

THE CHICKASAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN

November 2011

The Chickasaw Nation is committed to reducing the number of deaths and serious injuries and improving the overall safety of the transportation system. As part of an ongoing effort to make safety improvements, this Safety Management Plan has been developed with input from a variety of agencies and individuals within the Tribe in cooperation with the Federal and Oklahoma State Governments. The plan is intended to outline existing programs and policies, as well as identify issues and procedures or projects that can be implemented to further improve transportation safety for the Chickasaw Nation, its people and visitors to the Chickasaw Nation tribal area. A draft of the Safety Management Plan will be submitted to the Chickasaw Nation tribal council and leadership.

The Tribe has implemented or are currently working on a number of programs and have developed relationships with other government entities to help assist in safety improvements. A complete list of these, as well as other safety issues that have been identified, is included in Attachment A, but below are some of the highlights:

- Officers in the DARE program have been providing educational programs in the local schools.
- The Chickasaw Lighthorse law enforcement officials are cross deputized. They are trained to provide first responder assistance.
- Community Health Program offers “Ride Safe” and provides car seats and education on how to use them.
- Substance abuse services including outpatient treatment, inpatient consults and information & referral, through the Community Health Program.
- Prevention services include Child Abuse Prevention and Alcohol/Drug Prevention through the Community Health Program.
- *Characteristics of Alcohol and Drugs* presentation by the Community Education program. This presentation addresses the behavioral changes created by using alcohol and drugs. Classes may be various lengths, from 30 minutes to 2 hours, and presented to any age group.
- The Chickasaw Nation Transit Service conducts “*Bus Talks*,” periodic safety programs for transit professionals, in an effort to develop a safety culture in the work place.
- Defensive driving classes are held periodically for transit drivers in the Chickasaw Nation.
- The Chickasaw Nation Transit Service conducts Bus Rodeos to teach their drivers safe driving practices.

In an effort to further enhance safety efforts and save lives, the following items have been identified as a priority for expansion or initiation within The Chickasaw Nation over the next few years:

- Data Collection Access and Training
 - Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) Data Training

The Tribe was unaware that the Oklahoma Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Engineering Office provides access to crash data following training on using their database. Training will be provided by ODOT to facilitate access to the ODOT system, as well as data extraction and interpretation. The Tribe has identified “hot spots” and will use the data to discern whether the records support improvements to those areas.

Issue Champion: The Oklahoma State University Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) and ODOT (Teresa Stephens, Safety Engineer).

Implementation: Implementation of Data Collection Access and Training should occur in early 2012. Jim Self and Karla Sisco of the Oklahoma State University TTAP will work with Teresa Stephens, ODOT, to schedule training for The Chickasaw Nation and any interested county personnel in the Chickasaw Nation tribal area on using the ODOT data system.

- Road Safety Audits

A particular area of concern is the Farmer’s Market Road in Ada, Ok, which is located in Pontotoc County. A vertical alignment issue was noted as an issue on this roadway. Following the Data Collection and Access Training provided by ODOT, a clearer picture of other targeted areas may be revealed.

Issue Champion: ODOT; The Chickasaw Nation Roads Department; the Chickasaw Nation Transit Service.

Implementation: The initial steps in implementation are to review the data from ODOT on the incidences of crashes in the Chickasaw Nation. County representatives and representatives from the Chickasaw Nation plan to attend the ODOT Data Collection and Access Training. This group will also work with ODOT and the OSU-TTAP to coordinate any Road Safety Audits that might be needed following the training. A survey for transit drivers could be compiled that will allow the Tribe to have another “set of eyes” on the road. This information will assist the Tribe’s awareness of safety concerns as they arise.

- Enforcement

- Overweight Enforcement

With the large number of trucks that are currently on the roads in the Chickasaw Nation tribal area, increasing concerns regarding weight limit violations have been voiced. The Tribe must work with federal, state, and county government to evaluate any issues that are keeping motor carrier regulations from being enforced. Many various strategies, including training and enforcement activities were discussed, but for the immediate future the following were identified to continue to improve motor carrier safety:

- Deploy Joint Strike Force safety inspections.
- Provide needed training to tribal enforcement staff on use of portable scales and truck safety inspection techniques.
- Determine if any additional permanent scale sites need to be developed.

Issue Champion: The Chickasaw Lighthorse; Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA); Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP).

