

Strategies to Improve Safety

A roadway crash is caused by one or more contributing factors. A driver can be distracted, the road could have an engineering flaw, the speed limit may be too high, or countless other factors. Achieving safety on the roads will require a coordinated effort between all aspects of the transportation system. The strategies established in NOACA's TSAP use a comprehensive approach to addressing safety on the roads by including strategies from all of the 5 E's of transportation safety: Education, Enforcement, Engineering, Evaluation, and Emergency Medical Services.

The TSAP identified multiple strategies to reduce crashes in each of the five Emphasis Areas. Along with the strategies, the TSAP included a list of action steps that should be taken in order to implement the strategies. The progress in roadway safety will be evaluated by the performance measures from year to year once the recommendations begin to be carried out.

The annual update of the crash data analysis, will help in identifying tasks for the Overall Work Program and future Action Plan.

Implementation Action

NOACA will partner with ODOT, regional safety organizations, law enforcement agencies and local communities throughout the region to implement the strategies and action plans for each emphasis area recommended in the TSAP. The implementation of these recommendations will require adding new items to NOACA's Work Program.

Since Education and enforcement strategies make up the vast portion of the TSAP action items, NOACA will engage in various efforts to promote safe road-users' behavior, educational campaigns, training, and the support of new legislations to achieve the region's safety targets.

NOACA endorses engineering safety improvements through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects prioritization. The TIP scoring criteria will be modified to take into consideration the potential reduction in number of crashes expected when the project is implemented based on the Highway Safety Manual methodology. The TIP scoring also takes into consideration whether the proposed project's location is identified as a high crash corridor or intersection based on the latest State of Safety Report. Prioritizing projects that will improve safety will help the region to reach the safety targets set and the ultimate goal of Vision Zero.

NOACA will conduct Traffic Safety and Operations technical assistance and RSAs as part of its OWP. NOACA will also guide communities to available funding sources to implement the recommended safety countermeasures.