

<b>UTC Project Information</b>	
Project Title	Passing Zone Behavior and Sight Distance on Rural Highways-Evaluation of Crash Risk and Safety under Different Geometric Conditions
University	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Principal Investigator	Nathan Belz
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Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	University of Washington PacTrans \$32,500 University of Alaska Fairbanks \$ 32,500
Total Project Cost	\$65,000
Agency ID or Contract Number	DTRT13-G-UTC40
Start and End Dates	January 15, 2015– September 16, 2016
Brief Description of Research Project	<p>The Alaska Department of Transportation (AKDOT) and the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) have identified a critical need to assess the current standards for passing zone requirements on two-lane highways in the context of horizontal and vertical alignment configurations.</p> <p>The project will provide a better understanding of a drivers' passing behavior under varied geometric conditions in order to evaluate how the degree and mix of curvature influence driver behavior.</p> <p>This project will improve upon current American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) guidelines and provide DOTs with better criteria by which geometric roadway configurations can be designed and evaluated in order to improve the safety and efficiency of traffic operations.</p> <p>More specifically, this project seeks to improve the current standards on which the decision to provide or not provide passing zones in a particular context are made.</p>

<p>Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)</p> <p>Place Any Photos Here</p>	<p>Findings have been presented to Alaska DOT&amp;PF and are currently being considered for integration into the state guidance and standards for passing zone design and marking. No implementation has occurred to date.</p>
<p>Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, or anticipated)</p>	<p>No actual benefits have been realized yet. However, we anticipate that the improved safety resulting from the design guidance will help reduce crashes in passing zones.</p>
<p>Web Links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reports</li><li>• Project Website</li></ul>	<p><a href="http://hdl.handle.net/1773/43504">http://hdl.handle.net/1773/43504</a></p>