# DRIVING IMPAIRED IS DECEPTIVELY DANGEROUS.

# NEBRASKA IMPAIRED DRIVING STRATEGIC PLAN

Presented by the Nebraska Impaired Driving Task Force



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# **Executive Summary**

Under the direction and contribution of the statewide Impaired Driving Task Force (IDTF), the purpose of the Impaired Driving Strategic Plan (IDSP) is to provide a comprehensive strategy for preventing and reducing impaired driving. The Plan provides data on the impaired driving problem in Nebraska, documents ongoing initiatives to address various aspects of the problem and discusses potential new strategies. This Plan is provided to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in response to the grant requirements of Title 23, Section 405(d).

# **About the Impaired Driving Task Force**

The Nebraska Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office (NDOT-HSO) under the authority of the designated Governor's Highway Safety Representative, established the Impaired Driving Task Force (IDTF). The Charter for the IDTF, which outlines the membership, duties, administration, and duration, is included in the Appendix.

The NDOT-HSO will manage the IDTF as a priority program. The strategies and targets developed by the IDTF will be tracked for progress along with all impaired driving projects by the NDOT-HSO.

The IDTF was initially convened in April 2017 to discuss the impaired driving issues in the State, the challenges that need to be addressed, ongoing and planned initiatives, and potential new strategies for further consideration. The Task Force represents many agencies across all geographic areas of the State including law enforcement, driver licensing, treatment, highway safety, research, advocacy and non-profit groups whose missions include addressing impaired driving. The membership and their affiliations are also included in the Appendix.

#### Mission

The mission of the Impaired Driving Strategic Plan is to reduce and prevent impaired driving fatalities and serious injury crashes.

# **Impaired Driving Strategic Plan Priorities**

- Identify ways to improve programs aimed at education of population about dangers of impaired driving and aimed at prevention of impaired driving.
- Allocate resources (funding and staffing) in support of impaired driving programs.
- Promote effective policies and best practices.
- Review current laws, regulations, and enforcement (and driver licensing control).
- Review adjudication processes and make suggestions.
- Review current treatment/rehabilitation strategies and make suggestions.
- Regain and maintain over the long-term a low-range alcohol-impaired classification by continuing to reduce impaired driving fatalities.

## **Targets**

- Reduce alcohol-impaired fatal, A and B crashes by 11.4 percent from 520 (2016-2020 rolling average) to 461, by December 31, 2024, and by 17.4 percent to 430 by December 31, 2026.
- To decrease the increasing trend for alcohol-impaired driving fatalities by maintaining a constant trend of 65 (5 year rolling average in 2016-2020) through December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2026.

#### **Long Range Target**

• Reduce alcohol-impaired driving fatality rate per 100 million VMT by 2 points from .31 (2016 - 2020 five year rolling average) to .29 by December 31, 2026.

## **Meeting Schedule**

The proposed meeting schedule of the Task Force during 2023/2024 will be as follows:

