



PacTrans Regional Transportation Seminar

Speaker: Darrin Grondel
Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2019
Time: 3:30 - 4:50pm, PST
Location: UW Seattle Campus
Husky Union Building (HUB) 334

Webinar URL

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wqpHOn4RDIA>

Title

Washington's Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Target Zero: Current Issues and Potential for Future Research

Abstract

Washington's Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Target Zero, revolves around the goal of eliminating fatalities and serious injuries on state roadways. Target Zero coordinates traffic safety programs, aligns priorities and strategies, and builds a collaborative approach to traffic safety efforts across Washington State. A fundamental element of the plan is that it is data driven, identifying critical factors that contribute to fatal and serious injury crashes on Washington's roads. Unfortunately, traffic fatalities in Washington State and across the nation are on the rise. Some critical issues in Washington include pedestrians and bicyclists, distracted driving, and impaired driving. Additionally, autonomous vehicles are at the forefront of traffic safety research and innovation and will be discussed in the 2019 update of Target Zero.



Speaker

Darrin Grondel was elected as the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) Chair in August 2018. He served as GHSA Secretary from August 2015-2018. Grondel was appointed Director of the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) by Governor Christine Gregoire in 2012 and reappointed by Governor Jay Inslee in 2013. In this role, he provides statewide leadership in all aspects of traffic safety, with a heavy emphasis on human behavioral issues that affect traffic safety. He was recently elected as Chair of the Washington State Autonomous Vehicle Working Group. Grondel has served as the Region 10 Representative to the Board. He represents the GHSA on the DRE Technical Advisory Panel and the Highway Safety Committee for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and serves on the National Sheriffs Association's Traffic Safety Committee. He has contributed to several national projects related to drug-impaired driving, autonomous vehicles, and Toward Zero Death National Strategy. Prior to his role as the WTSC Director, Grondel served 25 years with the Washington State Patrol, retiring at the rank of Captain in May 2017. Grondel has a Doctorate in Organizational Leadership from Brandman University (2016), a Masters in Public Administration from the Evergreen State College (2004), and a Bachelors in Political Science from Brigham Young University (1995).

