



Research In Progress

Pilot Test of Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Impaired Pedestrian Crashes

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Approximately one in three pedestrian fatalities involves a pedestrian with a BAC of .08 or greater. A research workshop on this topic involved a panel of experts who reviewed past research and recommended several strategies to reduce impaired pedestrian crashes. The top two countermeasure approaches the panel identified were comprehensive approaches focusing on publicity, enforcement and engineering either in zones or corridors. Panel members strongly emphasized the need for community buy-in and sustainable interventions focusing on nighttime pedestrian crashes since a majority of these crashes are alcohol-related.

The goal of this project is to take the recommendations from the workshop and conduct a pilot study to evaluate the effectiveness of this approach. In Phase I of this project Chicago was identified as the implementation site for this project based on nighttime pedestrian crashes, clustering of crashes, community buy-in, and interest in continuing the program beyond NHTSA involvement. In Phase II, Chicago will implement targeted engineering, enforcement and publicity countermeasures at locations with high nighttime pedestrian crashes for one year. The program will be evaluated on the extent to which alcohol-impaired pedestrian crashes decrease.

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