#### FY2023:

- November 15, 2022
- January 17, 2023
- May 23, 2023
- August 29, 2023

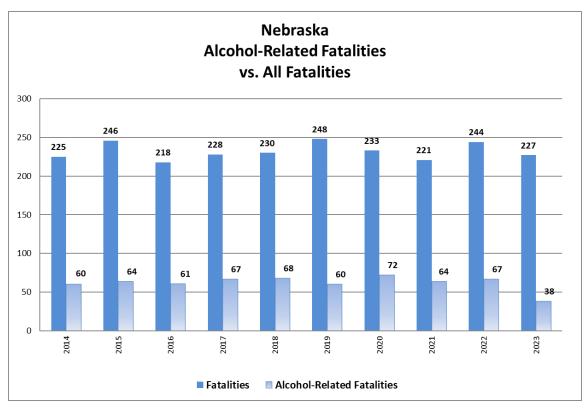
#### FY2024

- November 21, 2023
- February 13, 2024
- May 21, 2024
- August 20, 2024

# **Program Data**

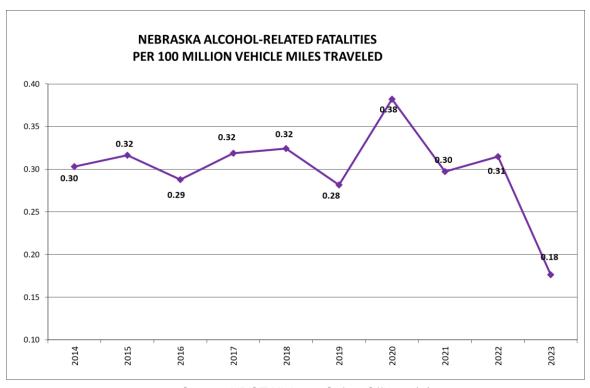
Nebraska has made some progress during the last decade in reducing alcohol-impaired driving fatalities. During 2023, 38 persons were killed in crashes in Nebraska involving a driver with a BAC of .08 or above. Alcohol-impaired fatalities have decreased over that last decade, reaching a high of 72 in 2020 and a low of 38 in 2023. Each year approximately 26% of all traffic fatalities in Nebraska involve an alcohol-impaired driver.

<sup>\*</sup>Targets are based on a 5-year average linear trend line.



Source: FARS and NDOT

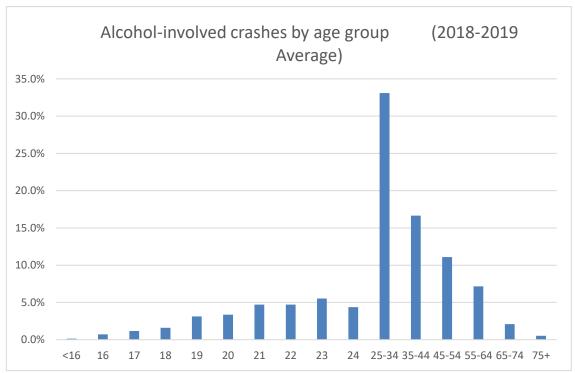
Even though the number of alcohol-impaired driving fatalities has remained steady in the past decade, there has been a decrease in fatalities per vehicle mile traveled (VMT) in 2023. In 2023, there were .18 alcohol-impaired driving fatalities per 100 million VMT, a decrease of 53% since 2020.



Source: NDOT Highway Safety Office, 7/1/2024

Alcohol is more often involved in fatal crashes, 58 out of 248 in 2019 (23.4%), than in all injury crashes at 657 out of 17,198 in 2019 (4%). Among drivers in all injury crashes in Nebraska during 2019, 637 of 21,862 had been drinking (3%).

Alcohol involvement in crashes varies substantially by the age of the driver. As shown below, alcohol involvement is highest in crashes among drivers between 24 – 34 years of age.



Source: NDOT - Standard Alcohol Crash Data 2019

The following table shows the 25 counties in Nebraska with the highest number of alcohol-impaired fatalities, A and B injuries in 2023. These numbers coincide with the above information that the majority of the alcohol-impaired fatalities are in the urban areas. The IDTF will focus on these most at-risk counties for impaired driving fatalities and serious injuries.

