# Fifth Urban Street Symposium

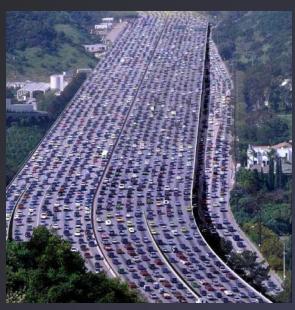
May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017

George Merritt 404-895-0250

**George.merritt@dot.gov** 



#### **DOT's Face Tremendous Challenges**













# The "Rules" Of Business Are Changing

- Unprecedented flexibility
  - 10 Controlling Criteria
  - Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE)
  - Diverging Diamond Interchange
  - Part-Time Shoulder Use
  - Travel Demand Management Solutions
- Transportation Performance Managem (TPM)



HOW WE GET THEF

#### **National Goals**



- Safety
- Infrastructure condition
- Congestion reduction
- System reliability
- Freight movement and economic vitality
- Environmental sustainability
- Reduced project delivery delays



### Safety Performance Management Measures



Safety Performance Management Measures for FHWA's Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

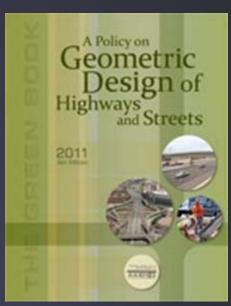
- 5 Performance Measures:
  - Number of Fatalities
  - Rate of Fatalities per 100 million VMT
  - Number of Serious Injuries
  - Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT
  - Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Non-motorized Serious Injuries
- 5-Year Rolling Averages





#### **Engineering Culture**

- We learned from those who taught us how and why we follow the standards...
- There are valid reasons that tell us we now need to work differently:
  - Funding
  - Staff Resources
  - Aging infrastructure
  - Environmental considerations
  - Availability of reliable data and information
  - Technology



#### Where Are We Heading?

- Performance Based Standards
  - Performance Based Practical Design

PBPD is a decision making approach that helps agencies better manage transportation investments and serve system-level needs and performance priorities with limited resources.



#### Two Important Questions to Ponder...

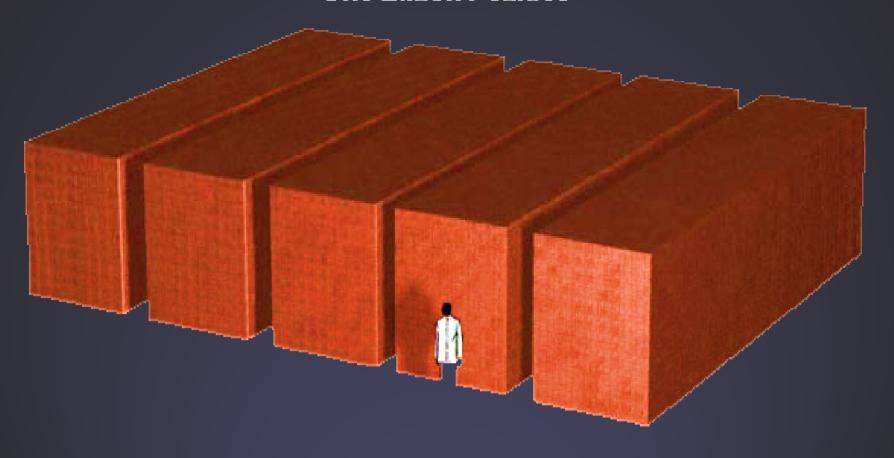
- Can we significantly improve:
  - mobility?
  - safety?