Implementation: Since these items are related to enforcement of motor carrier safety and weight issues, it is recommended that a separate plan be developed with the OHP and Federal Motor Carrier staff that includes the items above, as well as any other issues that may be identified.

- Speed Management

The Chickasaw Nation representatives identified speed control as an issue that needed more attention.

- Seatbelt Enforcement

A continued focus on the “Click it or Ticket” campaign will be carried out.

Issue Champion: The Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse

Implementation: The Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse will place increased emphasis on speed management and seatbelt enforcement.

- Collision Reporting and Mitigation

All law enforcement agencies in the Chickasaw Nation tribal area are encouraged to submit collision data to the Oklahoma Department of Safety as quickly as possible. This data could provide justification for funding of needed road improvements in certain areas.

The Chickasaw Nation Roads Department and area county commissioners were also encouraged by safety engineers from ODOT to visit www.cmfclearinghouse.org/ , a website showing the success of certain low-cost mitigation techniques used. A crash modification factor (CMF) is a multiplicative factor used to compute the expected number of crashes after implementing a given countermeasure at a specific site. The Crash Modification Factors Clearinghouse houses a Web-based database of CMFs along with supporting documentation to help transportation engineers identify the most appropriate countermeasure for their safety needs. Using this site, one can search to find CMFs or submit a jurisdiction’s CMFs to be included in the clearinghouse.

Some examples of low-cost mitigation techniques include lighting intersections and using reflective striping.

Pavement edge drop-off on highways has been linked to many serious crashes, including fatal collisions. To mitigate vertical drop-offs, FHWA advocates installing the Safety EdgeSM on pavements during paving or resurfacing projects. This technology allows drivers who drift off highways to return to the pavement safely.

Issue Champion: All law enforcement agencies within the Chickasaw Nation tribal area, including county, Oklahoma Highway Patrol, and the Chickasaw Lighthorse, in cooperation with the Chickasaw Nation Roads Department and county commissioners from Johnston County and Pontotoc County.

Implementation: All law enforcement agencies will place increased emphasis on crash reporting. The Chickasaw Nation Roads Department will look at areas where low-cost mitigation efforts could reduce crash fatalities.

- Education

- DUI and Alcohol Abuse

DUI and alcohol abuse continues to be a concern in the Chickasaw Nation. An assessment of the education programs that are in place to combat underage drinking, while educating drivers of all ages on the dangers of drinking and driving is needed.

Some of the programs that are offered by the Community Education Program could be marketed to a wider audience in an effort to modify behavior. These educational programs could also be developed and presented in schools and for youth organizations.

“Recognizing Alcohol and Drug Use in the Workplace” is a presentation that addresses the signs and symptoms of persons using alcohol/drugs in the workplace. Presentations may be various lengths, from 30 minutes to all day, and could be presented to any workplace within the Chickasaw Nation boundaries.

“Characteristics of Alcohol and Drugs” is another presentation offered by the Community Education Program. It addresses the behavioral changes created by using alcohol and

drugs. Presentation may be various lengths, from 30 minutes to 2 hours, and presented to any age group.

"The Progression of Addiction" is a presentation that provides information on the disease process of addiction; "it's not a character flaw." It discusses genetics, freedom of making choices and determining who you are, whether in recovery or relapse.

Issue Champion: The Community Education Department

Implementation: The Tribe will collaborate with area schools, the Community Education Program, and Community Health Services Representatives to assess the education efforts that are currently underway to combat drinking and driving. The Tribe will work to collaborate on those efforts.

- Seatbelt Usage

Seatbelt usage is another area of concern in the Chickasaw Nation. An assessment of the education programs that are in place to address seatbelt usage and the need for marketing campaigns to target these issues will be examined. Again, this will require a look at what the area schools are currently doing and what Community Health Representatives might have underway. Injury prevention within the Chickasaw Nation is currently under the Chickasaw Nation Health System Office of Environmental Health (CNHSOEH) service area. Car Seat Classes in conjunction with a Car Seat Safety Program, "Ride Safe," are one type of educational outreach program being offered through Injury Prevention Services and CNHSOEH.

The Chickasaw Nation Health Representatives noted that the budget for the Car Seat Safety program has been severely slashed, creating increased challenges for the Community Health Representatives.

Issue Champion: Community Health Representatives for the Chickasaw Nation.