NEBRASKA PRIORITY COUNTIES FOR FY2025									
COUNTY CRASH RATE compared to STATE CRASH RATE									
PER 100 MILLION MILES									
	2023 * Low								
	Congressional	FAB	* FAB	* Alcohol	* Speed	* Youth	* All Other	Occ/Prot	** 2023
County	District	Crashes	Crash Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Factors Rate	Percentage	Population
ADAMS	Three	98	41.13%	0.00%	3.78%	9.23%		61.02%	30899
BUFFALO	Three	204	28.88%	13.95%	0.57%	7.79%		69.08%	50697
CASS	One	73	14.98%	181.50%	2.05%	3.90%		58.42%	27446
CEDAR	Three	35	24.75%	0.20%	35.36%	6.36%		51.35%	8262
COLFAX	One	40	31.23%	0.00%	24.21%	7.81%		57.41%	10566
DAKOTA	Three	61	30.24%	1.41%	5.45%	6.45%		65.28%	21268
DAWSON	Three	78	15.43%	0.26%	3.16%	3.36%	13.65%	60.75%	24085
DODGE	One	139	35.96%	0.00%	2.07%	7.76%	32.08%	72.57%	37187
DOUGLAS	Two	1898	39.91%	36.10%	0.02%	8.31%	36.06%	66.67%	589540
GAGE	Three	46	19.55%	3.02%	14.03%	4.25%	17.85%	61.82%	21634
HALL	Three	204	28.51%	0.00%	0.84%	8.52%	25.85%	62.79%	62197
HAMILTON	Three	37	11.04%	1.41%	11.64%	2.98%	9.85%	76.00%	9537
LANCASTER	One	1250	46.69%	7.97%	0.07%	12.51%	43.11%	79.61%	326716
LINCOLN	Three	138	21.03%	30.96%	0.76%	6.40%	16.46%	56.65%	33365
MADISON	One	100	32.09%	2.75%	4.17%	9.30%	28.88%	63.93%	383
ОТОЕ	One	49	18.88%	20.62%	8.09%	4.24%	15.03%	44.93%	16335
PHELPS	Three	33	29.53%	7.38%	76.07%	8.05%	28.64%	44.19%	9057
PLATTE	One	128	38.73%	0.00%	3.63%	12.40%	35.70%	70.73%	34609
SALINE	Three	41	33.80%	0.14%	11.54%	12.36%	25.55%	57.41%	14555
SARPY	One/Two	382	24.38%	0.30%	0.19%	5.42%	22.02%	75.99%	199886
SAUNDERS	One	45	16.82%	47.75%	6.35%	2.24%	11.21%	68.12%	23463
SCOTTS BLUFF	Three	138	46.53%	9.75%	2.36%	10.79%	39.79%	69.41%	35699
SEWARD	One	83	19.43%	1.67%	3.51%	3.75%	17.09%	86.61%	17671
WASHINGTON	One	57	28.35%	0.63%	11.44%	4.97%	25.37%	59.42%	21152
YORK	Three	63	16.26%	7.15%	4.65%	2.84%	14.45%	65.96%	14356
25 County Population									1640565
Statewide Totals		6128	28.45%	7.15%	2.41%	5.56%	25.08%	67.49%	1978379
Blue indicates High Crash Rates for Alcohol, Speed and Youth and Red indicates Low Occupant Protection Usage									
Data taken from 2023 Preliminary State Crash Data, Fatal, A & B (FAB) Injuries, Statewide and County								83%	
* Rates for county alcohol, speed, youth, and other factors are based on county crash reports for Fatal, A and B type injury crashes per 100 million miles per county using 2023 Annual Vehicles Miles - NDOT. *Occ/Prot Percentage are taken from the 2023 Preliminary State Crash Data, Fatal, A and B Injuries Crashes.								of Population	

#### **Program Evaluation**

As noted in NHTSA's *Countermeasures that Work*, one of the most important actions a state can take to reduce alcohol-impaired driving is conduct a thorough review of its DWI system. Alcohol-impaired driving laws evolve over time and are often extremely complex. Moreover, the various components of the DWI system are closely interrelated, so policies and practices in one part of the system can have unintended consequences elsewhere.

The IDTF will review the *Countermeasures That Work* annually to ensure we are implementing the most important actions that will help reduce the impaired fatal, A and Binjury crashes in Nebraska. The task force will continue to update the IDSP annually to ensure the DWI system remains current and most effective.

#### **Prevention and Education Plan**

The Impaired Driving Task Force strongly believes that prevention and education is a critical component of an effective IDSP. The Prevention and Education subcommittee of the Task Force considered a number of strategies to reduce alcohol-impaired driving and address underage drinking by developing a multi-faceted approach to reach the highest number of target individuals.

#### Law enforcement community outreach

Law enforcement agencies will conduct mock DUI tests with the use of the Fatal Vision Goggles at high school and college sporting events. These events aid in increasing awareness of the harmful effects of alcohol on a driver's ability to safely operate a vehicle. These events will be conducted by law enforcement agencies, with a special focus on the Priority Counties. The planned activity is often captured for social media outreach and education, reaching the young driver population.

