Overview of Rural Challenges

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“The Transportation Safety Advancement Group (TSAG) is an assembly of multi-discipline professionals sharing a common concern for transportation and public safety. TSAG serves as a forum for providing technologies for public safety input and guidance to the US Department of Transportation, ITS Joint Program Office.”

“TSAG members are representatives of key interest-communities, including Fire & Rescue, Emergency Communications, Law Enforcement, Emergency Medical Services, Transportation Operations, Emergency Management, Technology & Telematics, and Academic & Research. TSAG members are expert practitioners from public and private transportation operations and public safety arenas and serve an official outreach and knowledge transfer function on behalf of the ITS Joint Program Office.”

http://www.tsag-its.org/
WHAT’S THE CONNECTION?
“In 1965, 52 million accidental injuries killed 107,000, temporarily disabled over 10 million and permanently impaired 400,000 American citizens at a cost of approximately $18 billion. This neglected epidemic of modern society is the nation’s most important environmental health problem. It is the leading cause of death in the first half of life’s span.”

“Although 49,000 deaths in 1965 were due to motor-vehicle accidents, more than this number died from accidents at work, in the home, in other forms of transportation, in public buildings, in recreational activities, etc.”

HIGHWAY SAFETY ACT OF 1966

- Created the National Traffic Safety Agency (Within Commerce)
- Emergency Care Training
- Vehicle Safety Standards
For time is the longest distance between two places.

Tennessee Williams
RURAL CHALLENGES

- Response Time:
  - Time of the Injury/Time of Initial Treatment

- Responding EMS Agency:
  - BLS/ALS Capabilities

- Skill Proficiencies:
  - Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician (WEMT)

- Rapid Transportation to Tertiary Medical Facility
RURAL CHALLENGES

- Rural Fire/EMS: Volunteers
  - Training/Meeting: Evenings & Weekends
- Rural Law Enforcement: FT/PT/Volunteers
- Communication Capabilities
- DOT Assistance (?)
- NG911/Responder Distraction