



MINNESOTA  
TOWARD **ZERO** DEATHS

# 2023 Legislative Impacts: Unprecedented Change for Traffic Safety

TZD Conference  
November 15, 2023



# Agenda

## Transportation Omnibus Bill

- Safe Road Zones
- Rural High-Risk Roadway Funding
- Work Zone Speed Funding
- Active Transportation
- Advisory Council on Traffic Safety
- Traffic Citation Disposition Analysis
- Department of Public Safety Appropriations
- Traffic Safety Report

Recreational Cannabis

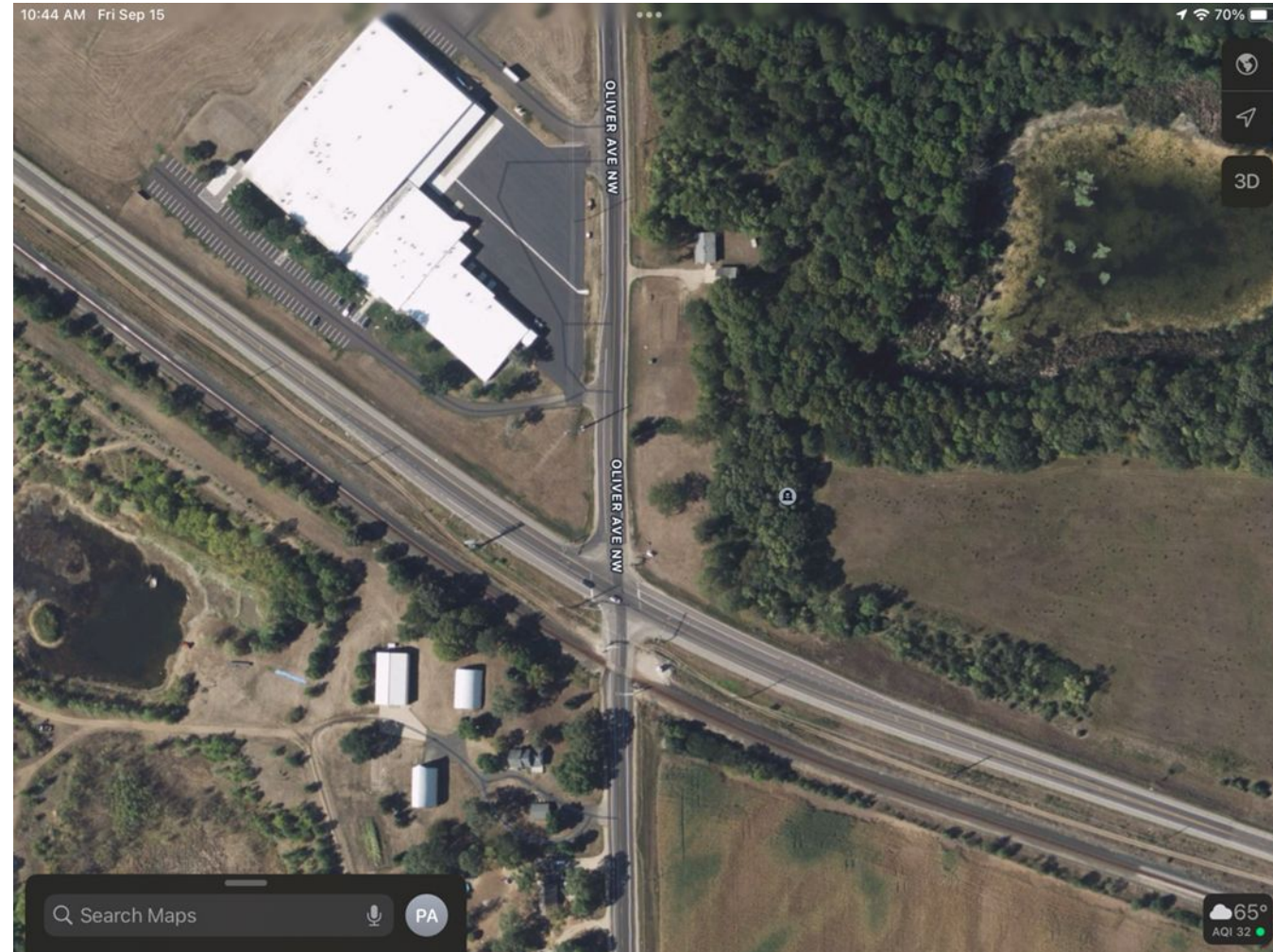
Speed Safety Cameras

Takeaways



# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Safe Road Zones (Line 119.27)





# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Safe Road Zones (Line 119.27)

- Local agencies may request DOT Commissioner to designate a Safe Road Zone. Considerations include speed, crashes, vulnerable road user safety, intersection risks, roadway design
- \$1M in FY24 for safe road zones (including public education / awareness campaigns)
- Considering \$100k minimum per request to encourage changes and to help manage number of funded requests
- Similar approach to past corridor coalitions. Encourages multidisciplinary approach to speed/safety issues.

# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Safe Road Zones

- Will coordinate solicitation and awards with DPS. \$1M in FY24 for local enforcement in safe road zones also available.
- Measures may include: signs, design modifications, public awareness/education, speed limit evaluation, safety assessment
- Advisory Council on Traffic Safety – December item
- Considering one-time solicitation in early 2024. Could evolve into ongoing program if there are limited applications, and if legislature decides to fund in future years.

# Transportation Omnibus Bill

Rural High-Risk Roadway Funding (Line 9.21)

□ 1 in 3 crashes

□ 3 of 4 Fataals

# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Rural High-Risk Roadway Funding (Line 9.21)

- \$10M in SFY24 (available thru FY26) for improvements **that reduce speeds and eliminate intersection interactions** on rural high-risk roadways.
- The DOT commissioner must identify roadways based on crash information and in consultation with the Advisory Council on Traffic Safety.
- Currently working on project selection process / timing
- \$2M for grants to local law enforcement for speed, seatbelt, distraction and impairment enforcement activities. These grants will come through OTS.

# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Rural High-Risk Roadway Funding

- Possibilities:
  - Advance already awarded HSIP projects, then backfill HSIP through this year's solicitation
  - New intersection projects that don't require R/W (J-turns)





# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Rural High-Risk Roadway Funding

- Possibilities:
  - Enhanced edgeline, delineators, rumbles on rural roadways > 2300 ADT
  - Ideally coordinated with pavement needs
  - OT grants to local LE agencies for traffic enforcement



# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Work Zone Speed Funding (Line 11.23)

- \$300,000 in SFY24/25 for additions and modifications to work zone design or layout to reduce vehicle speeds in a work zone. This appropriation is available following a determination by the commissioner that **the initial work zone design or layout insufficiently provides for reduced vehicle speeds.**
- Possibilities
  - Electronic Workers Present Speed Limits/Speed Wizards
  - Speed Trailer for Data Gathering
  - Speed Safety Vehicles
  - Tactile Warnings
  - Changeable Message Signs

# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Active Transportation

- Districts must provide schools with age-appropriate transportation safety training for K-8
- Stop sign bicycle law provision – if there is not a vehicle in the vicinity, the operator may proceed without stopping.
- Active Transportation Advisory Committee to make recommendations to the Commissioner on safety, education, and development programs; the active transportation program; and the safe routes to school program until 2033

# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Advisory Council on Traffic Safety (Line 84.6)

- Advise/make recommendations to MDH, DPS, and DOT commissioners and the Governor on development and implementation of projects and programs intended to improve traffic safety
- 33 members to broaden involvement/ownership in TZD
- Helps to provide more structured leadership of TZD program and funding available – consistent with recommendations of TZD 2.0: \$2M in FY24 and FY25
- Second meeting scheduled for Dec 13



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# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Advisory Council on Traffic Safety

- 28 members are listed by position or specific agency/organization
- 5 members were appointed together by the DOT and DPS commissioners:
  - 1 Tribal representative
  - 2 individuals representing vulnerable road users
  - 1 representative of metropolitan planning organizations
  - 1 representative of contractors engaged in construction or maintenance of highways/infrastructure



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# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Traffic Safety Violations Disposition Analysis

- Evaluate:
  - Rates of citations issued vs rates of citations contested and their outcomes
  - Fines imposed vs fines paid
  - Changes in patterns of enforcement from 2017-2022
- Interim report - July 2024
- Final report - July 2025
- \$250k in FY24



# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## General Fund Appropriations - DPS

- \$407k in SFY24 and \$813k in SFY25 to create a Traffic Safety Data Analytics Center
- \$50k in SFY24 for education/awareness campaign on motor vehicles passing school buses
- \$100k in SFY24 to promote understanding/compliance regarding passing of parked authorized vehicles
- \$98k in both years for a statewide traffic safety equity program (Research FTE in OTS to examine data)

# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## General Fund Appropriations – DPS (continued)

- \$2M in FY24 for grants to local law enforcement to underwrite the costs of traffic safety specific training for both new hires and existing officers. These grants will come through OTS.
- \$350k in FY24 local government grants for safe ride programs that support hospitality/entertainment businesses
- \$2M in SFY24/25 for grants to schools and bus companies for school bus stop signal arm camera systems.