#### **Drugged Driving Summit**

The NDOT-HSO, IDTF members and the highway safety advocates will host a Drugged Driving Summit to provide attendees (traffic safety professionals, attorneys, judges, elected officials, law enforcement, probation, and health professionals) with the current research, emerging trends in the field of DUI/DUIDenforcement, national drugged driving trends with a focus on Colorado (border state) and the prescription drug culture.

The objectives of the summit are:

- Raise the awareness of the growing involvement of drugs, in addition to and other than alcohol, in vehicle crashes that result in injuries and fatalities
- Understand what factors are contributing to the increase
- Recognize the effects of drugs and driving impairment
- Discuss the emerging trends and research
- Identify and propose solutions to the problem.

The NDOT-HSO plans to carry out a Drugged Driving Summit in 2026.

#### Nebraska Collegiate Prevention Alliance to Reduce High-Risk Drinking

Funding is provided to further the development of the Nebraska Collegiate Prevention Alliance (NECPA\_ to Reduce High Risk Drinking. The funding will support initiatives that address; (1) the Nebraska Collegiate Prevention Alliance's continued work to provide technical support, to the 26 member institutions of higher education, for planning, developing, and implementing evidence based individual and environmental interventions to reduce high-risk drinking, drinking and driving and drunk driving, (2) expand the use and implementation of evidence based best practices, (3) skill building workshops for members and prevention specialists, and (4) receive continued data analysis support. NECPA has a web-based program with a customized brief intervention available to all participating colleges and universities in the state.

#### **Nebraska Highway Safety Conference**

The Nebraska Highway Safety Conference will be hosted by the NDOT Highway Safety Office in Kearney, NE at the Younes Conference Center. Local and national presenters will be invited to present updated safety information on many topics including impaired driving prevention, drug recognition and impaired education. The NDOT-HSO plans to continue to work with the Nebraska Interagency Safety Committee to research and write the Nebraska Strategic Highway Safety Plan and to host additional joint conferences in the future.

#### **Project Extra Mile**

The objective of this project is to prevent underage, drinking and driving and binge drinking through environmental prevention strategies, ultimately addressing community policies, practices and norms. PEM provides information on the problems associated with underage drinking and evidence-based strategies for preventing the harms associated with it.

PEM monitors the administrative and regulatory process around liquor licensing toensure that the Nebraska Liquor Control Act is being utilized to protect the public health and safety of communities and families.

#### **Enforcement/Deterrence Plan**

The Plan is using evidence-based traffic safety enforcement strategies to address the problem areas described in the Background section – and to meet the state targets for 2025 and 2026 – NDOT-HSO, law enforcement, and other partners will focus on strategies that have been proven effective in reducing motor vehicle crashes, injuries, and fatalities.

The IDTF is committed to strong, high visibility enforcement of our state's laws, supported by an intensive public information and education media campaign. The FY2024 and FY2025 statewide enforcement plans include each of the elements described below.

#### **High-Visibility Enforcements**

Law enforcement agencies throughout the state, including the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP), perform high-visibility enforcement checkpoints during the mobilizations, major holidays, sporting events and popular community events across the state.

#### **Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws**

Underage alcohol compliance check enforcement operations will be conducted throughout the state by local law enforcement agencies and the NSP to ensure that liquor license establishments do not sell or serve alcohol to minors.

Other planned activities include:

- Large underage party patrol, identification, and dispersal training,
- Source investigation,
- Retail liquor license training,
- Shoulder Taps,
- High Visibility enforcement.
- NDOT-HSO will provide funding to carry out annual training, or attend annual training, for underage drinking enforcement and prevention initiatives.

#### **Binge Drinking Prevention Initiatives**

In partnership with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the NDOT-HSO has been periodically conducting a Nebraska Young Adult (ages 19 - 25) Alcohol Opinion Survey to determine alcohol consumption and impaired driving behavior. This survey provides valuable data to be able to identifyproblem behavior, identify effective prevention strategies, and to measure the impact of countermeasures used.

