

CE 467 / 567 Highway Safety and Operations
Homework 2

Due Thursday, September 14, 2006

For this assignment, you are encouraged to work in groups of two (2) people. This may allow you to more thoroughly look at the issues involved in putting together a strategic highway safety plan. Whether you do these problems alone or in a group will be factored into the grading; i.e., expectations for thoroughness are higher lower if you work in a group.

Note: These problems require considerable writing. Please try not to copy text from any report in your response – use your own words as much as possible. If you want to copy text directly, the correct way is to use proper citations (with quotes and page references) in your write-up.

Problem 1

In the course's electronic reserves, identify **one** of the existing 17 reports in the NCHRP 500 series. Then answer the following questions. A 2- to 3-page write-up is expected for this problem.

- a. What evidence is presented that the particular issue is of national concern?
- b. What strategies and specific countermeasures are proposed?
- c. What evidence is given to suggest that these countermeasures are cost-effective? Is there any experience with these countermeasures that is documented in the report?

Problem 2

On the course web sites are two Transportation Safety Plans that were adopted in late 2005. One is the MAG regional Transportation Safety Plan; the other is the ADOT Strategic Transportation Safety Plan. Pick **one** of these documents, and perform a *critique* of the plan. Again, a 2- to 3-page write-up is expected for this problem.

You should consider the following in your critique:

- a. What are the specific objectives of the agency's (ADOT or MAG) safety plan?
- b. Does the agency have a crash data system that can help in identifying safety problems and factors contributing to crashes?
- c. Do the proposed strategies in the plan simply reflect elements of the AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan? Or, are there *other* safety concerns and strategies that are mentioned in the agency's plan?
- d. Are there adequate data and statistics in the plan to justify the agency's safety priorities?
- e. Does the plan provide more specific information about implementing these strategies? E.g., what will be done, who will do it, who will pay for it, etc.?