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Where can I find more information?

- Purchase the HSM:
<http://bookstore.transportation.org>
 - Search under code HSM-1
 - Cost: \$325 (Members), \$390 (Non-members)
 - Discounts are available for those states taking HSM training
- IHSDM:
<http://www.tfhr.gov/safety/ihsdm/ihsdm.htm>
- SafetyAnalyst:
<http://www.safetyanalyst.org>
- Crash Modification Factors Clearinghouse:
<http://www.cmfclearinghouse.org>
- HSM Training Courses:
<http://nhi.fhwa.dot.gov>

An Overview of the **HIGHWAY SAFETY MANUAL**



For more information, visit the
Highway Safety Manual website at
www.highwaysafetymanual.org

Why a Highway Safety Manual?

Prior to this first edition of the HSM, there were no widely accepted tools for engineers to use to quantify the potential for reductions in crash frequency and severity when making transportation facility design and operations decisions. As a result, safety considerations often carried little weight in the project development process, limiting the ability of transportation professionals to discuss and act upon safety-related recommendations during project development. An effective resource was urgently needed to quantify and predict the expected crash frequency of elements considered in road planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance.

The HSM begins to fill this gap, providing transportation professionals with knowledge, techniques, and methodologies to quantify the safety-related effects of transportation decisions – similar to the way operational impacts are quantified in the Highway Capacity Manual and environmental impacts are calculated through the NEPA process. The HSM provides the best factual information and tools in a useful form to facilitate roadway decisions based on the explicit consideration of their effects on potential future crash frequency and severity.

Benefits include an improved decision-making process for applying safety treatments, resulting in potential cost savings to highway agencies. Time spent justifying a safety decision can be reduced by conducting a definitive, science-based analysis; and safety elements can be integrated in the most cost-effective manner in the project development process. In the end, the HSM provides tools to support improved traffic safety management and a reduction in the frequency and severity of traffic crashes.

What types of benefits are expected with its use?

- Safety improvements
 - Improve the decision-making process and effectiveness of countermeasures to reduce the number and severity of crashes.
- Cost savings
 - Decisions can be made based on quantitative evaluations that predict crash reduction associated with improvements, instilling confidence that safety funds are being applied most effectively.
 - Time spent justifying a safety decision will be reduced by conducting a definitive, science-based analysis.
 - Integrate safety elements in the most cost-effective manner in the project development process.

