

News Release
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Local Road Safety Public Input Meetings in Northwest Michigan

NORTHWEST, MI – There are more than 6,800 traffic crashes per year reported in the 10 county Northwest Lower Michigan region. Many of these crashes result in severe injuries, or sometimes the tragic loss of life. Traffic crashes produce not only personal tragedy, but burden our community with increased medical and insurance costs, lost productivity, and delays of freight shipments and of the traveling public. Traffic crashes cost the residents and businesses in our region hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

To address the issue of traffic crashes at a regional level, Networks Northwest is collaborating with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to develop a Regional Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) for Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee and Wexford counties. Public input meetings for the LRSP are being held in Mancelona, Traverse City and Wexford County.

The Wexford County meeting will be Tuesday, November 1 at 9:30 a.m. at the Wexford County Road Commission, 85 W. M-115, Boon. The Traverse City meeting will be Tuesday, November 1 at 1:30 p.m. in the large conference room at Northwest Michigan Works, 1209 S. Garfield Avenue. The Mancelona meeting will be held Wednesday, November 2 at 9:30 a.m. at the Mancelona Township Hall, 9610 S. M-88 Highway.

Public officials, emergency medical and public safety professionals, and planners and engineers are encouraged to attend the meeting to provide input into the Northwest Michigan LRSP. Those planning to attend any of the meetings should RSVP by October 25 to michael.woods@networksnorthwest.org or 231-929-5000.

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NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Dan Boss at dan.boss@networksnorthwest.org and stating preferences for resolution (300 dpi?), file format (.tif? .jpg?) and file size (1MB or less?). Or, phone (231) 929-5047. Check our online Media Room at: networksnorthwest.org/media

Founded in 1974, Networks Northwest facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10 county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works, Small Business Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business and community services Networks Northwest offers if you visit our web site, networksnorthwest.org

Networks Northwest's member counties are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.