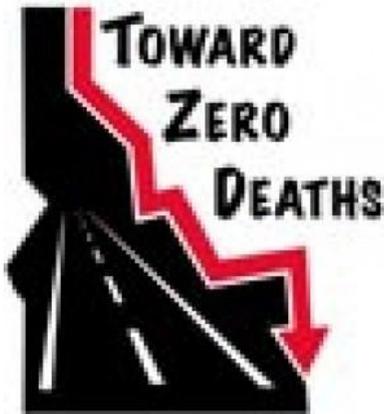


The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) have joined the 'Toward Zero Deaths (TZD): A National Strategy on Highway Safety' program, which has the ambition of eliminating all fatalities on the USA's roadways.



The program was created by a steering committee cooperative that includes numerous organisations committed to reducing annual traffic fatalities in the USA from more than the current figure of 33,000 to zero. The TZD Plan that has been rolled out provides organizations in the fields of engineering, law enforcement, education and emergency medical services (EMS) with a range of initiatives and safety countermeasures designed to save lives. The national strategy includes initiatives known to be effective in addressing specific factors contributing to roadway crashes, have the potential to make a significant reduction in fatalities and serious injuries nationally, or address areas of growing concern. The TZD plan includes initiatives spanning engineering to education with the intended result of achieving safer drivers, passengers, pedestrians, infrastructure, and vehicles; enhanced emergency medical services and response; and improved management of traffic safety programs.

With the technical support of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), organisations representing transportation, safety, law enforcement, engineering, and state and local government agencies have been working together for more than five years to identify and prioritize the leading initiatives that will reduce traffic fatalities over the next 25 years. AASHTO and the state Departments of Transportation (DOTs) across the country are working to accomplish the TZD vision by leading research and other activities to promote a culture of traffic safety in the USA, and identifying new safety partners and promoting a collaborative, multidisciplinary, data-driven approach to safety related policies and programs.