

# How is the T2 Center at UCONN supporting Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety in Connecticut?

A look back at 2022 and what you will see in 2023

The T2 Center, at the University of Connecticut, through our eight (8) Professional Development Certificate Programs, our technical assistance programs and our many technical resources, is focused on improving safety for all users on local roadways.

For 40 years, the T2 Center has been funded by the Federal Highway Administration and the CT Department of Transportation to do this important work.

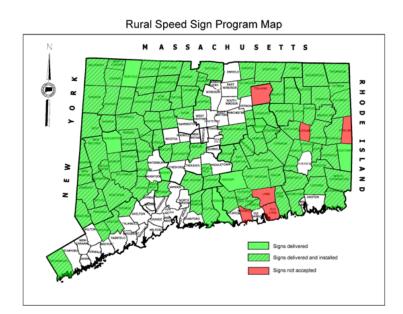
In 2022, here are highlights of some of our efforts:

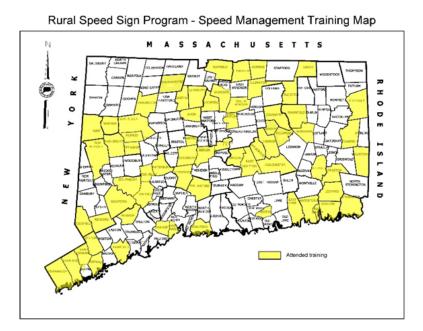
# Safety Circuit Rider Program (SCR):

The SCR program provides a dedicated team that developed and delivers training and technical assistance to all of our 169 Cities and Towns.

# Speed Feedback Sign Program

In 2022, the SCR program team completed the delivery of two speed feedback signs and speed management training to rural towns throughout Connecticut and began a project to deliver signs and training to the Urban municipalities. By the summer of 2023, all 169 towns will have been offered the opportunity for free signs and free training. Mappings included below:





# Technical Assistance (including Road Safety Assessments) for Local Agencies:

The SCR program has provided technical assistance to local agencies on a variety of safety related topics and in multiple formats. The outreach efforts have included the following in 2021-2022:

- 62 municipalities received direct technical safety assistance.
- Road Safety Assessments were conducted at 16 locations.
- 23 municipalities utilized the equipment loan program.
   <u>T2 Center Equipment Loan Program | T2 Center (uconn.edu)</u>

With regard to the Road Safety Assessments, many municipalities have recognized their benefit and have used them to further their work towards Complete Streets and/or overall town-wide safety improvements. The town of Hamden did a comprehensive RSA project to evaluate several areas to support grant-funding opportunities and further their traffic calming efforts in neighborhoods. Madison also completed RSAs to address pedestrian and bicycle issues in their shoreline area and in a neighborhood with three schools, in support of their Complete Streets program. The success of these two RSAs led to a request from Madison for another one in their downtown area, scheduled for March. Additionally, the SCR has collaborated with the DOT, at their invitation, on RSAs on State roads.

#### **Technical Resources:**

Additionally there is a repository of roadway safety resources and information housed on the SCR page of the T2 Center's website, <a href="https://www.cti.uconn.edu/cti/Safety\_Circuit\_Rider1.asp">https://www.cti.uconn.edu/cti/Safety\_Circuit\_Rider1.asp</a>.

#### Sharing CT Best Practices:

The SCR program team maintains a growing repository of CT Safety Examples, located on the website at <u>https://www.cti.uconn.edu/cti/CT Examples of Safety Countermeasures.</u> asp.

These examples highlight the good safety work being done around the State and when appropriate, identify if the project is an EDC initiative and/or a Proven Safety Countermeasure.

The SCR also contributes a "Safety Matters" article to the T2 Center's monthly *Connecticut Crossroads* newsletter. Previous topics covered a variety of roadway safety issues, including the below:

- STEP/Pedestrian Safety
- Sign Visibility & Retroreflectivity
- Nighttime Visibility and Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety
- Pedestrian Safety is Everyone's Responsibility

#### **Complete Streets:**

A partnership between the T2 Center team, CTDOT and Connecticut local agencies, developed a series of helpful resources, best practices and project spotlights that are available on the T2 Center website under our new Complete Streets Information Exchange: <u>Complete Streets Information Exchange | T2 Center (uconn.edu)</u>

Data from a survey of Connecticut municipalities is providing us with very useful information to set the strategic path forward in our Complete Streets efforts. This effort will include the collection of sample policies and projects that will supplement our online resources and expand our Connecticut safety examples repository.