#### **Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor**

The Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TRSP) is available to assist city and county attorneys with prosecution of impaired driving and motor vehicle homicide cases. The assistance may range from providing technical assistance on pre-trialmotions, depositions, pre-trial evidentiary hearings, Daubert hearings or the TSRP may and has been the lead prosecutor for these types of cases. The TSRP acts as an advisor to law enforcement officers, provides training at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center to all new recruits, works with law enforcement to promote a heightened awareness of victim-related issues and conducts regional training for Nebraska's County Attorneys. The TSRP maintains and updates the "Nebraska Manual for Driving Under the Influence Prosecution" which is provided to all Nebraska prosecutors. The NDOT – HSO provides funding for 100% of the personal services for the TSRP and additional funding for specific training opportunities.

#### **Alcohol Equipment Support**

NDOT-HSO provides funding to assist local law enforcement agencies in obtaining supplies (mouthpieces, dry gas, regulators, etc.) and completing repairs for preliminary and evidentiary alcohol testing equipment. Funding is also provided for in-car cameras to assist law enforcement in obtaining the evidence necessary for impaired driving-related convictions.

#### **Law Enforcement Training**

The NDOT-HSO is dedicated to providing training to Nebraska law enforcement officers in detecting and apprehending impaired drivers on Nebraska roadways. To support and maximize the DUI law enforcement efforts all Nebraska law enforcement officers going through basic training in Nebraska are required to be trained in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST). The NDOT-HSO directly supports all SFST training conducted at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) and sponsors SFST Instructor Development Courses when necessary. Annually, approximately 150 law enforcement officers receive SFST training at NLETC. SFST training is also provided through the Nebraska State Patrol, Lincoln Police Department, Omaha Police Department, and the Sarpy Douglas Law Enforcement independent training academies. The SFST training is critical to optimize the removal of impaired drivers from Nebraska roadways.

In addition to the SFST training, the NDOT-HSO coordinates the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program (DECP). NDOT-HSO's DECP offers an advanced training for law enforcement officers to become Drug Recognition Experts (DRE). In many instances, drivers are pulled over for driving infractions that mirror alcohol impairment and have low or no breath alcohol content. DREs are trained to conduct a 12-step evaluation that assists in determining the category or categories of drugs that may cause impairment in a drugged driver. Drugged driving is prevalent and underreported.

The NDOT-HSO also provides Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement(ARIDE) training. The ARIDE training provides experienced DWI officers with additional training to detect drug impaired drivers and contact a DRE for a DRE evaluation to be conducted.

The NDOT – HSO's DECP offers Drug Impaired Training for Education Professionals (DITEP). This training allows education professionals to identify chemically impaired individuals for the purpose of ensuring a safe learning environment and prevents an impaired student from driving to and from the school campus.

#### **Alcohol Selective Overtime**

The NDOT-HSO will make direct contact with law enforcement agencies in the counties overrepresented in alcohol impaired fatal and serious injury crashes and identified in Nebraska's Performance-Based Strategic Traffic Safety Plan as a priority county. All officers working grant funded alcohol selective overtime enforcement must be certified in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST). These law enforcement agencies will be solicited to participate in selective alcohol overtime enforcement efforts during the time of day, day of week and locations as identified by crash data. Due to the good working relationship between the NDOT-HSO, state and local law enforcement, participation in the selective overtime enforcement activities is effective. In addition, these same agencies will be solicited to participate in selective alcohol overtime enforcement during the following time frames known for high alcohol usage: Super Bowl Sunday, St. Patrick's Day, Independence Day and Halloween. Nebraska's youth alcohol- related fatal and serious injury crashes will also be addressed through selective youth-alcohol overtime enforcement. Peek enforcement efforts will focus on high alcohol usage time frames, which will include graduation, proms, homecoming, and Cinco De Mayo.

