

Hazard/Definition	Description/Frequency	Mitigation Options/Strategies
<p><b><u>Major Transportation Accident:</u></b></p> <p>An incident involving air, rail, bus, truck or automobile travel resulting in death or injury.</p>	<p>Transportation accidents occur in all areas of the country. The greatest risk is in areas near major highways, railroad lines or airports.</p> <p><b>Historical Score: 3</b></p> <p>Several major transportation accidents have occurred in Boulder County. These include school bus accidents, several airplane crashes and railroad accidents.</p> <p><b><u>School Bus Accidents:</u></b></p> <p><b>September 1986:</b> A Boulder Valley School District bus collided with a pickup truck on south Boulder Road and three children were treated for minor injuries.</p> <p><b>June 2, 1989:</b> A Boulder Valley School District bus was returning to Boulder after a field trip to the mountains when the brakes failed and it plunged off the highway into the South St. Vrain Creek near Lyons. Of forty-one children on the bus, 35 were injured, but only 2 were hospitalized. One student was killed when he was thrown from the bus.</p> <p><b><u>Airplane Crashes Where Deaths Occurred:</u></b></p> <p><b>July 26, 1987:</b> A single-engine airplane crashed into a mobile home park in Boulder killing the pilot. Eight people in the mobile home at the time were not injured.</p> <p><b>April 1, 1990:</b> A twin-engine Cessna crashed into a West Boulder neighborhood killing the pilot and one passenger. One person working in his garage was injured by the explosion. One home, four neighboring garages and several cars were destroyed. An investigation concluded that the passenger overpowered the pilot and deliberately crashed the plane.</p> <p><b>January 11, 1996:</b> Two men died when a Beech Bonanza crashed in the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area.</p> <p><b>January 31, 1996:</b> One man died in a small plane after taking off from Tri-County Airport in Erie.</p> <p><b>June 29, 1996:</b> Two men died when a single-engine plane plunged into Hayden Lake near Boulder Municipal Airport.</p>	<p>There are fewer mitigation measures that can be taken to prevent or reduce the dangers from transportation accidents.</p> <p>C Develop plans for evacuation and mass casualty incidents. Boulder's Emergency Medical Response Plan is exercised on a regular basis.</p> <p>C SCC Communications and US West partnered together for a warning and evacuation system for Boulder County. It is called the Emergency Warning and Evacuation Service (EWES) and is part of the Emergency Preparedness Network (EPN). The existing 9-1-1 database of telephone numbers and addresses is used in combination with detailed maps to help determine the geographic boundaries of an area impacted. The system is capable of calling up to 2,000 numbers in one minute. It is designed to deliver recorded information to endangered people in advance of a disaster or any major event. Messages can be delivered in various languages, as well as to pagers or the Emergency Alert System (EAS). Multiple floodplain areas can be handled during a single event with priority given to the area most impacted.</p> <p>C Use trained dogs for search and rescue. (When the plane crashed into a Boulder neighborhood these dogs were used to search for bodies.)</p>

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**August 20, 1996:** A single-engine plane crashed in Fourmile Canyon; two men died.

**Nov. 2, 1996:** One man died when a glider crashed in a back yard near Chautauqua Park.

**June 6, 1999:** One death in a plane crash near City Watershed.

**September 17, 2000:** Two people died when a small plane crashed in a cornfield east of Highway 287 near Longmont.

**June 3, 2001:** Three people died when a single-engine aircraft failed to clear a foggy Rabbit Mountain ridge just northeast of Lyons.

**Other Airplane Crashes:**

**April 1, 1996:** (near Longmont-2 injured)

**April 1, 1996:** (near Erie - no injuries)

**June 23, 1996:** (near Longmont - no injuries)

**Sept. 19, 1996:** (near Boulder Municipal Airport, no injuries)

**Sept. 21, 1996:** (crash into Hayden Lake - no injuries)

**Dec. 30, 1998:** (crash near Rollins Pass - 3 injured)

**Railroad Accidents:**

**September 30, 1991:** A rockslide derailed a Rio Grande freight train about 2-1/2 miles east of Pinecliffe. Two engines plunged off the track, one falling about 250 feet below to South Boulder Creek. Two railroad employees were killed and two others were injured.

**June 5, 1996:** Five cars on a freight train derailed in Louisville, blocking the Pine Street crossing. Cars carrying dangerous chemicals remained on the track. (No injuries)

**Potential Score: 3**

As the population increases in the county, the probability of transportation accidents also increases. Bus, truck and automobile traffic will continue to cause congestion on our roads and highways.

**Impact of Life and Property:**

Transportation accidents can cause death and injury to humans, extensive property losses, and disruption of traffic. Depending

**Revised 2001**