UPDATES TO THE STATE OF COLORADO TRAFFIC CRASH REPORT, FORM DR 2447

CDOT | COLORADO
Department of Transportation

THE STATE OF COLORADO IS UPDATING ITS TRAFFIC CRASH REPORT (FORM DR 2447). A LARGE AND DIVERSE GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS WERE INVITED AND CONSULTED FOR THIS PROCESS REPRESENTING AND SHARING A VARIETY OF VIEWPOINTS. BELOW YOU WILL FIND AN INTRODUCTION TO THE EFFORT AND SOME INITIAL INFORMATION. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING AS THE PROJECT PROGRESSES.

WHY UPDATE THE DR 2447?

A: A lot of things have evolved in Colorado since the DR 2447 came out in 2006. There is a growing number of nonmotorists (bicyclists and pedestrians) involved in crashes, distraction has been increasing (especially with phones and electronic devices), marijuana has been legalized, and autonomous vehicles are on the way.

WHAT CONSIDERATIONS ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT?

A: Millions of dollars are spent on initiatives related to roadway safety in Colorado each year. There are increasing demands that those efforts be data driven to meet the needs of safety analysts. At the same time, it is important to ensure that officers completing the forms can efficiently and reliably enter the requested data. Other considerations include the ability of officers to enter and submit crash data electronically, as well as the ability to link crash data to other data sets for improved safety analysis.

WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THIS EFFORT?

A: Over seventy individuals were consulted for this effort, representing organizations as diverse as Safe Kids, Bike Denver, Bicycle Colorado, MADD, DUID Victims Voices, City and County law enforcement and engineering, CSP, DRCOG, CDOR, CDOT, CHPHE, CDHS, CDE, CDAC, CDPS, FMCSA, NHTSA, and CMCA. Since May of 2016 over 10 work sessions have been held addressing various components of the crash data (crash, vehicle, driver, nonmotorists, the roadway, and the environment), as well as a range of uses for the data (engineering, behavior, enforcement, and health).

WHERE ARE THINGS CURRENTLY?

A: At this point, the *data model* is being finalized. The data model encompasses the definition of the data fields and values that will be collected. The next steps will address the design of the form itself along with the officer's crash form manual. From there, we will roll out the new crash form (DR 3447) throughout the State to law enforcement agencies, the Department of Revenue, the Department of Transportation, and all safety partners transitioning to the new form and database.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE?

A: In parallel with the work to update the crash form, the Department of Revenue is implementing the DRIVES project, a significant upgrade of its driver, vehicle, and crash records system. The DR 3447 rollout schedule is being developed in conjunction with the timing of the DRIVES project timeline. The initial plan is to complete the state-wide rollout of the new form by the end of 2017.

WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN TO ME?

A: If you are a law enforcement officer who investigates motor vehicle crashes, you will have a new crash form to complete on paper or electronically. If you are with an organization that performs crash data analysis, you will have access to a more complete data set to aid in addressing and reducing traffic crashes.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

A: The State Traffic Records Advisory Committee (STRAC) is in charge of the DR 3447 crash form update project. You may contact David Bourget (david.bourget@state.co.us) at CDOT for more information.

You can learn of future developments and find up-to-date information on the crash form update process at the STRAC website: https://www.codot.gov/about/committees/strac.

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