

# Strategic Highway Safety Plan: 2015 Update

California's Highway Safety Coalition launches second phase to further reduce roadway fatalities and severe injuries



## What is the Strategic Highway Safety Plan?

The Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) is a statewide, coordinated safety plan that provides a comprehensive framework for reducing fatalities and severe injuries to motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists on all public roads. SHSP goals and objectives are data-driven and results are measured. Actions designed to achieve the objectives are developed by hundreds of safety stakeholders from the four E's of highway safety: *engineering, education, enforcement and emergency medical services.*

## Why does the SHSP matter?

Traffic crashes impact drivers, passengers, cyclists, pedestrians, highway workers, emergency responders, and families who are left to cope when a loved one is killed or severely injured. The lives lost and severe injuries cause lasting pain, hardship, lost wages, and cost Californians billions of dollars every year.



## Who participates in the SHSP?

The time and expertise of more than 900 safety stakeholders from 170 public agencies and private organizations contributed to developing the strategic actions of California's original SHSP. They include:

- Federal, State and Local Agencies
- Regional Transportation Planning Agencies
- Bicyclist and Pedestrian Advocates
- Emergency Medical Services
- Private Citizens
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- Tribal Governments
- First Responders
- Business Leaders



## Results: Lives Saved, Injuries Prevented, Costs Reduced

Collision data show that a collaborative, government-led approach can save lives and reduce serious injuries:

In 2010, California's traffic **fatalities reached their lowest level since 1975**, when the federal government began recording traffic fatalities.

Under California's SHSP from 2006 to 2012: **Fatalities fell 30.4%, severe injuries fell 17.5%.**

California **achieved its goal of reducing the Mileage Death Rate** below one death per every 100,000 vehicle miles traveled in 2009 and every year since.

Trend analysis suggests that **nearly 3,000 fatalities did not occur, and nearly 9,000 severe injuries did not occur** compared to the numbers expected if collision rates before the previous SHSP had continued.

The reduction in crash fatalities and severe injuries resulted in a total **cost savings of more than \$13 billion.**

The Centers for Disease Control called the drop in traffic fatalities and injuries across the country as **"one of the 10 major public health successes in the U.S."** during 2001-2010.



**Toward Zero Deaths,  
every 1 counts**

California's original SHSP from 2006 to 2012 helped reduce fatalities 30.4%



California's SHSP vision: California will have a safe transportation system for all users



### Get SHSP Information Updates or Participate in a Challenge Area team

- Visit [dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/shsp/](http://dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/shsp/) for announcements, updates and informational materials to help spread the word.
- Contact [SHSP@dot.ca.gov](mailto:SHSP@dot.ca.gov) with any questions or for additional information.

## Moving Forward: An Updated SHSP

Our work is not done as long as people are still being killed and severe injuries are causing lasting pain and economic loss. Despite California's progress, nearly **3,000 people die and more than 10,000 are severely injured** on our roadways each year. Traffic crashes **cost California more than \$22 billion every year** – which equals **\$608 for each man, woman and child**, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

## SHSP Update

California updated the SHSP in 2015 to create new solutions that continue reducing traffic-related fatalities and severe injuries. The updated SHSP is the result of extensive outreach, engagement, and strategy meetings with stakeholders, including individual presentations to more than 50 agencies and organizations, dozens of action planning meetings, a review of other state and regional transportation plans to determine alignment with the SHSP, two statewide summits with 400+ participants and six webinars on traffic safety.

The 2015 SHSP Update is guided by federal guidelines that capitalize on successes achieved to date and continue to create even greater improvements. It also addresses goals established by Congress and the President by the *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)*.

## What's New in the Updated SHSP:

- Increases the focus on reducing the number of severe injuries and the rate at which severe injuries occur in each 100 million vehicle miles travelled
- Measures the cost effectiveness of improvements
- Develops strategies and actions to address the more difficult problems:
  - Repeat DUI offenders
  - Breath test refusals
  - Drug-impaired driving
- Identifies the locations of fatalities and severe injuries
- Identifies areas with high-risk factors for potential crashes
- Includes tribal roads
- Creates improvements to rail-highway crossings
- Involves even more safety stakeholders from across the state
- Involves the public to create a culture of traffic safety
- Coordinates with other safety statewide plans, including California Transportation Plan, California Freight Plan and Highway Safety Plan
- Improves the speed of data results

## Help Spread the Word and Save Lives

Help spread the word about the SHSP and save lives. The more people and organizations that are informed and involved in the SHSP, the more successful it will be. There is a need for more regional and local participation for maximum impact. ***Will you share this information with other safety organizations and stakeholders in your network?***

Traffic safety is improved with involvement at all levels. SHSP leadership is actively seeking additional participants. There are opportunities to be a part of a Challenge Area team, which develops actions, manages implementation and tracks results. To volunteer, email: [SHSP@dot.ca.gov](mailto:SHSP@dot.ca.gov).

## SHSP Leadership

The lead SHSP agencies are: California Department of Transportation, California Office of Traffic Safety, California Highway Patrol, California Department of Public Health, California Department of Motor Vehicles, California Emergency Medical Services Authority, California Department of Alcohol Beverage Control, California State Association of Counties, and County Engineers Association of California.