## High Tension Cable Barrier in Median

# Change in Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes, 2001-2011

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### Statewide Locations

#### **High Tension Cable Barrier Locations**

- Installed 2004 2008
- Installed 2009 2012
- Installation Planned





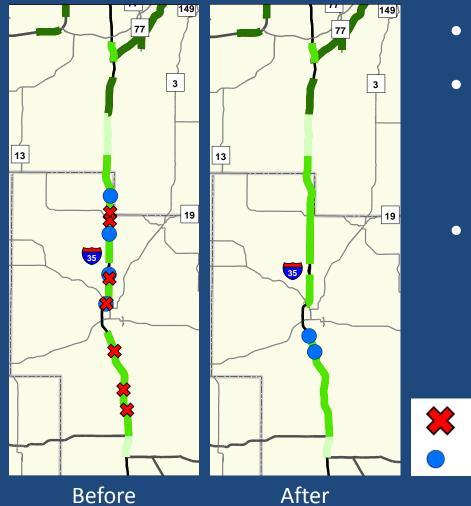
### **Selection Criteria**

### Segments

- High Tension Cable Barrier in median
- Barrier installed 2004-2008
- 31 segments identified
- Crash Data
  - 3 years before installation
  - 3 years after installation
  - Only cross-median crashes

- Before, All Segments
  - 19 fatal crashes
  - 8 serious injury crashes
  - 57 moderate injury crashes
  - 99 possible injury crashes
  - 281 property damage crashes
- After, All Segments
  - 0 fatal crashes
  - 6 serious injury crashes
  - 58 moderate injury crashes
  - 114 possible injury crashes
  - 1,022 property damage crashes

### Sample Segment, I-35



• 35E/35W split to US 14

Before

- 8 fatal crashes
- 3 serious injury crashes
- After

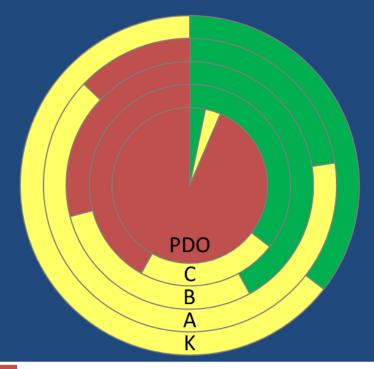
Fatal crashes

Serious Injury crashes

- 0 fatal crashes
- 2 serious injury crashes

### **Before and After**

- No fatal crashes in after period!
- Severity of crossmedian crashes shifted down!
  - Visually, percent of segments with increase in crashes *decreases* as severity *increases*.



Percent of roadways with *increase* in crashes.
Percent of roadways with no change in crashes.
Percent of roadways with *decrease* in crashes.

### **Observed Change in Crashes**

- No fatal crashes in after period!
- High Tension Cable Barrier in the median is intended to reduce severity rather than decrease total crashes
  - Confirmed in analysis.

• Total Crashes + 251%

- - 100% fatal
- - 25% serious injury
- + 2% moderate injury
- + 15% possible injury
- + 264% property damage
- Statistically significant change in fatal (*p* =.001) and property damage (*p* =.000) crashes

### **Crash Savings**

- Total Crash Cost:
  - Before = \$ 29,690,400
  - After = \$ 18,344,800

- Average Crash Cost:
  - Before = \$63,988
  - After = \$15,287

- Observed 38% reduction in TOTAL crash costs!
- Calculated with conservative costs: Fatal = 2 × A Injury.

- Observed 76% reduction in AVERAGE crash costs!
- Weighted average by prevalence of total crashes.