# Transportation Omnibus Bill

## Traffic Safety Report

- Analyze safety of MN's roads, including:
  - Injury, fatality numbers (K/A's)
  - Factors causing injury, fatality
  - Roadway improvements broadly and specifically that could reduce K/A's
  - Enforcement/Education efforts than can reduce K/A's
  - Other safety improvements or programs to improve the quality of the roadway experience
  - Existing resource and resource gaps for safety improvements
- Report due to legislature, Governor by Jan 15 yearly

# Legislation – HF 100/SF73

## Legalization of Recreational Cannabis

- Office of Cannabis Management Established
- Cannabis Advisory Council Created
  - Colonel, OTS Director included on council
- Significant need for public education/awareness on risks of driving while high
  - If you feel different, you drive different
  - How best to reach targeted audiences

# Legislation – HF 100/SF 73

## Legalization of Recreational Cannabis

- Major challenge for enforcement
- DPS Appropriations for education/awareness and for Drug Recognition Experts, Evaluators, Training, Phlebotomists

	SFY24	SFY25
- OTS	\$ 1.485	\$0.010
- State Patrol	\$16.157	\$7.718

# Legislation - General

## Speed Safety Cameras

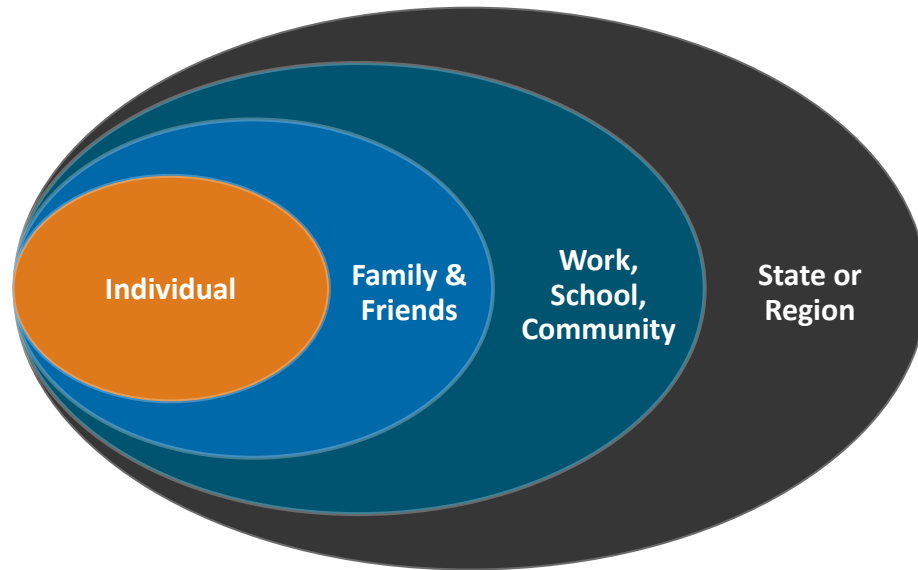
- 3 different bills introduced would have allowed for some type of speed safety camera pilot
- Commercial Vehicle License Masking issue with administrative citations?
- Legislative Report required by DPS on Speed Safety Cameras by January 2024
- MnDOT Transportation Research Synthesis (TRS) available online summarizing experience of other states
  - Will be completing a follow-up TRS on Masking (January)



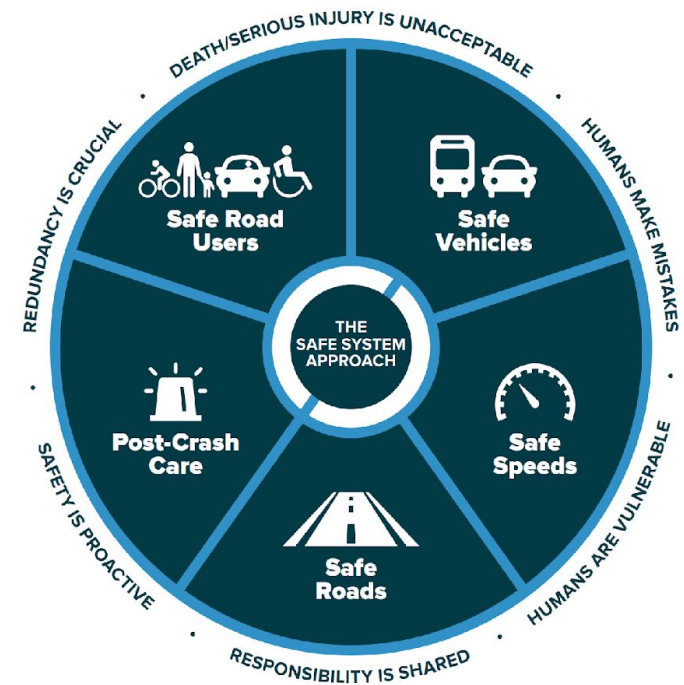
# TZD – General

Focusing our efforts on 2 fronts:

## Traffic Safety Culture



## Safe System



# Legislation

## Takeaways

- Momentum for Traffic Safety
  - How can we leverage it?
  - Almost \$30M in traffic safety investment
- Opportunity to broaden ownership in TZD through the Advisory Council on Traffic Safety
- Cultural Belief Change/Formation needed with Speed, Cannabis