### For all users?



#### **Bad Communication**

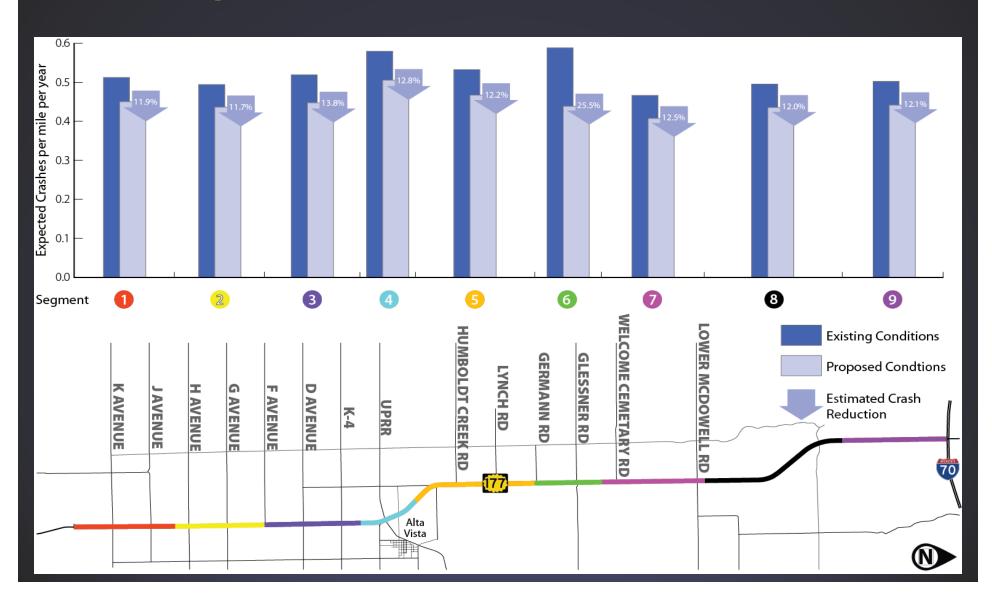
#### One Billion Pennies





| Practical Design Savings                        |               |                       |             |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Item  | Original Cost | <b>Practical Cost</b> | Savings     |
| Pavement Design                                 |               |                       |             |
| Reduce driving lane from 12' to 11'             | \$3,600,000   | \$3,300,000           | \$300,000   |
| Minimize Underdrain Depth and locations         | \$120,000     | \$60,000              | \$60,000    |
| Shoulder Design                                 |               |                       |             |
| Reducing shoulder Aggregate width 4' to 1'      | \$160,000     | \$40,000              | \$120,000   |
| Reduce to 3:1 Side Slopes and V-bottom ditches  | \$775,000     | \$525,000             | \$250,000   |
| Utilities                                       |               |                       |             |
| Relocate 8" gas line to lower elevation         | \$3,000,000   | \$500,000             | \$2,500,000 |
| Move OH utilities inside Clear Zone:            |               |                       |             |
| Reduce trees to be removed                      | \$232,000     | \$132,000             | \$100,000   |
| Reduce area of mitigated wetlands               | \$500,000     | \$400,000             | \$100,000   |
| Reduce number of mitigated trees                | \$50,000      | \$10,000              | \$40,000    |
| Structures                                      |               |                       |             |
| Modify instead of replace most large structures | \$700,000     | \$200,000             | \$500,000   |
| Structure Removal                               | \$120,000     | \$20,000              | \$100,000   |
| Minimizing Cover Depth at Crest Curves          |               |                       | \$40,000    |
| Structure Backfill                              | \$60,000      | \$20,000              | \$40,000    |
| TOTAL PROJECT SAVINGS:                          | \$4,150,000   |                       |             |

## Performance Based Practical Design Example



#### Communication...

- Do people really understand LOS?
  - We need to figure out Travel-Time Reliability...
- Do people really understand what a "Complete Street" is all about?
- We must strive to inform our investment decisions using relevant, objective, credible data



#### Last Thoughts...

- Technology is happening faster than any of us can comprehend
  - V2V & V2I will change everything
  - Digital Windshield
  - Automated Trucking is likely first out of the gate
- You must continue your invaluable work, we must continue to strive to understand what we can control