Implementation: The Tribe will contact area schools and Indian Health Services, particularly CNHSOEH, to assess the education efforts that are currently underway to address seatbelt usage. Possible marketing campaigns and seatbelt surveys may follow these assessments.

- Distracted Driving

The problem of distracted driving is becoming an area of increased concern in the Chickasaw Nation. The Oklahoma Traffic Engineering Association is available to do short presentations to various groups to address this topic. Teresa Stephens, Traffic Safety Engineer, ODOT, can coordinate these presentations.

Issue Champion: The Community Education Department for the Chickasaw Nation, in cooperation with the Oklahoma Traffic Engineering Association.

Implementation: The Community Education Department can contact the Oklahoma Traffic Engineering Association to schedule presentations on distracted driving.

- Billboard, Newspaper, and Web

Various tools are available to disseminate the message of safety. The Community Education Department and Community Health Representatives can work with the Chickasaw Nation Public Affairs Office to utilize these various forms of media to share the safety message.

Issue Champion: The Community Education Program and Community Health Representatives in collaboration with the Chickasaw Nation Public Affairs Office.

Implementation: As Community Health Representatives and the Community Education Department prioritize safety issues for the Chickasaw Nation, marketing campaigns can be developed and disseminated through the Public Affairs Office.

- Rural Road Safety

Rural road safety continues to be an area of great concern in the Chickasaw Nation. The Tribe has identified “hot spots” and will use the data to discern whether the records support improvements to those areas. In response to the known issues on rural roads, educational programs should be developed to inform the public about dangers on the roadway. Some of these hazards include distracted drivers, poor site distances, animals on the roadway, speeding vehicles, narrow roads, and drunk drivers. Providing education on driving defensively and attentively, while expressing to the public the specific challenges of rural roads should be an area of emphasis in the schools and in public service messages. Drivers who see safety problems on the roadways are encouraged to contact the Chickasaw Nation Roads Department.

The issue of poor site distance on rural roads is exacerbated by the statutory 33-foot right-of-way in the Chickasaw Nation. Many areas are heavily wooded, and the sight distance at intersecting roadways is often obscured by trees. This, coupled with excessive speed, contributes to a significant number of crashes. The Chickasaw Nation Roads Department and the various County Roads departments will analyze these incidents, and develop mitigation strategies where possible.

Issue Champion: The Chickasaw Nation Roads Department in collaboration with the Chickasaw Nation Education Department and the Chickasaw Lighthouse.

Implementation: The Tribe will work with the County, the Department of Public Safety, the Tribal Lighthouse Police, and Tribal Transportation officials to identify those specific locations where safety issues exist. As those areas are identified, information and education will be disseminated on how drivers should handle certain situations. Educational programs in the schools and community will not only target prevention, but will look at defensive driving techniques that can be employed to best respond to the challenges on the road.

- Transportation Safety Coordinating Committee

- Work Plan Group

The process of building a viable Safety Management System will require various stakeholders to maintain communication. The Tribe desires to establish a core Transportation Safety Coordinating Committee, which includes participants of the Chickasaw Nation Safety Workshop. This team would meet on a regular basis to assess ongoing safety efforts within the Tribe, City, County, and State. Players that could contribute to this group include the Sheriff's offices, Tribal Lighthouse Police, Department of Public Safety, Cities, Schools, and Transit. This group could also help identify funding sources that can help supplement stretched assets.

A booth at the tribal festival will allow a forum for many of the safety initiatives discussed at these meetings to be marketed.

- Safe Routes to Schools

Identify grant funds available through the Safe Routes to Schools program. Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs are impacting communities across the country in measurable ways. Local SRTS programs can: help reduce traffic congestion in neighborhoods and around schools, improve driver behavior, and increase bicycling and walking to school.

Issue Champion: The Chickasaw Nation Transportation Department

Implementation: The Chickasaw Nation Transportation Department will compile the contact list from the Chickasaw Nation Safety Workshop to establish a core Transportation Safety Coordinating Committee and plan a regular meeting schedule for this group. The Committee will work to identify funds for safety programs, including grants for the Safe Routes to Schools program.

