



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois 62764

May 10, 2021

CIRCULAR LETTER 2021-14

2021 IDOT LOCAL AGENCY SYSTEM SAFETY SITE & CONCERN - INFORMATION EXCHANGE

COUNTY ENGINEERS / SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS / MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS / DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS / MAYORS / METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS – DIRECTORS / TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS / CONSULTING ENGINEERS / ILLINOIS SHERIFF & POLICE OFFICIALS / ILLINOIS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS & OFFICIALS

IDOT Safety Mission: “*Drive Zero Fatalities to a Reality*”

INTENT & PURPOSE:

This Circular Letter is issued for the purposes of;

- 1) Continue in the advocacy and articulation that Safety ***must*** be the foremost concern in all work on our transportation network within the State of Illinois;
- 2) Provide a communication portal that continues the strong safety record established within Illinois;
- 3) Continue to build and add further relevant information, by this exchange, that builds a stronger and more robust database of safety concern sites throughout Illinois;
- 4) Partnering between the Illinois Department of Transportation (Department or IDOT), Local Public Agencies (LPA), and emergency providers so that additional input and perspectives are obtained;
- 5) Facilitate the communication and exchange of critical safety issues, locations/sites and needs; and
- 6) Strategically develop this information with the intent and purpose that results in a reduction to serious injuries and lost lives in Illinois.

All parties are strongly encouraged to participate in this process, and complete the Information Exchange Survey Form, and partner with the Department on locations/sites where it has been identified that a safety concern may be present. Please note that your participation and communication will lead to a safer transportation network. It is requested that the electronic, web-based Information Exchange Survey Form be completed no later than June 18, 2021.

A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH:

Safety on Illinois roadways must be a top priority for all users of our roadways, but even more importantly, it should be a top priority for those who design, construct, and maintain our roadways, as well as those that respond to safety situations. Illinois has a goal to achieve zero fatalities on its roadways, but to make that a reality, the state and local officials must work together.

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To make an impact and continue with saving lives on our roadways, it will take communication and partnership between all stakeholders including the state, counties, townships, cities, villages and our first responders to work together.

Provided below is a link as well as a QR Code to access the Information Exchange Survey Form that Department is sponsoring. We need to know about roadway safety issues that you, the local agencies and first responders, are aware of and concerned with where the Department may not fully understand in depth and impact.

This Information Exchange will be utilized in collaboration with the Department's numerous years of crash data so a more holistic set of information is analyzed and reviewed. The Department is especially interested in communication and deeper knowledge in locations/sites in rural areas where your input can add to our statistics. We are interested to hear about situations where, for example: perhaps a road segment within a curve has experienced several runoffs; or there exists an intersection with near misses occur daily. These near miss and occurrence locations/sites may not yet have had serious crashes recorded in the data the Department receives and analyzes. However, LPAs and first responders may have experiences and concerns of safety issues these sites present because they respond, work with and utilize these roadways every day, and/or their citizens have discussions on their concerns.

If we all work together, we can begin to see a reduction in the number of lives lost or seriously injured on our roadways. If we all work together, we may be able to find innovative ways or utilize existing methods that have worked to save lives. But we all need to work together to make a difference.

So, please take the time to fill out the survey. It truly can be a Matter of Life or Death.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE PROCESS

To ease and expedite the exchange of information, you and your team are highly encouraged to communicate with us via the Information Exchange Survey Form via the below QR (Quick Response) Code and Direct Web-Page Link. The more information you and your team can share the better we can understand the depth and importance of your entry.

Please use the below hyperlink to access the online Form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nwgia7qOPEaE9TFxIQ-QBY2KQyeLRL1HiNDA0XuNr3pUQzE4VkxHQTFaMVdaREpEMFhGVDBVOTM3QS4u>

For convenience the following QR Code is also available:



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TIMING & DUE DATE:

As safety cannot wait, please complete and submit your information and data via the "on-line" form no later than June 18, 2021.

Sincerely,



George A. Tapas, P.E., S.E.
Engineer of Local Roads and
Streets



Cynthia L. Watters, P.E.
Engineer of Safety Programs and
Engineering

- c.c. Brian Otten, Illinois Association of County Engineers
Brad Cole, Illinois Municipal League
Bryan Smith, Township Officials of Illinois
Donald Goad, Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois
Arlene Kocher, FHWA – Illinois District
Alan Ho, FHWA – Illinois District
Illinois Sheriffs' Association
Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts
Illinois Firefighters Association
Professional Towing and Recovery Association of Illinois