Stay up to Date with Road to Zero

We’d like to once again congratulate our 2019 grant winners, to whom we awarded at least 1 million dollars for the third consecutive year. Each of these winners has a unique plan to save lives on our roads and we look forward to seeing their results. You can learn more about each grant winner and their planned initiatives here.

We’d also like to welcome our newest members to the Coalition:

- Amazon
- American Red Cross
- Connected Vehicle Optimization
- CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute
- D.E. Gemmill, Inc.
- Draper
- International Trauma Life Support
- Massachusetts Office of EMS
- Metro (Oregon)
- Numetric
- Oro Valley Police Department
- Pansoninc USA
- PortNexus
- Salt Lake City Corp.
- Share Now
- TXDOT/FEC/Construction Communication Assist Team
- University of South Florida - Center for Urban Transportation Research
- University of Tennessee - Center for Transportation Research

We’re excited to have you join us and encourage all new members to promote their membership with the Road to Zero communications toolkit.

New NHTSA Reports

NHTSA recently updated three reports on a variety of topics, from judicial outreach to teen driver programs. Look over the reports and use them to bolster your local efforts to help keep road users safe.

- **Peer-to-Peer Teen Traffic Safety Guide**, which identifies the essential elements of a peer-to-peer program as determined through research and discussion with an expert panel and others working with teens, and outlines why each is important.
- **Law Enforcement Phlebotomy Toolkit**, a guide to assist law enforcement agencies with planning and implementing a phlebotomy program, a proven strategy to mitigate the time and cost issues associated with drawing blood from drivers suspected of driving while impaired.
- **Judicial Outreach Liaison Best Practice Report**, which provides an overview of best practices for a state judicial outreach liaison program.
Mr. Smith Goes to Washington

On April 9, 2019, Nick Smith, Chief Operating Officer and Interim CEO at NSC, testified in front of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure’s Subcommittee on Highways and Transit. The hearing, titled “Every Life Counts: Improving the Safety of Our Nation’s Roadways,” focused on a number of issues including impaired driving, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and the status of our country’s roadways.

Mr. Smith used this opportunity to inform members of congress of the Road to Zero Coalition’s ongoing efforts and the group’s commitment to eliminating roadway fatalities by 2050. Mr. Smith continued his testimony by stressing the importance of reauthorizing the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, “The United States has consistently avoided the hard choices needed to save lives on the roadways. The reauthorization of the FAST Act is an opportunity for us to start making the right choices, and I appreciate the invitation to talk with you today about how to do more to save lives, because we know that all of these deaths are preventable.”

Also testifying alongside Mr. Smith were Jennifer Homendy, Member, National Transportation Safety Board; Fred Jones, Vice Mayor of Neptune Beach; Michael Brown, Chief of Police, City of Alexandria; Jay Bruemmer, VP of K&G Striping; and Mike Sewell, Active Transportation Service Line Leader for Gresham Smith.

You can read the full testimony here and look over a letter the Coalition submitted to elected officials about the Road to Zero report. This letter highlights the commitment to safety of the Road to Zero coalition.

Higher Speed Limits Kill

A new study from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety finds that higher speed limits have cost nearly 37,000 lives over the past 25 years. With speed limits rising across the country, this research is particularly chilling and sheds light on this often-forgotten risk on our roads. Since speed limits are set at the state level, local action is needed to address this problem.

Read more about the research and how slight increases in speed limits can have deadly consequences.

In the Know

May 6-12 is UN Global Road Safety Week and this year’s theme is #SpeakUp, bolstering road safety leadership. You can visit the website to learn more and get ready to participate – we need strong American representation!

Join or host a Bike to School Day event on May 8. If you live on Capitol Hill, you can take part in an event with National Center for Safe Routes to School in Lincoln Park. Please email @Natalie Draisin for more details.
On May 13, ASIRT is hosting a Safe Travel and Tourism Summit on Capitol Hill, which will include a photo with schoolkids and representatives on the steps behind the Capitol at 3:15 pm. Get registered here and email Natalie Draisin for an invitation you can share with your Rep.

Be among the first to achieve the Level 1 Road Safety Professional certification! For individuals, this certification provides recognition of career accomplishment and a competitive advantage in career advancement. Exams are administered by Castle Worldwide, a recognized certification and licensure testing company, and managed by the Transportation Professional Certification Board (TPCB) with support from the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). Those achieving Level 1 certification will have demonstrated proficiency in the foundations of road safety principles. RSP Level 1 exams take place during February, June, and October each year. More information about this certification, preparatory materials, and an application can be found at www.tpcb.org/rsp. The deadline for applying for the next test in October is August 6.

May is Global Youth Traffic Safety Month, when we shine a spotlight on efforts to keep children safe on and around our roads. Take some time this month to think through the safety of any young road users in your life and make changes to help keep them safe.

National Safety Month is coming up in June and you can sign up now for free materials and resources to help keep your friends, coworkers and loved ones safe. Resources include weekly tip sheets, social media graphics, articles and special offers. Sign up at nsc.org/nsm.

We can feature your news as well. To submit news, announcements or updates for inclusion in the Road to Zero newsletter, email your message to roadtozero@nsc.org. Include all relevant details, links, names, etc. and any special notes regarding the announcement.

Disrupting Distraction

The Road to Zero Coalition has partnered with the Travelers Institute and other organizations to present a program on how we can disrupt distracted driving. The event takes place May 30th in Boston and will explore the latest data and research around distracted driving, why we do it, and the most promising approaches to help tackle this important public health problem. Space is limited so reserve your spot today. Get registered and learn more here.