Rural Road Safety Program

Presented by: Secretary Hall
“The goal of the department is to provide adequate, safe, and efficient transportation services for the movement of people and goods.”
Our Roads are the Deadliest in the Nation.
Deadly Roads

SC’s fatality rate is the highest in the Nation.

Georgia and NC are closer to the national average, but SC is 53% above the national average.
Deadly Roads

58% of SC’s traffic fatalities occur on our rural roads.

Rural roads are not just the secondaries. It includes our Interstates and Primaries.
Deadly Roads

Over the past 5 years on our Rural Roads there have been:

6,812

crashes that resulted in either a fatality or serious injury.
Understanding the Issue on our Rural Roads

2011-2015 Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes on this network involve:
- 47% departing from the roadway,
- 34% striking a fixed object on the roadside,
- 46% happening at night.

Driver behavior is also a factor:
- 33% were unrestrained,
- 31% were speed related,
- 20% involved impaired drivers.
Targeting the Issue on our Rural Roads

Engineering Solutions that can be tailored to the individual corridor:

- Rumble Strips
- Raised Pavement Markers
- High Reflective Signs
- Wider Pavement Markers
- Guardrail
- Specialized Pavement Treatments

Keep the vehicles on the road

- Wider Shoulders
- Paved Shoulders
- Wider Clear Zone
- Relocate the Ditch

Give an opportunity to get back on the road
Most of our Rural Fatalities and Serious Injury Crashes are occurring on Our Rural Major Routes

563 miles Interstate
2145 miles US Routes
2442 miles SC Routes
72 miles Secondaries

5,222 miles total
5,222 miles total of Rural Major Routes

Where to begin on a problem this large?
Rural Road Safety Program: Where to begin?

Nearly 30% of the Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes are happening on just over 5% of the Rural Roads.

Rural Crashes involving Fatalities or Serious Injuries

- Major Routes: 17%
- Minor Connecting Routes: 39%
- Local Streets: 43%

Rural Mileage

- Major Routes
- Minor Connecting Routes: 39%
- Local Streets: 43%
Begin by targeting this 1,957 miles of Rural Roads with solutions tailored for each corridor.

Nearly 30% of our Rural Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes are happening on just over 5% of our Rural Roads.
I-95 Safety Project

Evaluate adding safety features to currently planned projects on these corridors.

Dedicate any new funding to this highest of all priorities.

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