

APPENDIX D

(Safety in Numbers)



Safety in Numbers

As regional safety coalitions are established in Kansas, there's a successful model they can study: Destination Safe.

The Mid-America Regional Council, Missouri Department of Transportation and Kansas Department of Transportation founded the coalition in 2005, with the council providing administrative support. In 2007, the coalition won a Federal Highway Administration National Roadway Safety Award.

A team approach to transportation safety, it involves local, regional, state and federal agencies and blends the expertise of law enforcement, healthcare providers, emergency medical responders, information technology specialists, traffic engineers, public works officials, transportation safety advocates and victim support organizations.

It establishes transportation safety priorities for a region that includes the Kansas City metropolitan area and adjacent counties on both sides of the Missouri/Kansas border.

Regional and state priorities sometimes differ.

For example, in Kansas, fewer than 5 percent of fatalities involve pedestrians, so the Executive Safety Council has not emphasized pedestrian safety in the new Strategic Highway Safety Plan. In urban Kansas City, however, 10 percent of the fatalities involve pedestrians, so Destination Safe emphasizes their safety.

Besides setting priorities, another value of a group like Destination Safe is as a coordinator of systemic efforts to improve safety. In 2009, the safety coalition's leadership team had 29 members, with a subset of the membership meeting bimonthly.

The coalition's agenda is set by the [Kansas City Regional Transportation Safety Blueprint](#). The blueprint focuses on six transportation safety priorities and serves Greater Kansas City in the same way that the SHSP serves Kansas.

In Missouri, Destination Safe projects are funded from District 4 of the Missouri Department of Transportation. In Kansas, Destination Safe reviews and forwards recommendations to the KDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety and Technology for possible funding thru the federal Section 402 program.