

Iowa LTAP Mission

To foster a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound transportation system by improving skills and knowledge of local transportation providers through training, technical assistance, and technology transfer, thus improving the quality of life for Iowans.

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Just call Bob: Another safety resource for Iowa's cities and counties

Iowa LTAP is pleased to welcome Bob Sperry, recently retired Story County engineer and long-time Iowa LTAP advisor, to the staff.

On March 3, Sperry begins his new LTAP assignment as part-time Local Roads Safety Liaison.

Sperry will be traveling the state to share crash data with cities and counties, especially agencies not currently using Iowa's rich crash database or perhaps interested in more fully exploiting this valuable resource.

He will also provide information about state-of-the-art techniques that are helping some Iowa local agencies make strategic, data-based safety improvements in their jurisdictions.

This new safety liaison position signals another first for Iowa's LTAP. Our introduction of the country's first LTAP Safety Circuit Rider in 1989 broadened the impact of Iowa's safety-related outreach by taking workshops to local agencies' garages and offices in every corner of the state.

Bob will supplement Safety Circuit Rider Tom McDonald's safety workshop offerings with individualized consultations and training in crash-data tools for local agencies.

As with so many of LTAP's safety-related services, this opportunity is the result of a grant from the Iowa DOT's Office of Traffic and Safety.

Tom Welch, director of the office, is acutely aware that half of all crash fatalities in Iowa occur on local roads.

"We want to give county engineers as much assistance as possible," Welch says.

"Through Bob's position, we can interact personally with every county engineer



Iowa LTAP is glad to have Bob Sperry join its safety team

in Iowa and make sure they are aware of and have access to all the safety resources available to them from the Iowa DOT and CTRE."

Bob Sperry is a fortunate match for this position. After graduating from Iowa State with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, he worked for several years as a bridge designer at the Iowa DOT.

Then, during more than 30 years as county engineer in Taylor, Webster, and finally Story Counties, he worked with county representatives, regional planning authorities, the Department of Natural Resources, the Iowa DOT, LTAP, and others to meet a variety of challenges.

Sperry knows firsthand the road safety-related issues Iowa's local jurisdictions face.

"I want to keep up my contacts with people," he says, "and show them the value of the safety programs in reducing crash fatalities."

For more information give Bob a call, 515-294-8103, 515-231-6902 (cell). ■