

<b>Improve MHP availability - installation of equipment and concept of "patrol car is their office"</b>		<b>Agency/Program #:</b> 4110-13-G1
		<b>Division:</b> 13 - Mt Highway Patrol (MHP)
		<b>Program:</b> MHP
<b>Agency Name:</b>	Department of Justice	
<b>Agency Contact:</b>	Kathy Seacat	444-5842
<b>LFC Contact:</b>	Senator Bales, Senator Gallus	
<b>LFD Liaison:</b>	Pat Gervais	444-1795
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**Program or Project Description:**

Increase patrol hours by new technology and improved efficiencies.

Appropriation, Expenditure and Source					Approp & Expenditure numbers are as of August 30, 2010
Fund Name:	2010		2011		
	Approp.	Expended	Approp.	Expended	
General Fund					
State Special	217,380	217,380	20,271	185	
Federal Funds			207,024	35,353	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$217,380</b>	<b>\$217,380</b>	<b>\$227,295</b>	<b>\$35,538</b>	

**Legislative Goal(s):**

To improve MHP availability through development of the concept that a patrol vehicle is the trooper's office.

**Legislative Performance Measures :**

- Ongoing comprehensive IT upgrades will lead to improvements in efficiency including a reduction in the number of hours used for crash investigation, report writing, and case preparation. Currently, the MHP spends nearly 80,000 hours per year on these duties out of a total of 330,000 hours worked.
- Increased available time will translate to increased patrol availability, the end result being increased contacts with motorists, increased citation issuance, and improved traffic safety. The MHP issues over 82,000 traffic citations per year based upon 2007 activity.
- The MHP investigates on average ten thousand motor vehicle crashes per year, with 2700 of those being injury and 220 of those crashes being fatal.
- Increases in efficiency due to the IT and business process improvements should result in increased trooper availability, an increase in traffic citations, and a drop in crash activity in all severity levels.
- A drop in crash severity and rate is a major goal of the MHP.

**2009 Biennium Significant Milestones:**

		Completion Dates	
		Target	Actual
1	Secured a federal grant for \$115,000 in order to allow development of a statewide web based crash reporting program. This grant will be used to allow all law enforcement agencies the capability to report crashes via the web based program.	5/30/2010	
2	Secured a federal grant for \$92,024 for a state coordinator to train all law enforcement agencies within the state on web based crash reporting.	10/31/2009	12/23/2009
3			
4			
5			

**Agency Performance Report:**

As of September 30, 2008, all active Montana Highway Patrol (MHP) troopers have Itronix Laptops installed in their vehicles. Improvements to the software have continued since installation. In addition, agency knowledge and understanding of the system has increased dramatically. At the end of 2010 MHP Administration will have an accurate data picture of agency operations and historically correct data to compare to operations going forward.

Upon review of the first 8 months of 2010 activity in comparison to 2009 several improvements are noted.

Vehicle stops have increased nearly 22% in 2010

Fatal Crashes have dropped nearly 23% in 2010

Crashes overall have dropped nearly 19% in 2010

Citations have increased nearly 6% in 2010

Warnings have increased nearly 15% in 2010

Patrol availability has remained nearly constant. However, improvements to the software and additional review of troops' allocated hours will likely show an increase in patrol availability going forward.

Looking forward, MHP Administration will be able to utilize the historically correct data to manage agency operations and effectively schedule and staff troopers into areas warranting additional enforcement activities based off of crash data review.

**LFD Narrative:**

LFD Assessment: On track

Data Relevance: Yes

Appropriation Status: Provided

Comments/Issues: Data for eight months of 2010 indicate that fatal crashes have dropped about 23 percent and total crashes have dropped about 19 percent.

Options:

--Change LFD assessment

--Release from reporting

Version	Date	Author
AO-1	12/11/07	Gervais
DW-2	05/16/08	Gervais
DP-3	09/24/08	Gervais
D1	10/21/09	Gervais
D2	09/30/10	Gervais

Change Description
1st report
June 2008 update, version changed to reflect section d
Sept 2008 update
2011 biennium continuation
Sept 2010 update