

UTC Project Information	
Project Title	MPC-556 – Forging a Path to Vision Zero in the US: A Critical Analysis of Road Safety in Australia
University	University of Colorado Denver
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Start and End Dates	December 11, 2017 to July 31, 2022
Brief Description of Research Project	<p>This research seeks to test plausible hypotheses for the country-level differences in road safety outcomes to see if they hold true. For instance, are there differences in vehicle standards or occupant protection between the US and Australia? Do we design our streets and intersections differently? How does travel behavior – and in turn exposure – differ for Americans versus Australians? Are there differences in obtaining a driver’s license, enforcement efforts, or drunk driving policies or rates? Are there more overarching differences in terms of policy or built environments that might play a role?</p> <p>At the conclusion of the project, we will have a better understanding of the similarities and differences in road safety outcomes between these two countries and be able to point to key policy or design differences as beneficial to Australia’s road safety outcomes, or inversely, detrimental to those in the US. Beyond enhancing knowledge with respect to the aforementioned research questions, this project will also advance policy and practice with respect to improving road safety, progress the education and training of students, and build an evidence base by disseminating findings via presentations and publications.</p>
Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)	US cities are lining up to declare themselves as Vision Zero cities, but thus far, road safety inventions have not appreciably shifted from the business-as-usual approach. This report provides specific examples of approaches from a country that continues to improve their road safety outcomes well beyond US rates. While it is difficult to point to specific
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	implementation examples, US cities seem more ready than ever to attempt such interventions.
Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)	The reality is that many US engineers, planners, and policymakers look at some of the interventions coming out of the safest countries in world, such as Sweden and the Netherlands, and are often unwilling to make similar changes, even when there is an expected safety benefit. Australia, however, is more similar to the US in terms of transportation, land use, and culture than most European countries. While transportation planners and engineers have control over some—but certainly not all—of these differences, the results suggest that many of Australia’s road safety lessons would help save lives on US roads.
Web Links <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports • Project Website 	https://www.ugpti.org/resources/reports/details.php?id=995