OVERVIEW

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is developing a comprehensive, statewide Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on all public roadways. The SHSP is a data-driven, multi-year safety plan that establishes a statewide vision, emphasis areas and strategies for improving safety with the goal of reducing life-altering crashes by 20% by 2030.

SINCE 2013:

Arizona's population increased: **12%**.

Annual traffic fatalities increased: **55%**.

Pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities increased: **90%**.

SHSP EMPHASIS AREAS

The five SHSP Emphasis Areas shown below account for a large percentage of the fatal and serious injury crashes in Arizona. Improving safety in these Emphasis Areas will have a significant positive impact on crash trends and increase the likelihood everyone arrives safely home when traveling.

SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH

The SHSP adopts the USDOT Safe System Approach, which looks at all factors affecting safety and emphasizes our shared responsibility for improving the safety on roadways. The graphic below shows the elements and principles of the Safe System Approach.

Safe System Approach (U.S. Department of Transportation)

HUMAN BEHAVIOR

INTERSECTIONS

LANE DEPARTURE

VULNERABLE ROAD USERS

TRIBAL LANDS

DEATH/SERIOUS INJURY IS UNACCEPTABLE

HUMANS MAKE MISTAKES

HUMANS ARE VUNERABLE

RESPONSIBILITY IS SHARED

SAFETY IS PROACTIVE

REDUNDANCY IS CRUCIAL

Safe Road Users

Safe Vehicles

THE SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH

Post-Crash Care

Safe Speeds

Safe Roads

WHAT WE HEARD

ADOT conducted a comprehensive outreach process in Spring 2024 to determine traffic safety concerns directly from stakeholders and the public.

Public outreach by the numbers:

» 4,005 public comments

» 165 attendees at public meetings

» 1,330,182 social media impressions

Common feedback themes included:

» Focus on improving human behavior.

» Enforce/improve existing traffic laws.

» Make roadway improvements.

» Develop protected bicyclist and pedestrian facilities.

IMPROVEMENT STRATEGIES FOR A SAFER ARIZONA

The SHSP recommends more than 75 improvement strategies based on input from stakeholders and the public, data analysis findings, and previously completed safety planning efforts. This includes the following high-priority strategies:

» Improve visibility of vulnerable road users, all other users, and roadway features.

» Incorporate vulnerable road users more prominently in planning, design, and programming process.

» Reduce high-risk movements.

» Keep vehicles in their lane.

» Improve Tribal crash data collection and sharing.

» Conduct high-visibility enforcement at intersections.

» Increase automated/mobile enforcement of speeds.

» Promote safety at crash scenes.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

To support the SHSP vision of "creating shared responsibility so everyone arrives safely home", the following policy-level considerations should be considered, where appropriate, by state, regional, Tribal and local entities.

» Promote context-sensitive setting of speed limits.

» Increase focus on eliminating cell phone usage while driving.

» Require additional education and testing for new and older drivers.

» Require periodic vehicle safety inspections as part of vehicle registration and renewal.

» Better define and regulate e-bikes, e-scooters and other micromobility devices.

» Allow flexibility for automated enforcement where appropriate and permitted by law..

» Allocate funding specific to safety improvements.

NEXT STEPS

Effective implementation of the SHSP vision, goal, and improvement strategies requires coordination and collaboration among all stakeholders, including policymakers. The implementation plan will include the 4 E's of highway safety, as well as a multi-year process that will incorporate regional, Tribal and local safety planning efforts, data-sharing and Emphasis Area teams.

THE 4 E'S OF SAFETY

ENGINEERING   ENFORCEMENT   EDUCATION

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

STAY INFORMED

Visit the project website to learn more about about the SHSP and sign up to receive information and updates by email.

🌐 azdot.gov/SafetyPlan

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