Statewide selective alcohol overtime enforcement will be conducted during the national events for the "Winter Holiday Impaired Driving Crackdown Mobilization" December 13, 2024 – January 1, 2025 and "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Mobilization" August 19 – September 5, 2025. All selective alcohol overtime enforcement efforts will be required to conduct a pre- and post- media event or activity to follow the best practices examples of advising the community of their upcoming activities, conducting the enforcement activity, and then reporting the results of the enforcement activity. During all of the selective alcohol overtime enforcement efforts a combination of sobriety checkpoints, saturation patrols and enforcement zones will be utilized.

It is anticipated that an estimated 20,000+ additional overtime enforcement hours will be generated from the above outlined enforcement efforts.

#### Laws

The Nebraska IDTF is committed to strong, high visibility enforcement of our state's laws. The statewide enforcement plan includes enforcing the following Nebraska State Statutes to the fullest extent:

- 60-498.01 to 60-498.04 Administrative License Revocation
- 60-6,196 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drug; penalties.
- 60-6,196.01 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drug; additional penalty.
- 60-6,197 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; implied consentto submit to chemical test; when test administered; refusal; advisement; effect; violation; penalty.
- 60-6,197.01 Driving while license has been revoked; driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drug; second and subsequent violations; restrictions on motor vehicles; additional restrictions authorized.
- 60-6,197.02 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; implied consent to submit to chemical test; terms, defined; prior convictions; use; sentencing provisions; when applicable.
- 60-6,197.03 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; implied consent to submit to chemical test; penalties.
- 60-6,197.04 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; preliminary breath test; refusal; penalty.
- 60-6,197.05 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; implied consent to chemical test; revocation; effect.
- 60-6,197.06 Operating motor vehicle during revocation period; penalties.
- 60-6,197.07 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; impliedconsent to submit to chemical test; city or village ordinances; authorized.
- 60-6,197.08 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; presentence evaluation.
- 60-6,197.09 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; not eligible for probation or suspended sentence.
- 60-6,197.10 Driving under influence of alcohol or drugs; public educationcampaign; Department of Motor Vehicles; duties.
- 60-6,198 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; serious bodilyinjury; violation; penalty.
- 60-6,199 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; test; additionaltest; refusal to permit;

effect; results of test; available upon request.

- 60-6,200 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; chemical test; consent of person incapable of refusal not withdrawn.
- 60-6,201 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; chemical test; violation of statute or ordinance; results; competent evidence; permit; fee.
- 60-6,202 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; blood test; withdrawing requirements; damages; liability; when.
- 60-6,203 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drug; violation of city or village ordinance; fee for test; court costs.
- 60-6,204 Driving under influence of alcoholic liquor or drugs; test withoutpreliminary breath test; when; qualified personnel.
- 60-6,210 Blood sample; results of chemical test; admissible in criminalprosecution; disclosure required.
- 60-6,211 Lifetime revocation of motor vehicle operator's license; reduction; procedure.
- 60-6,211.01 Person under twenty-one years of age; prohibited acts.
- 60-6,211.02 Implied consent to submit to chemical test; when test administered; refusal; penalty.
- 60-6,211.05 Ignition interlock device; continuous alcohol monitoring device and abstention from alcohol use; orders authorized; prohibited acts; violation; penalty; costs; Department of Motor Vehicles Ignition Interlock Fund; created; use; investment; prohibited acts relating to tampering with device; hearing.
- 60-6,211.08 Open alcoholic beverage container; consumption of alcoholic beverages; prohibited acts; applicability of section to certain passengers of limousine or bus.
- 60-6,211.11 Prohibited acts related to ignition interlock device; violation; penalty
- 60-498.01 24/7 Sobriety Program

The above referenced laws include, but are not limited to, driving while impaired laws for drugs and alcohol, .08 BAC "per se" laws, driving with high BAC (.15 BAC or greater) with enhanced sanctions, zero tolerance for underage drivers (.02 BAC or greater), increased sanctions for repeat offenders and open container laws.

# **Adjudication Plan**

The State is dedicated to the continued prosecution of impaired drivers. This section discusses Nebraska's efforts in the adjudication and sanctioning of DWI offenders.