#### Partnership with CTDOT on ADA Transition Planning:

A strong partnership has been developed between the T2 Center team and the new ADA Coordinator at CTDOT. We are collaborating on training activities to support local agency implementation of an ADA transition plan.

# Safety Training:





# 2022 Safety Academy Classes

Virtual Workshops	Date	Number of Registered Attendees
Complete Streets Strategies Road Reconfiguration	3/16/22	63
Speed Management	4/19/22	37

In-Person Workshops	Date	Attendees
Developing a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan	6/1-6/2/22	24
Using Your Tools to Develop a Speed Management Strategy	6/30/22	17
Road Safety Assessments for Local Roads- Portland	7/12/22	18
Road Safety Assessments for Local Roads - Southbury	9/27/22	15
Speed Management – Developing & Using Your Toolkit	10/12/22	23
ADA – Self Assessments & Transition Plans	10/18/22	25
Taking the Next STEP in Pedestrian Safety - Norwalk	11/1/22	20
Taking the Next STEP in Pedestrian Safety - Manchester	11/3/22	26

# 2022 Safety Matters: Virtual Coffee & Conversation

Event	Date	Number of Registered Attendees
Portland CT's Complete Streets Program	1/27/22	31
Arc GIS Story Maps – How They Can Benefit Your Agency	5/4/22	45
Local Funding Opportunities Through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law – Who in CT Can Help & How	9/29/22	105
MUTCD Final Rule on Maintaining Minimum Pavement Marking Retro-reflectivity	10/27/22	53

#### Support for the Connecticut Strategic Highway Safety Plan:

Representatives from the T2 Center participate on both the SHSP Steering Committee and the Emphasis Areas Committees. The T2 Center also volunteered to host the SHSP website. Here is the link to the new SHSP: <u>CT Strategic Highway Safety Plan | T2 Center (uconn.edu)</u>

#### Local Traffic Authority Education Program:

For almost 40 years, the T2 Center has provided the Local Traffic Authority community with the only training program for this important group of traffic professionals. During 2022 and 2023, the center is working with a group of stakeholders to ensure the curriculum will meet the needs of this group and to address critical areas in ensuring safety for all users.

To support important safety training efforts, the T2 Center will be providing credit for safety academy trainings in our LTA educational program.

#### **Upcoming Trainings in 2023**:

To address timely safety topics, the T2 Center will offer the following free training programs to local and state transportation officials. We also encourage staff members from our state regional planning agencies to participate.

## Safety Circuit Rider Program Safety Academy 2023 Workshop Topics

- Roundabouts What's Next for CT? Cheshire, May 10<sup>th</sup>
- ADA Self-Assessments and Transition Plans TS credit provided Simsbury, April 25<sup>th</sup> and Southbury, September 21<sup>st</sup>
- Solving ADA Design Challenges with a Complete Streets Mindset Cheshire, October 17th
- Combating Roadway Departures Bristol, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and South Windsor, May 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Low-Cost Safety Improvements/Safe System Approach Portland, September 27th
- Speed Management: Developing & Using Your Toolkit LTA credit provided Milford, April 18<sup>th</sup> and South Windsor, June 1<sup>st</sup>

- Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian LTA credit provided Wallingford, June 27<sup>th</sup> and Windsor, June 28<sup>th</sup>
- 2023 Changes to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) LTA credit provided
- Sign Installation & Maintenance by request
- Road Safety Champion Webinar Series:
  - Anatomy of a Crash: Understanding Human Factors March 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Reading the Roadway April 18th

Participation in these programs will provide Safety Academy credit.

Note: Several of these trainings will bring in national and regional subject matter experts to share their knowledge.

## 2023 Safety Matters: Coffee & Conversation

Event	Date	Number of Registered Attendees
ADA Requirements and Transition Planning: A Conversation with CTDOT and Local Agencies	1/26/23	88
Road Safety Assessments & How They Can Help: A Discussion with Local Agencies	3/30/23	50

# For more information on the T2 Center's programs, please visit us at: www.t2center.uconn.edu

#### Or contact anyone on our team at:

T2 Staff | T2 Center (uconn.edu)