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September 25, 2024

Dr. Cem Hatipoglu
Associate Administrator, Vehicle Safety Research
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Dr. Hatipoglu:

The Texas Department of Transportation appreciates the opportunity to respond to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Request for Comments (RFC) on "Examining the Effectiveness of Lane Departure Warning and Lane Keep Assist Advanced Driver Assistance Systems for Improving Driver Response" (Docket No. NHTSA-2024-0052).

TxDOT has long supported innovative solutions as it relates to safety and reaching zero fatalities on Texas roads. We recognize that modern innovations, such as lane departure warning (LDW) and lane keep assist (LKA) systems, can help TxDOT advance one of our stated goals and objectives: to promote and "champion a culture of safety."¹ TxDOT agrees with NHTSA's conclusion that more research is required to understand the effectiveness of lane support systems, the human factors affecting LDW and LKA technologies, and the features in these systems that lead to increased acceptance and adoption.

As NHTSA seeks to conduct its critical work on LDW and LKA systems, it is TxDOT's suggestion that you consider asking participants if they received any specialized training, at the time of a new vehicle's purchase, on the use and operations of LDW and LKA systems. TxDOT believes this will provide NHTSA with a more comprehensive view of the efficacy of these technologies.

TxDOT welcomes the opportunity to comment on this RFC and hopes you will consider our response as NHTSA examines the effectiveness of these innovations. If you have any questions, please call me at (512) 305-9515, or you or your staff may contact Melanie Alvord, Director, Federal Affairs, at (512) 944-5135 or Melanie.Alvord@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Marc D. Williams, P.E.
Executive Director

¹ <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/contact-us/mission.html>.

Dr. Cem Hatipoglu

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cc: Darran Anderson, Director, Strategy and Innovation
Michael Chacon, Director, Traffic Safety Division