



Minnesota School Bus Stop Arm Camera Grant Project

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Office of Traffic Safety (OTS)





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Iredell Statesville Schools

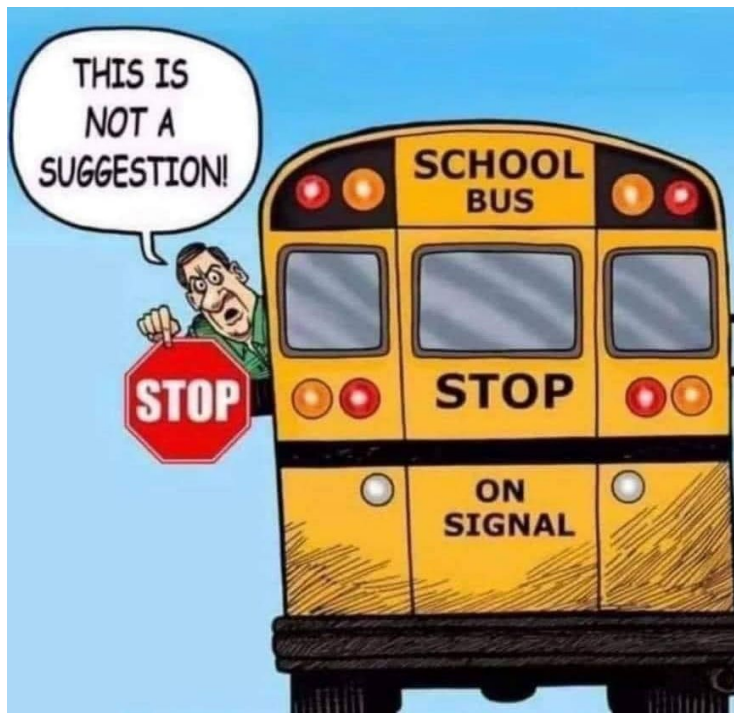
AMB BRA

FMIPCamera04

Purpose & Vision

- Protect children through stop-arm camera installation
- Provide reliable evidence for enforcement
- Shift driver focus fully to student safety





Key Results

6,998 buses equipped (59% of MN fleet) Phases 1-6

\$14.8M deployed across FY22–FY23

Strong statewide engagement

7,943 buses equipped (Additional funding in FY 24-FY25)

69% of Minnesota's yellow school buses are equipped with cameras

<https://www.fox9.com/video/1205083>

Human Impact

- 2022 child injury case underscored urgent need
- Cameras help prevent repeat tragedies
- Bonus = can aid in crime investigations

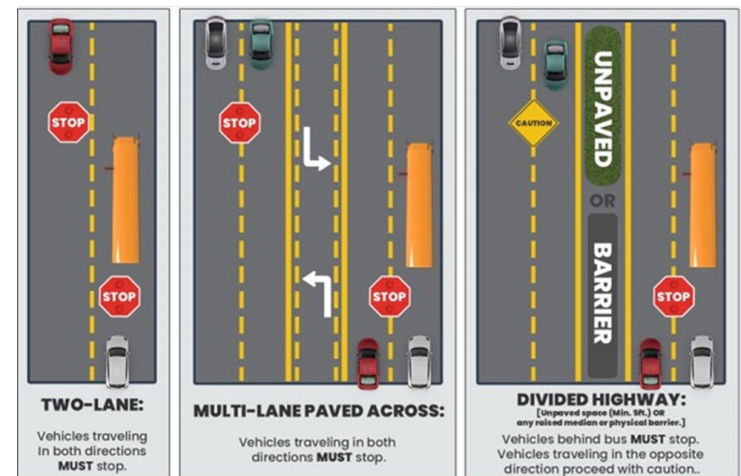
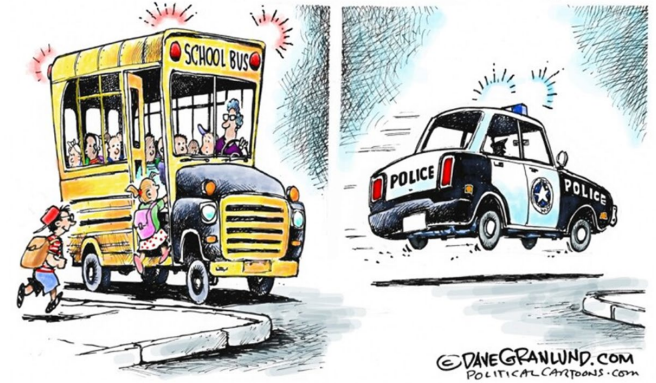