ATTACHMENT A

Existing Programs Identified:

- Officers in the DARE program have been providing educational programs in the local schools.
- The Chickasaw Lighthouse law enforcement officials are cross-deputized. They are trained to provide first responder assistance.
- Injury Prevention Program “Ride Safe” provides car seats, through the Community Health Program.
- Substance abuse services including outpatient treatment, inpatient consults and information & referral, through the Community Health Program.
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- The Chickasaw Nation Transit Service conducts “*Bus Talks*,” periodic safety programs for transit professionals, in an effort to develop a safety culture in the work place.
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- The Chickasaw Nation Transit service conducts Bus Rodeos to teach their drivers safe driving practices.

Issues Identified:

- Seatbelt usage
- Distracted Driving
- DUI
- Access to Data
- Speeding
- Heavy equipment damage to roads
- Rural road conditions (limited site distance, vegetation, animals on road, outdated design, weather conditions)
- Lack of communication/coordination between entities
- Differing priorities within entities
- Farmer’s Market Road/vertical alignment
- Bicycles on Highway 3
- Sign Management System needed
- Funding Sources

ATTACHMENT B

The Chickasaw Nation Tribal Safety Workshop

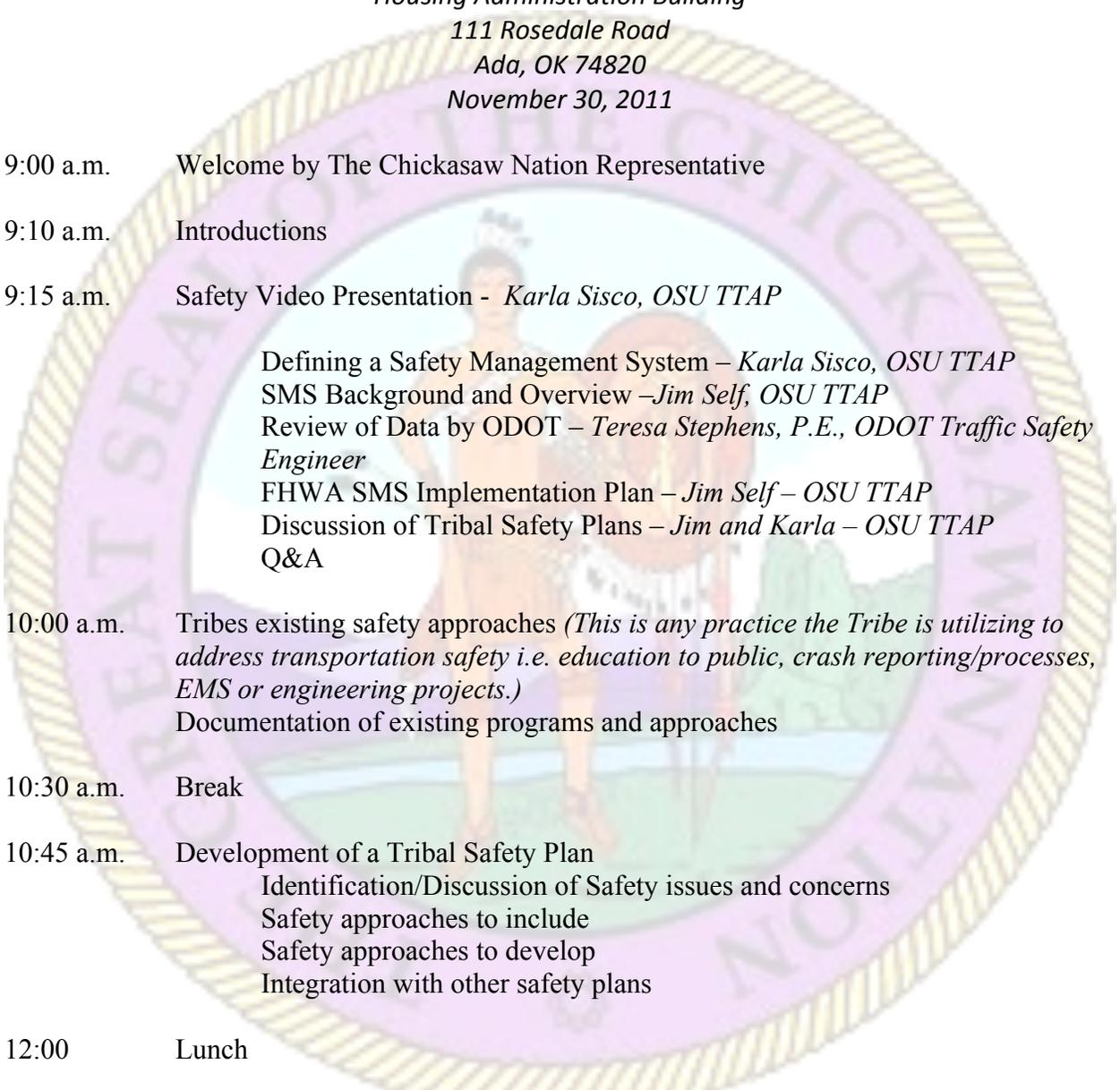
AGENDA

Housing Administration Building

111 Rosedale Road

Ada, OK 74820

November 30, 2011

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- The background of the agenda is a large, faint watermark of the Chickasaw Nation seal. The seal is circular with a purple border containing the text "GREAT SEAT OF THE CHICKASAW NATION" in gold. The center of the seal depicts a Native American man in traditional dress standing on a grassy bank next to a river, with a woman and child nearby. The scene is set against a backdrop of green hills and a blue sky.
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome by The Chickasaw Nation Representative
- 9:10 a.m. Introductions
- 9:15 a.m. Safety Video Presentation - *Karla Sisco, OSU TTAP*
- Defining a Safety Management System – *Karla Sisco, OSU TTAP*
SMS Background and Overview – *Jim Self, OSU TTAP*
Review of Data by ODOT – *Teresa Stephens, P.E., ODOT Traffic Safety Engineer*