# **Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)**

The Nebraska MADD organization conducts a court monitoring program that focuses on impaired driving issues across the state. The project will educate and train local volunteers to collect data, provide written documentation and observe courtroom activity. This will provide judicial accountability and an avenue to enhance relationships between law enforcement, prosecutors, community coalitions and community members.

MADD Nebraska supports impaired driving victims and survivors at no cost. VictimAdvocates reach out and respond to those impacted and are available to those dealing with aftermath of an impaired driving crash.

#### **Felony Motor Vehicle Prosecution Unit**

Douglas County represented approximately 31.53 percent (1,465 of 4,646) of all alcohol-related fatal, A and B injury crashes in 2019. Alcohol continues to play a significant factor in driving offenses in Douglas County. The NDOT-HSO provides funding to the Douglas County Attorney's Office to carry out the FMVPU where these specialized prosecutors prosecute felony cases and refer offenders, as appropriate, to the 24/7 Sobriety Program. The FMVPU maintains a 97 percent conviction rate (three-year average 2017-2019). The FMVPU also provides ongoing training to law enforcement, meets with non-profits and community groups to address felony motor vehicle related issues (i.e., court monitoring, immigration, and support for 24/7 in Douglas County).

#### **Administrative License Revocation**

The Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) administers the Administrative License Revocation (ALR) program. After receipt of a sworn report from law enforcement following an arrest for DUI, the DMV revokes an operator's licenses and/or operating privileges of the arrested individual. Drivers are revoked for either 180 days for a first offense -OR- for one year for any subsequent offense or if the driver refuses the chemical test.

Nebraska law allows offenders to obtain an Ignition Interlock Permit (IIP) during the ALR. The permit requires the offender to install an approved ignition interlock device on their vehicle in order to operate the vehicle. The ignition interlock device will not allow operation of the vehicle if alcohol is detected. The IIP is not valid for the operation of a commercial motor vehicle.

The DMV also provides training to law enforcement at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) on the administration of the ALR program.

#### **DWI Court**

#### Lancaster County DUI court

Lancaster County DUI Court targets individuals charged with felony third or fourth offense DUI or third or fourth offense refusal of chemical test who are in the criminal justice system as a result of their substance dependency and in need of a highly structured, intensively supervised program to address their substance dependency and become substance-free, law-abiding, and responsible citizens.

Scottsbluff County has a DWI court within Nebraska which targets DWI offenders with a post adjudicatory alcohol intensive supervision treatment programfor eligible offenders. The purpose of the program is to reduce offender recidivismby fostering a comprehensive and coordinated court response composed of earlyintervention, appropriate treatment, intensive supervision, and consistent judicial oversight. The IDTF will also be working with all jurisdictions in Nebraska to launch additional DWI courts.

#### **Judicial Education/Training**

The NDOT-HSO annually makes funding available to the state Court Administrator's Office for judicial education opportunities related to impaired driving through the judicial educator.

#### **Post-Conviction and Treatment Plan**

Nebraska is aware of the problems of substance abuse and its relationship to impaired driving and is dedicated to the development and implementation of treatment and rehabilitation programs to address the problems.

#### 24/7 Sobriety Program

Grant funding was provided to support a sobriety community-based pilot program to reduce the number of DUI arrests in Douglas County. This program increases the accountability on the part of the participants through the use of immediate sanctions as a condition of a bond and twice daily Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) tests. The Douglas County Department of Corrections monitors and reports participants' compliance for abstention from use of alcohol for those participants who are approved to participate in accordance with court orders.

Douglas County is the highest population of any of the 93 counties in Nebraska at 517,110 residents. In 2019, there were 1,465 fatal, A and B (FAB) crashes in Douglas County or 31.53% of the total FAB crashes for the State.

#### Media and Outreach Plan

The IDTF will follow the NDOT-HSO media plan that has been proven effective in the past. IDTF will utilize the FY25 Communication Campaign for this program area and the planned activities include, Impaired Driving is Deceptively Dangerous, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, You Drink and Drive. You Lose and If you feel different you drive different. These campaigns will be carried out using an extensive combination of electronic, print and non-traditional media methods including but not limited to: earned, paid and social media reaching across the state. The target audience will be the high-risk group, primarily males ages 18-34.

