



# Crash Data Consortium Update

Board of Directors: December 18, 2024

# Crash data consortium grant and goals

- The Denver Regional Council of Governments received **405c traffic records improvement grants** for federal fiscal years 2023 and 2024 from the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**.
- Primary goals.
  - **Investigate** and **demonstrate the value** of a regional crash data consortium to **inventory the needs** of the region.
  - Work to **identify** and **address** common issues with crash data **collection, processing** and **analysis**.
- 405c grants are **not meant** to **permanently fund** projects.

# Timeline

- Surveys and interviews to create draft inventory and needs assessment.
- Workshop and feedback from consortium on inventory and needs assessment.
- Consortium meetings.
  - November 10, 2022.
  - May 11, 2023.
  - September 28, 2023.

**Federal Fiscal Year 2023**  
October 2022 – September 2023

- Continued stakeholder engagement.
- Remediation of inventory and needs assessment.
- End-of-year survey.
- Final report.
- Consortium meetings.
  - February 29, 2024.
  - June 20, 2024.
  - September 26, 2024.

**Federal Fiscal Year 2024**  
October 2023 – September 2024

# Key deliverables throughout the project

- Regional Crash Data Inventory.
  - Regional Crash Data Needs Assessment.
  - End-of-year survey.
  - Regional Crash Data Consortium Final Report.
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- Inventory, Needs Assessment and Final Report available on [DRCOG website](#).

# Regional Crash Data Inventory

- Stakeholder engagement process.
- Data source descriptions.
- Analysis objectives.
- Issues and challenges.
- Appendices:
  - Data sources used as reported by stakeholders.
  - Data collection methodologies and other law enforcement information as reported by stakeholders.

# Regional Crash Data Needs Assessment

- Specific **needs** identified by the consortium.
- Potential **strategies, resources, and barriers**.
- **Cross-reference** to the inventory for each need.
- Categories of needs identified:
  - Geospatial.
  - Quality.
  - Timeliness.
  - Capacity.
  - Integration.
  - Accessibility.

# End-of-year survey

- Conducted through Survey Monkey with crash data consortium stakeholders.
- Takeaways:
  - Meeting frequency unanimous among respondents to be **'at about the right frequency'**.
  - Nearly all had some familiarity with DRCOG before participating in consortium activities, but **several reported no prior familiarity**.
  - **Diverse participation among professions** represented in the consortium.
  - **All** said that the **consortium had helped them understand** better.
  - Slightly **more than half** said that they **had seen data quality improvements**.



# Final Report

- Addresses primary goals:
  - **Investigate** and **demonstrate the value** of a regional crash data consortium to **inventory the needs** of the region.
  - Work to **identify** and **address** common issues with **crash data collection, processing** and **analysis**.
- Distributed through email and available on DRCOG website.



# Grant performance measures

- **Completeness:** The project will help reduce the percentage of missing latitude and longitude data from 35-50% to 30% in five years.
  - Result: **16% missing** latitude and longitude in 2022.
- **Integration:** The project will help increase the percentage of crash records from CDOT's crash data linking to a DRCOG or CDOT linear referencing system from 0% to 25% by October 2024.
  - Result: **59% of records in 2022 crash data linked.**
- **Accessibility:** Staff will improve data and target outreach to increase downloads from DRCOG's Regional Data Catalog from 133 to 166 in a one-year period (25% increase).
  - Result: **64% increase.**

# Outcomes

- **Improved data quality.**
  - More accurate latitudes and longitudes.
  - **Less missing data.**
  - Less personal identifiable information in crash narratives.
- **Improved timeliness** of data delivery.
- **Improved access** to crash data.
  - Greater understanding of available data.
  - Greater access to narratives and diagrams.
- **Increased** number and depth of **partnerships.**
  - More law enforcement partnerships.
  - Bring medical examiners, coroners, and other medical field professionals and organizations into consortium activities.

# Final report recommendations

- Improve **general statewide crash reporting** practices.
- Improve collection of **location** information.
- Improve collection of **critical data** elements.
- Improve crash data **processing** practices.
- Increase crash data **analyst access** and **competencies**.
- **Sustain** and **expand** the crash data consortium.
  
- Report includes **strategies to achieve each recommendation** and an estimated timeframe to accomplish the strategy.

# Cascading effects of recommendation strategies

## Standardize and improve input from law enforcement.

- Software or hardware.
- Data validation.
- Training.

## Less time required to process.

- Department of Transportation.
- DRCOG.
- Local governments.
- Vendors and consultants.

**Higher-quality** crash data **available sooner** for analysis.

# Implementation strategies

- Develop or acquire **improved software** for law enforcement.
- Require **critical data elements** on all reports.
- Facilitate **training** with law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders.
- Explore and fix **data transmission issues** between law enforcement agencies and the state.
- Continue **engagement** with **law enforcement agencies** in the region to identify what is working well, what challenges exist, how to make improvements, and how to implement other crash data improvement strategies.
- Build connections with **medical field**, including medical examiners and coroner's offices, to explore and develop new ways of addressing **underreporting of impairment-related** crashes and **non-motorist** crashes.

# Next steps

- Develop **implementation framework**.
  - Prioritize strategies laid out in final report.
  - Determine action leaders and supporting partners.
- **Continue** crash data consortium **meetings**.
  - Set up on-going meeting schedule.
- **Build** and **maintain relationships**.
  - Law enforcement.
  - Medical field.
  - Current consortium partnerships.

# Thank you!

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