In today’s world with many employees driving to accomplish work-related tasks, now may be the right time to talk with all of your employees about how they manage their journeys that involve driving.

Discussing the topic of journey management matters to the employer for many reasons that the National Safety Council and the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration include in the most recent Injury Facts report:

“Motor vehicle deaths increased 6.8% from 2015 to 2016, following a similar increase of 6.7% from 2014 to 2015. Miles traveled increased 2.6%, the number of registered vehicles went up 2% and the population grew 0.5%. As a result, the mileage death rate increased 4.1%, the vehicle death rate rose 4.9% and the population death rate was up 6.2% from 2015 to 2016.

Medically consulted injuries in motor vehicle incidents totaled 4.6 million in 2016, and total motor vehicle injury costs were estimated at $416.2 billion. Costs include wage and productivity losses, medical expenses, administrative expenses, motor-vehicle property damage and employer costs.” [https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/motor-vehicle/overview/introduction/](https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/motor-vehicle/overview/introduction/)

Prepare for the worst, but hope for the best. These are words to live by in a world where the unexpected can mean serious consequences.

How can using a Journey Management plan help a driver?

- Helps avoid risks
- Helps prevent incidents before they happen
- Helps decide if journey is necessary and if driving is the best transportation option
If driving is the best transportation option available for this journey, what factors should be considered in a Journey Management plan?

- Decide on the route, based on types of roads, weather, traffic patterns and construction conditions.
- Plan rest periods and locations of rests if the journey is longer than 4 hours.
- Consider and plan for unexpected delays.
- Know what to do in case of emergency.
- Make sure communication is available.
- Make sure the vehicle is roadworthy.
- Know who to contact if unexpected issues occur and who knows the journey is taking place.
- Plan the time of day for the journey; driving at night or while fatigued greatly increases risk.

**OPTIONAL DISCUSSION**

**Emergencies on the Road**

If time allows for a discussion on Emergency Management, watch the webinar on Emergencies on the Road at the link:

[https://tinyurl.com/y9hw2tx2](https://tinyurl.com/y9hw2tx2)

If time is not available now to view and discuss this topic, include it soon in your next Safety Talk.

**SUMMARY**

- Making a Journey Management Plan increases your chances of arriving safely.
- Your best plan should include considering all routes, road and weather conditions, communications, emergency management and timing of the journey; apply these key points in your Journey Management Plan.