Grant Structure

- Eligible: public, nonpublic, charter schools, transport companies
- Requirements: violation data, outreach, law enforcement partnership
- Evaluation based on need, diversity, plan quality, fiscal strength



If you aren't stopping for these flashing lights... Then you'll be stopping for these flashing lights!





Statewide Engagement

- MSBOA, MAPT, TZD conferences
- Regional workshops & roundtables
- Partnerships with schools, bus companies, Tribal Nations

Implementation Challenges



HARDWARE
INSTALLATION BACKLOGS



LIMITED INSTALLER
AVAILABILITY



WINTER WEATHER
DELAYS

Grant Phases Summary

155 grantees across 6 funding phases

Phase allocations: \$1.19M–\$3.71M per round

2 more phases: 33 grantees - \$2.8M

8 Phases total – FY22 – FY25 – 188 grantees

Total Grant funding awarded: \$16.9M

Violations & Citations



Quarterly violation
reporting



Citation increases show
strong evidence capture



Workflow inconsistencies
remain a barrier

Law Enforcement Perspectives

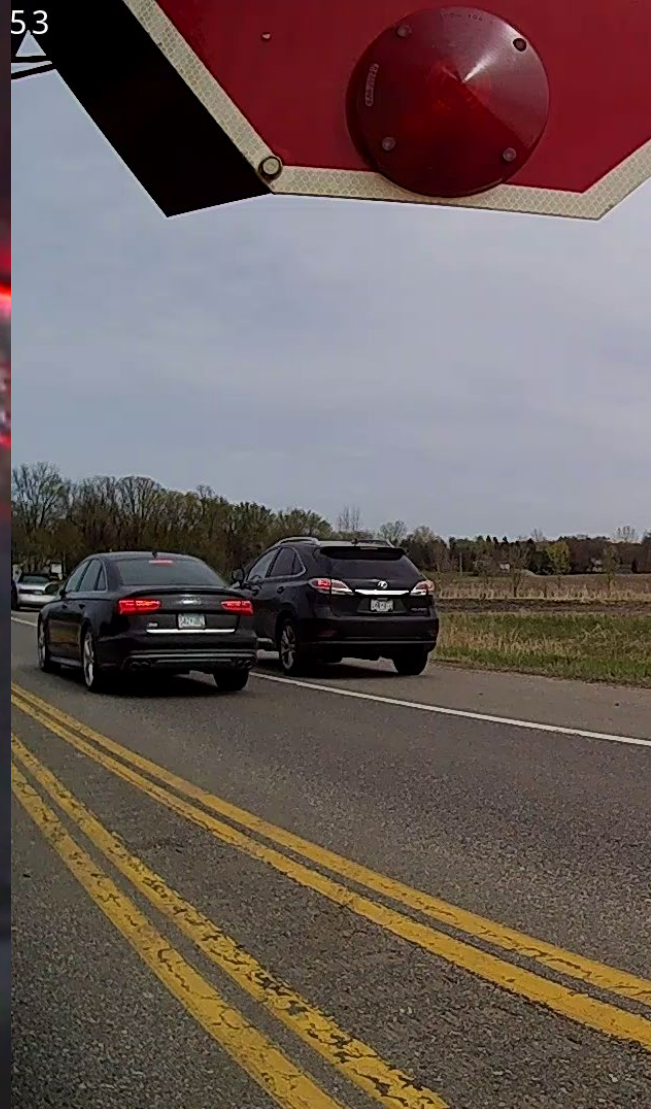
Need statewide
video submission
portal

Held regional
roundtables for
feedback

Enhanced
penalties for
repeat offenders

Cameras improve
evidence &
collaboration

Desire for clearer
statutory
guidance



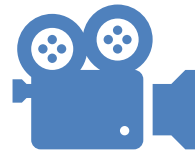
Law Enforcement
Saturation

West Hennepin Police
Department

Costs & Sustainability



Annual staffing + software
+ hardware costs



Possible need for
dedicated video
management staff



System lifespan uncertain
in harsh climate

Grantee Feedback



Reduce reporting burden



Fund cameras automatically
on new buses

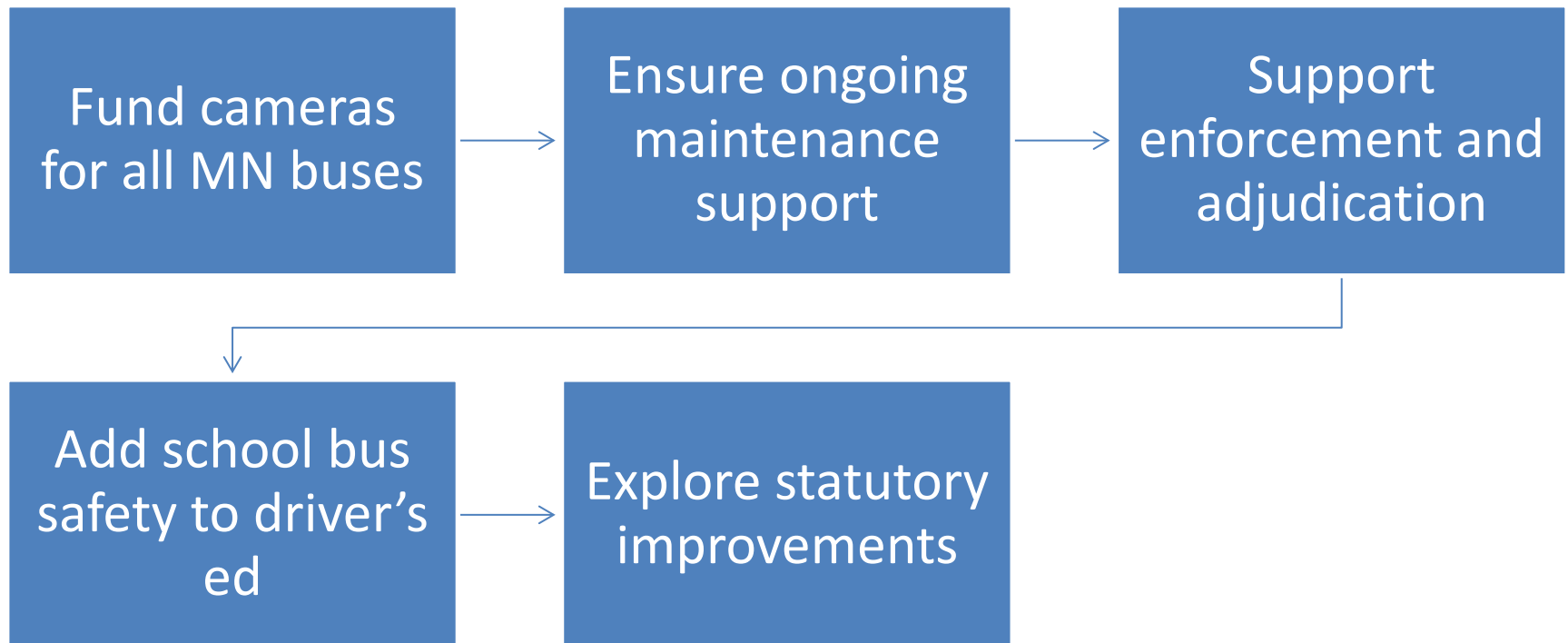


Improve reimbursement
turnaround



Need long-term
sustainability

Next Steps (OTS)





Conclusion

- Expanded coverage, increased citations, improved evidence
- Collaboration across agencies strengthened
- Sustained funding + improved systems needed for long-term success