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Office of the Auditor General

Report Summary

Performance Audit

Traffic and Safety Section

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

Report Number:
591-0162-15

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The Traffic and Safety Section has a major role in helping to implement MDOT's overall safety program and fulfill the purpose of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan to identify the key safety needs in the State and to guide investment decisions to achieve significant reductions in traffic fatalities and serious traffic injuries on Michigan roadways. The Section, in conjunction with the 7 MDOT region offices and 22 MDOT transportation service centers, conducts various activities to meet this purpose. MDOT allocated \$53.0 million in federal and State funding for fiscal year 2015 projects related to safety improvement, traffic signs, and pavement markings.

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective #1: To assess the Section's efforts to ensure that it appropriately selected priority traffic and safety improvement projects.			Effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
The Section did not ensure that all required road safety audits (RSAs) were conducted. All regions are required to have at least one RSA conducted each year; however, 2 (29%) of the 7 MDOT regions did not meet the annual requirement (<u>Finding #1</u>).		X	Agrees
MDOT did not maintain updated inventory databases for guardrails and traffic signs on the State trunkline system. A majority of the records in MDOT's guardrail database had not been updated since 2007, and MDOT infrequently used its traffic sign inventory system (<u>Finding #2</u>).		X	Agrees

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective #2: To assess the Section's efforts to appropriately review highway construction design plans for the proper geometric features, pavement markings and delineation, and traffic signing.			Effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
None reported.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective #3: To assess the Section's efforts to ensure the accuracy of performance measurements related to traffic and safety improvement activities.			Effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
None reported.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

A copy of the full report can be obtained by calling 517.334.8050 or by visiting our Web site at: www.audgen.michigan.gov

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