

# Community Corner

## Roadway Safety Series

### A FOCUS ON REDUCING SERIOUS CRASHES

Almost 1,000 people die from crashes every year in New York State. 400 of those fatal crashes occur when a vehicle leaves its lane. That is more than 1 person every day.

New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) has developed a *Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan* to address this issue. It emphasizes that all agencies should have a Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) to improve safety and get everyone home every day. The focus on reducing lane departures has three components.

#### Stay in your lane



Pay attention to the road, especially in curves. Slow down & position your vehicle in the center of your lane. Signs, markings, delineators, and rumble strips will guide you down the road.

#### Stay Calm if you Stray

If your vehicle veers out of your lane, stay calm and gently steer back to where you need to be. Avoid jerking the wheel as this can cause overcorrection & lead to a crash.

Your municipality may widen shoulders, take special care when paving, flatten slopes, and remove fixed objects such as trees & poles to keep you from crashing if you do stray.



#### Measures to Reduce Crash Severity

With proper application of breakaway hardware and guiderail, agencies can reduce the severity if a crash does occur.



<https://highways.dot.gov/safety/local-rural/local-road-safety-plans>

