Trucks, Trains & Traffic Safety

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Commercial Vehicle Truck Traffic Trends

Heavy Commercial Vehicle Miles Traveled per Year in Minnesota
Available Resources for Designers

• SUPERLOAD Utility Resource Map
  • Filter clearances on MnDOT utility lines, overhead signs and signals on state highways, and details on electrical services in different areas of Minnesota.

• Width of Roadway Map
  • Displays travel lane widths for MnDOT’s two-lane undivided highways in three different travel lane width classes: 10 ft., 11 ft., 12 ft. or greater.
  • You can also view the location of Metro rush hour zones and restricted travel areas.
  
  http://www.dot.state.mn.us/cvo/oversize/index.html

Things to Consider

• Design decisions that may affect commercial vehicles, oversize/overweight permitting and State Patrol’s ability to enforce laws
  • Narrower shoulder or lane widths
  • Roundabouts
  • Tighter turning widths
Available Resources for Designers

- Prevent Crashes & Minimize Crash Severity
  - Separate Commercial Vehicles out of the stream of traffic
    - Encourage trucks to use alternative routes
    - Create a truck only lane through the work zone
  - Work Zone Design and Maintenance
    - Maintaining sufficient truck parking nearby
    - Maintain good retroreflectivity (sign, device and pavement markings)
    - Establish and enforce work zone speed limits
    - Avoid the creation of traffic queues/Provide warning of stopped or slow traffic ahead
    - Avoid using short or no acceleration lane entrance ramps

Available Resources for Commercial Vehicle Drivers

- Guide for New Commercial Vehicle Operators
  - http://www.dot.state.mn.us/cvo/new_operator.html
    - Fact sheets
    - Statutes and Rules
    - Minnesota Commercial Truck and Passenger Regulations

- Statewide Truck-Weight Education Training
  - http://www.dot.state.mn.us/cvo/training/
    - Online Training
    - Commercial Motor Vehicle driver training (not CDL training)
    - Passenger Transportation Classes (limousine and special transportation services)
    - OSOW permit training
    - Truck Weight Education Training
Available Resources for Commercial Vehicle Drivers

Truck Parking Information Management System (TPIMS)
- [https://trucksparkhere.com/](https://trucksparkhere.com/)
- Minnesota 1 of 8 states with new technology
- 6 rest areas in Minnesota along I-35 and I-94
- Collects and broadcasts real time data

HOW TPIMS WORKS

1. Vehicle detection systems measure available parking in lots across each state
2. Parking data goes to states and 3rd party processors
3. Data is delivered to drivers

Let’s talk about Trains

2018 Highway Rail Fatalities
- Iowa 6
- Minnesota 5
- Wisconsin 4
### Minnesota Grade Crossing fatalities 2004-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Crossbucks</th>
<th>Stop Sign</th>
<th>Flashers</th>
<th>Gates</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did not stop</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stopped on crossing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stopped then proceeded</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Went around gates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Went thru gate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fatality Grand Total</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Percent of fatalities</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>29</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>% AADT</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>58</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Now what?**

[Image of a train crossing scene]
Train vs Wind Turbine???

Stuck on tracks
Stuck on tracks

Who you gonna call?

Nope
Stuck on tracks

Who you gonna call?

Notifying the Railroad

REPORT EMERGENCY OR PROBLEM
1-800-XXX-XXXX
X-ING 999 999 Z
Finding that Blue Sign

If there is a vehicle stuck on the tracks

1. Get everyone out of the vehicle
2. Injuries? Call 911
3. Find the blue sign
4. Call the number
5. Give dispatch the US DOT crossing number and details
All drivers should know

• Be prepared to stop at every railroad crossing
• Do not stop on the tracks
• Do not drive around the gates or ignore flashing lights
• Slow down, stop, look both ways

Trunk Highway Coordination

http://www.dot.state.mn.us/ofrw/contacts.html
Coordination Opportunities

- Check the Commercial Vehicle volumes
- Consult the maps on the Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicles Website
- Call our office
  - Oversize/Overweight (OSOW)
    - Rob Holschbach, Special Projects Coordinator
    - 651-355-0243

Railroad Coordination & Weight Enforcement
- Julie Whitcher, Rail Safety Engineer/Weigh Stations
  - 651-366-3688
  - http://www.dot.state.mn.us/ofrw/contacts.html
  - http://www.dot.state.mn.us/cvo/oversize/index.html
  - http://www.dot.state.mn.us/ofrw/railroad/safety.html

Thank you!

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