the intersection with Lake Road, the 4-way stop should have supplemental “ALL WAY” plaques installed.
- ◆ Curve at this location should have 4” silver delineation installed at 100’ spacing.

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## ■ High Cost Improvements

- ◆ The Y intersection should be reconstructed to a single point intersection.
- ◆ The Culvert at MP 4.99 should be extended to the clear zone and/or have guardrail installed.

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- High Cost Improvements
  - ◆ The vertical curves at MP 1.1 and 1.25 should be re-graded to improve sight distance.

# SD Road Safety Audit

- Conducted on Urban Projects
  - ◆ I-29 & SD 42 – Sioux Falls
  - ◆ SD 42 – Gordon to Willow Run
  - ◆ US 81 - Yankton

# SD Road Safety Audits

- Recommendations for Design
  - ◆ Add turn lanes & auxiliary lanes
  - ◆ Remove parking
  - ◆ Access management
  - ◆ Back access
  - ◆ Address pedestrian issues
  - ◆ Add center median

# SD Road Safety Audits/Reviews

## ■ Planning Tool

- ◆ Budgeting
- ◆ Prioritizing work

## ■ Funding

- ◆ STIP
- ◆ Locations identified in RSAR.

# SD Road Safety Audits/Reviews

## ■ Concerns

- ◆ Can we be sued?
- ◆ Protected 23 USC Section 409
- ◆ Creates list of needs.
- ◆ Better not to ignore safety related items.
- ◆ Defense - Creates a plan to be completed as funds become available.

# SD Road Safety Audits/Reviews

## ■ Benefits

- ◆ Better not to ignore safety related items.
- ◆ Creates list of needs
- ◆ Defense - Creates a plan to be completed as funds become available.

# SD Road Safety Audits/Reviews

QUESTIONS?