



Trucks, Trains & Traffic Safety

Julie Whitcher, PE, Program Manager
Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations

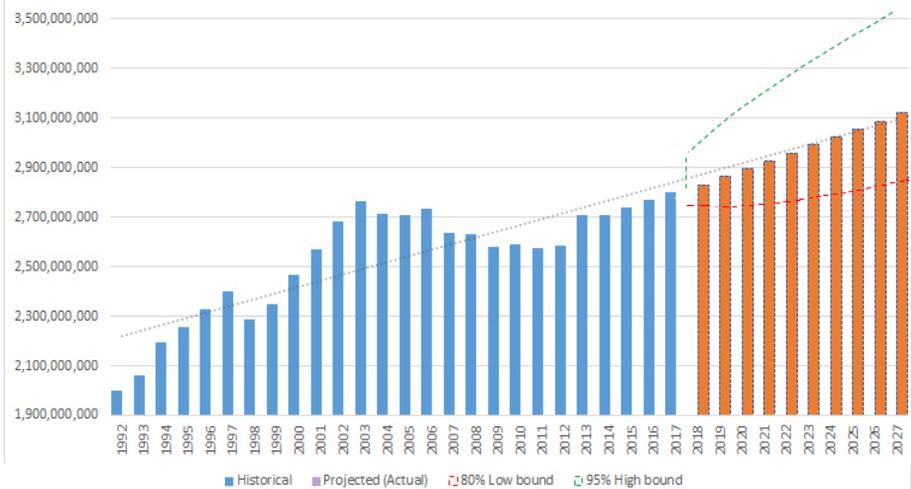
October 2019



| mndot.gov

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., 12ft. 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

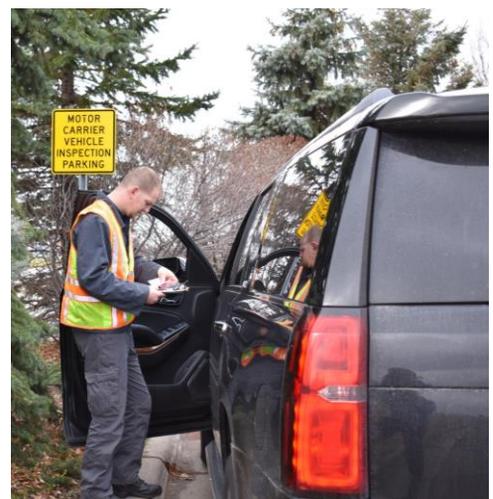
• Prevent Crashes & Minimize Crash Severity

- 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

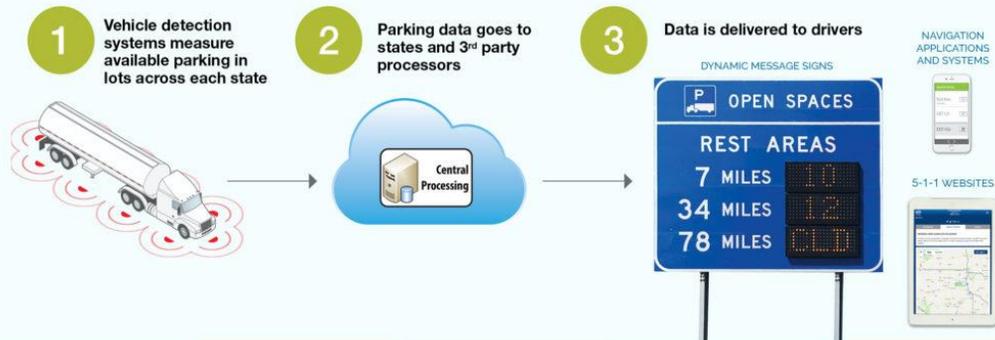


Available Resources for Commercial Vehicle Drivers

Truck Parking Information Management System (TPIMS)

- <https://trucksparkhere.com/>
- 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



Let's talk about Trains



2018 Highway Rail Fatalities

- Iowa 6
- Minnesota 5
- Wisconsin 4

Minnesota Grade Crossing fatalities 2004-2013

	Crossbucks	Stop Sign	Flashers	Gates	Total
Did not stop	14	24	2		40
Stopped on crossing	1	2	1	3	7
Stopped then proceeded	2				2
Suicide		1			1
Went around gates				9	9
Went thru gate				1	1
Unknown	1	1		7	9
Fatality Grand Total	18	28	3	20	69
Percent of fatalities	26	41	4	29	
% AADT	11	7	24	58	

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Now what?



Train vs Wind Turbine???



Stuck on tracks



Stuck on tracks



Who you gonna call?

Who you gonna call?



Nope

Stuck on tracks



Who you gonna call?

Notifying the Railroad



Finding that Blue Sign



If there is a vehicle stuck on the tracks



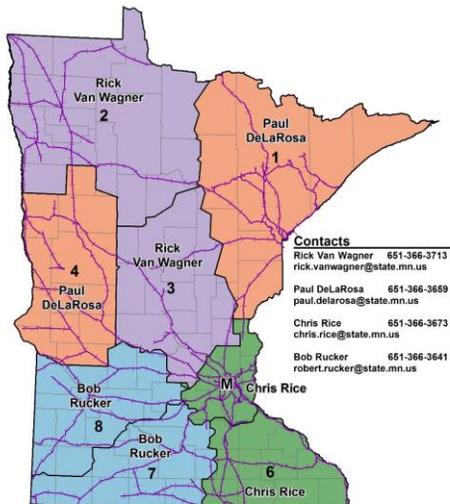
1. Get everyone out of the vehicle
2. Injuries? Call 911
3. Find the blue sign
4. Call the number
5. Give dispatch the US DOT crossing number and details

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

Rail Safety and Coordination Project Managers

Contacts for Railroad-Highway Projects



mn DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
www.mndot.gov/ofrw

Updated as of March 2018

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!

Julie Whitcher

Julie.whitcher@state.mn.us

651-366-3688