FHWA SMS Implementation Plan – *Jim Self – OSU TTAP*
Discussion of Tribal Safety Plans – *Jim and Karla – OSU TTAP*
Q&A
- 10:00 a.m. Tribes existing safety approaches (*This is any practice the Tribe is utilizing to address transportation safety i.e. education to public, crash reporting/processes, EMS or engineering projects.*)
Documentation of existing programs and approaches
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. Development of a Tribal Safety Plan
Identification/Discussion of Safety issues and concerns
Safety approaches to include
Safety approaches to develop
Integration with other safety plans
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Identification of implementation steps
Identification of responsible parties/champions for specific elements
- 2:15 p.m. Questions/Discussion of process and continued efforts
- 3:00 Wrap Up

PARTICIPANT LIST:

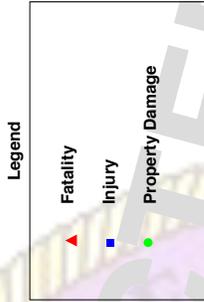
The seal of the Chickasaw Nation is a large, circular emblem in the background. It features a central figure of a Native American man in traditional dress, holding a bow and arrow. The figure is surrounded by a purple and yellow border with the text "THE CHICKASAW NATION" and "1846".

1. Michele McSwain	Community Health Rep	the Chickasaw Nation
2. Roy Blevins	County Commissioner, D-1	Johnston County
3. Melvin Farmer	County Commissioner	Johnston County
4. George Jesse	Chickasaw Lighthorse	the Chickasaw Nation
5. Stacy Edgar	Manager	the Chickasaw Nation
6. Huy Nguyen	Engineer	FHWA
7. Teresa Stephens	Engineer	ODOT
8. Karla Sisco	Specialist	OSU TTAP
9. Jim Self	Director	OSU TTAP
10. Phillip B. Wood	Sgt., Chickasaw Lighthorse	the Chickasaw Nation
11. Cheryl Willis	Community Health Rep	Indian Health Services
12. Zac Hawkins	Transportation Planner	the Chickasaw Nation
13. Rick Miller	Transit Manager	the Chickasaw Nation
14. Bo Ellis	Transportation Director	the Chickasaw Nation
15. Angie Gilliam	Transit Director	the Chickasaw Nation
16. Beverly Reynen	Community Health Rep	the Chickasaw Nation
17. Pam Journey	GIS Project Coordinator	Red Plains Engineering
18. Sharon Smart	Community Health Rep	the Chickasaw Nation
19. Michael Imotichy	Community Health Rep	the Chickasaw Nation
20. Danny Davis	County Commissioner D-2	Pontotoc County
21. Afra Harper	Community Health Rep	the Chickasaw Nation

