



# National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

## Safety Recommendation

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**Date:** December 26, 2012

**In reply refer to:** H-12-47

Mr. John Horsley  
Executive Director  
American Association of State Highway  
and Transportation Officials  
444 N. Capitol Street NW  
Suite 249  
Washington, DC 20001

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The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in other modes of transportation—railroad, highway, marine, and pipeline. The NTSB determines the probable cause of the accidents and issues safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents. In addition, the NTSB carries out special studies concerning transportation safety and coordinates the resources of the federal government and other organizations to provide assistance to victims and their family members affected by major transportation disasters. We are providing the following information to urge the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials to take action on the safety recommendation being issued in this letter.

On December 11, 2012, the NTSB adopted its special investigation report concerning wrong-way driving, which addressed the safety issues associated with wrong-way driving collisions and provided countermeasures to prevent such accidents.<sup>1</sup> Additional information about this special investigation and the resulting recommendations may be found in the report of the investigation, which can be accessed at our website, <http://www.nts.gov>, under report number NTSB/SIR-12/01.

As a result of this investigation, the NTSB issued 16 new recommendations, including 5 to the Federal Highway Administration; 2 to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; 1 to the 33 states that do not mandate the use of alcohol ignition interlock devices for all driving while intoxicated offenders, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the

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<sup>1</sup> See *Wrong-Way Driving*, Highway Special Investigation Report NTSB/SIR-12/01 (Washington, DC: National Transportation Safety Board, 2012).

District of Columbia; 1 to the 50 states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia; 1 to the Automotive Coalition for Traffic Safety, Inc.; 1 to the International Association of Chiefs of Police; 1 to the National Sheriffs' Association; 1 to SAE International; 2 to the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, Global Automakers, and the Consumer Electronics Association; and the following 1 recommendation to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials:

H-12-47

Revise *A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets* as required to address issues of ramp design and pavement channelization in ways that will reduce instances of drivers traveling in the wrong direction as they enter access ramps.

This safety recommendation is derived from the NTSB's investigation and is consistent with the evidence we found and the analysis we performed. Chairman HERSMAN, Vice Chairman HART, and Members SUMWALT, ROSEKIND, and WEENER concurred in this recommendation.

The NTSB is vitally interested in this recommendation because it is designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement it. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendation by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to [correspondence@ntsb.gov](mailto:correspondence@ntsb.gov). If it exceeds 10 megabytes, including attachments, please e-mail us at the same address for instructions. To avoid confusion, please do not submit both an electronic copy and a hard copy of the same response.

*[Original Signed]*

By: Deborah A.P. Hersman  
Chairman