

# EMPHASIS AREA: RURAL LANE DEPARTURES

## GULF COAST VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN

Through a partnership between the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Gulf Regional Planning Commission (GRPC), a Local Road Safety Plan was completed that analyzed crash data to identify intersections with safety concerns. Through this partnership, crash data was analyzed across Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson counties. Emphasis areas were identified, and stakeholders were convened to gather input. Countermeasures were identified to reduce and prevent future crashes.

Gulf Regional Planning Commission has implemented two phases of lane departure improvement projects. These projects in-

cluded new pavement, pavement markings, signage, rumble stripes, and raised pavement markings.

In 2024 an update was completed to analyze crash data from 2020-2023 to identify areas that are experiencing high numbers of rural lane departure crashes. Using GIS software clusters of crashes were identified in the three county planning area.

In 2023 lane departures make up 27% of total fatality and injury crashes on the Gulf Coast.

## SAFETY COUNTERMEASURES

### **Strategy 1: Refresh pavement markings and install raised pavement markers.**

Well defined pavement markings are critical to drivers. They help drivers see the roadway edge and centerline in poor visibility, dimly lit, or unlit driving conditions.

**Strategy 2: Install longitudinal rumble strips.** Longitudinal rumble strips on the road edge or along the center line of the road that are milled into the pavement. They provide an auditory and vibratory alert to drivers that they have left the travel lane.

**Strategy 3: Install curve warning delineation.** Drivers losing control of a vehicle in a curve or crossing the centerline in a curve is a significant problem on rural roadways. Providing curve delineation is a low-cost counter-measure that can reduce lane departure accidents.

### **Strategy 4: Provide for safe vehicle recovery in run off road scenarios.**

Roadways that do not provide a safety edge and provide no shoulder for vehicles to easily recover from running off the road should be upgraded.

## GRPC Mission

Provide a planning process that identifies, develops, and promotes projects and programs that contribute toward a safe, efficient, and resilient Mississippi Gulf Coast transportation system.



### OBJECTIVE

Reduce motor vehicle crash fatalities and serious injuries

### STRATEGY

Combating roadway departure crashes by applying low-cost roadway lane departure safety treatments

### MEASURE

Number of serious injury and fatality crashes

Rate of serious injury and fatality crashes per 100 million VMT

Number of rural lane departure crashes



**GULF COAST  
AREAS WITH  
HIGH  
OCCURANCES  
OF LANE  
DEPARTURE  
CRASHES.**

<b>HANCOCK COUNTY (LOCAL)</b>
Texas Flat Road & Bombing Range Road
Kiln Delisle Road & Road 525
Texas Flat Road & Birch Drive
Texas Flat Road North of Crown Road
Railroad Avenue East of State Park Road
Kiln Delisle Road East of Road 527

<b>HARRISON COUNTY (LOCAL)</b>
County Farm Road & Robinson Road
Shaw Road & West Wortham Road
White Plains Road South of Blackwell Farm Road
Success Road & Stewart Road
Shaw Road South of Bell Lane
St Patrick Road & Three Rivers Road
Firetower Road & Allen Drive

W Whittman Road & South Wolf River Road
Canal Road South of Interstate 10
Kiln Delisle Road & Road 309
Shaw Road & Reel Place
East Wortham Road East of Scarborough Road
Lorraine Road & Road 247
Shorecrest Road South of Lorraine Road
Shaw Road & Stiles Road



# VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN — LOCAL ROAD LANE DEPARTURES