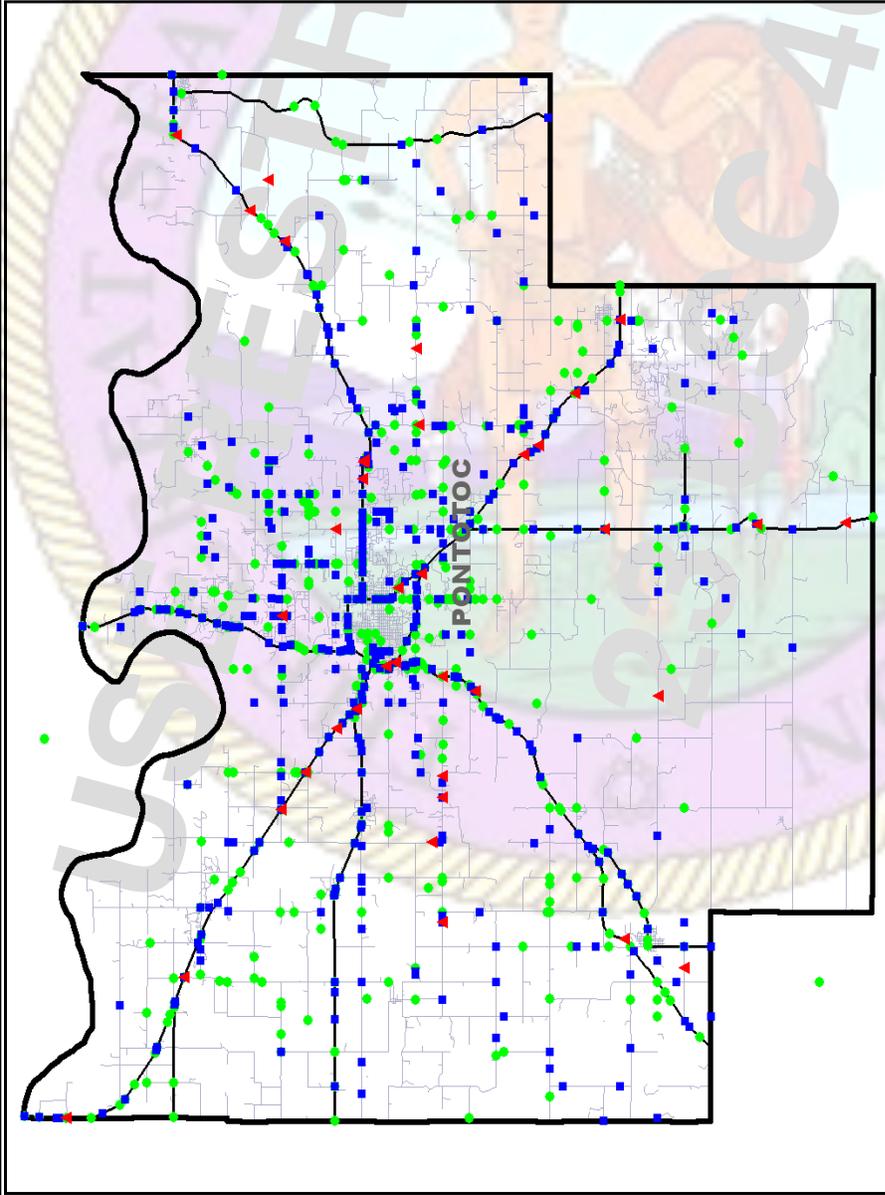


Program Provided by:
 Traffic Engineering Division
 Collision Analysis and Safety Branch
 (405) 522-0985
 Created: 11/22/2011 by Teresa Stephens

Collision Analysis



Remarks:
 PONTOTOC COUNTY - HIGHWAY
 AND COUNTY ROADS



PONTOTOC COUNTY - HIGHWAY AND COUNTY ROADS

Date Range: 01-01-2006 thru 12-31-2010

CITY STREET COLLISIONS NOT MAPPED.

	2006			2007			2008			2009			2010		
	Fat	Inj	Tot												
Collisions	5	170	189	7	231	251	8	143	160	11	141	131	9	123	141
Persons	6	292	298	9	382	391	9	226	235	11	205	216	10	195	205

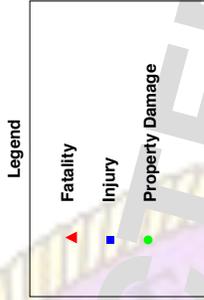
	Study Total		
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage
Collisions	40	808	872
Persons	45	1300	1345

TOTALS INCLUDE NON-HIGHWAY COLLISIONS.