A strong focus on prevention and enforcement messaging will be utilized by IDTF. The IDTF will work with NDOT-HSO and utilize sports marketing opportunities (baseball, football, basketball, and hockey) to carryout messaging and promotion in target communities and statewide. Through partnerships developed with the IDTF, the NDOT-HSO will work with grantees, traffic safety partners, and IDTF members to carryout alcohol specific messaging in their news notes, new letters and social media platforms to increase education and awareness regarding DUI/DUID related stories, trends and research. IDTF, through NDOT-HSO, will provide mini-grant funding to partners (MADD, SADD, law enforcement, local health districts, and DHHS, Injury Prevention) to reduce the incidence of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes in target counties.

Additional resources, for the IDTF, for social media outreach include Drive Smart Nebraska online DUI/DUID toolkits, the local health districts, private and public partners, and concerned community members.

In addition to all grantees, local agencies, and organizations, the NDOT-HSO will continue to utilize the Governor's Office, DHHS, DMV, NSP and other State agencies to assist with kick-off promotional efforts to draw attention to the national and Nebraska traffic safety mobilizations/initiatives.

The NDOT-HSO issues local news releases regarding the grant awarded special equipment for law enforcement agencies. All law enforcement operation grants require, as a condition of the grant, that the grant recipient agency must hold a local news conference and/or issue a news release regarding the grant award and the related grantactivity prior to the enforcement activity. In addition, they are required to issue a news release reporting the results of that specific enforcement operation.

By reputation, the NDOT-HSO is and will continue to be the primary traffic safety news media resource for the state. The NDOT-HSO is recognized as the best source for impaired driving-related data, information, and to be able to direct media representatives to other additional sources.

# **Budget**

The Highway Safety Office will fund projects through a combination of federal Section 402 (State Highway Safety Program Grant) and Section 405[d] (Impaired Driving@untermeasure Grant), State, and other local funding sources.

# **Plan Approval**

The Impaired Driving Task Force met on May 23, 2023, to discuss impaired driving issues in the State and to develop this Plan. The membership subsequently approved the final version of the Plan on June 24, 2024.

#### Nebraska's Impaired Driving Task Force Charter

- Section 1: The Nebraska's Impaired Driving Task Force (NIDTF) was established March 30, 2017, under the authority of the Nebraska Governor's officially designated Governor's Highway Safety Representative (GR) and direction of the Nebraska Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office (NDOT-HSO).
- Section 2: The NIDTF has been established as an ad hoc group of key multidisciplinary highway safety enforcement, business, health care, media, education, adjudication, and other highway safety advocates.
- Section 3: The NIDTF will approve, monitor, and evaluate the progress of an Impaired Driving Strategic Plan (IDSP). The IDSP contains specific annual and long term goals and objectives. The NIDTF will consider, coordinate, and represent to outside organizations, the views of the Nebraska organizations involved in impaired driving prevention.
- Section 4: The NDOT-HSO Administrator has been designated by the GR as the official NIDTF Coordinator. The NDOT-HSO Administrator will assign an impaired driving project manager to plan, organize, and facilitate the NIDTF meetings. The NIDTF activity will be funded by the NDOT-HSO.
- Section 5: NIDTF key stakeholder representatives are from the Nebraska Departments of: Transportation; Health & Human Services; and Motor Vehicles, plus the Court Administrator, the State Patrol, the Crime Commission, Prosecution and Adjudication. Other key members include representatives from local law enforcement agencies, the Attorney General's Office, and Nebraska institutions of higher education.
- Section 6: The identified key Stakeholder member representatives have agreed to biannually submit signed documents confirming their continued support and commitment to participate on the NIDTF.
- Section 7: The NIDTF will hold meetings at least four times annually. Meetings will include reports of: prevention programs, law enforcement, criminal justice, publicity and communication, current program evaluation and strategic planning activity.

Governor's Highway Safety Representative Director, Nebraska Department of Transportation 7-22-24 Date

# Nebraska Impaired Driving Task Force Members

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