Comment from Art Martynuska

Posted by the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** on May 18, 2022

The opportunity for a nexus between highway safety and broadband infrastructure has never been greater. The availability of funding and the emergence of new technology gives us the opportunity to combine systems into a robust and reactive vehicle to save lives and prevent injuries. The use of fiber broadband connectivity between public safety agencies, trauma centers, smart cities and the public presents a great opportunity to enhance safety in transportation. Fiber connectivity in a public safety access point allows for low latency times that are invaluable on all levels of public safety response. In addition, the rapidly expanding use of uncrewed aerial vehicles coupled with almost all aspects of public safety response provides yet another avenue of greatly enhancing public safety. As regulatory requirements for beyond line of sight of UAVs are expanded, ,PSAP/9-1-1 centers can tie into highway systems monitoring networks utilizing fiber connected networks will allow fire responders to get advanced situational awareness long before their actual arrival on scene. The use of telemedicine over a near real time fiber network will allow health care providers to make better resource decisions and prepare the receiving facility to select appropriate treatment algorithms well in advance of patient arrival. Lastly, the opportunity to connect PSAP/9-1-1 call centers to communications towers via a fiber network provides not only connections to all the above mentioned systems it provides a great source of redundant high speed communications that is virtually limitless in the amount of data that can be utilized by the public, public safety, design and control groups.