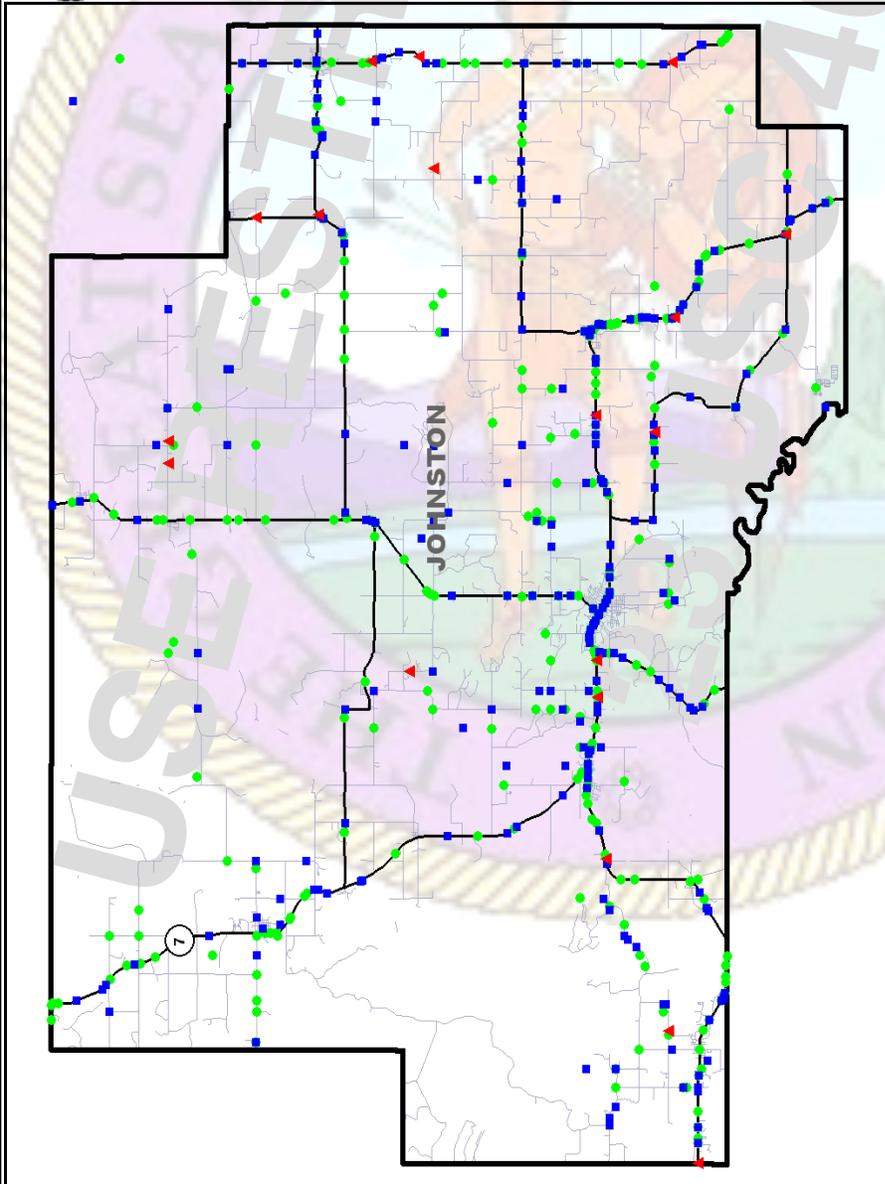


Program Provided by:
 Traffic Engineering Division
 Collision Analysis and Safety Branch
 (405) 522-0985
 Created: 11/22/2011 by Teresa Stephens

Collision Analysis



Remarks:
 JOHNSTON COUNTY - HIGHWAY
 AND COUNTY ROADS COLLISIONS



JOHNSTON COUNTY - HIGHWAY AND COUNTY ROADS COLLISIONS

Date Range: 01-01-2006 thru 12-31-2010

CITY STREET COLLISIONS NOT MAPPED.

	2006			2007			2008			2009			2010		
	Fat	Inj	Tot												
Collisions	2	87	102	8	54	106	4	55	105	4	68	94	1	52	100
Persons	2	142	144	9	80	89	4	75	79	4	94	98	1	69	70

	Study Total		
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage
Collisions	19	316	507
Persons	20	460	480

TOTALS INCLUDE NON-HIGHWAY COLLISIONS.