

Centerline Rumble Strips

We all know that Connecticut is dedicated to having ZERO traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all our roadways. One way we work toward that goal is through the **Connecticut Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)**. The SHSP is a "statewide datadriven traffic safety plan that coordinates the efforts of a wide range of organizations to reduce traffic accident fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads." The SHSP focuses on this by establishing goals, objectives, and emphasis areas. These emphasis areas (EA) include Infrastructure,



Behavior, Pedestrian, and Additional Safety Areas. Each EA has identified targets that can be worked on in furtherance of our Vision Zero goals. One of the ways the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) has worked on these targets is by creating technical briefs focused on several of the problem areas identified in the SHSP.



One of these targets is the reduction of roadway departure crashes. The SHSP reports that from 2015 to 2019 there were 767 total fatalities on CT roadways attributed to roadway departures. These fatalities accounted for a large percentage of all fatalities on CT roads. Since the beginning of 2022, more than 50,000 crashes throughout CT have been attributed to roadway departure. A quick look at the Connecticut Crash Data Repository (CTCDR), shows that during that same period, every town in our state has had crashes that involved roadway departure.

Fortunately, there is an effective and low-cost way for us to help reduce roadway departures on our roads and that is by using centerline rumble strips. Knowing the importance of helping to reduce these crashes, CTDOT created the Centerline Rumble Strips Technical Brief. This technical brief outlines the benefits, costs, and other considerations with the installation of centerline rumble strips. They are appearing all over Connecticut and defined as grooves within the double yellow centerline that produce noise and vibration to alert a driver when they drive over them.



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Along with being identified by our SHSP to help make our CT roadways safer, centerline rumble strips are also one of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Proven Safety Countermeasures. FHWA has created a short video which illustrates the benefits centerline rumble strips found below:



Please <u>click here</u> to check out this great technical brief along with the other new briefs created by our partners at CTDOT to help meet our SHSP goals. By following the goals of our SHSP and working together, we can all help Connecticut reduce serious injury and fatal crashes on our roadways and achieve our Vision Zero goals.

References:

- CT Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)
 https://www.cti.uconn.edu/cti/CT_Strategic_Highway_Safety_Plan.asp
- 2. Connecticut Crash Data Repository (CTCDR) https://www.ctcrash.uconn.edu/
- 3. FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures https://highways.dot.gov/safety/proven-safety-countermeasures
- 4. Sweet Sound of Safety (video) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2V5-M4-O70E

For more information and assistance with local road safety in your community, contact Jason Hughes, Safety Technical Associate, at jason.hughes@uconn.edu or Shawn Barry, Safety Technical Associate, at shawn.barry@uconn.edu.