

Agenda Item Summary

To: Policy Board; Transportation Committee
From: Roger Krahn, Principal Transportation Engineer
CC: Matthew Hart, Executive Director
Meeting Date: October 25, 2023 (Transportation Committee: October 23, 2023)
Subject: CRCOG Vision Zero Task Force Charter

Background: CRCOG has been selected as the recipient of a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Fiscal Year 2022 grant to supplement the Regional Transportation Safety Plan (RTSP) for the CRCOG region and develop it into a Safety Action Plan. See the following page describing the need for a Vision Zero Task Force and Goal Setting.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG: Safety Action Plans are developed with the goal of reducing fatal and serious injury crashes. There were 104 fatalities and 1,294 serious injuries on roadways in the CRCOG region in 2022.

Financial/Operational Impact: Safety Action Plans develop strategies and describe and prioritize projects with the goal of reducing fatal and serious injury crashes. Projects identified within CRCOG's Safety Action Plan will also be eligible for anticipated future funding of SS4A Planning and Demonstration grants as well as Implementation grants in upcoming years.

Project Schedule: The SS4A grant received extends from September 29, 2023 to September 30, 2026. Activity by a Vision Zero Task Force can begin immediately upon approval of this Charter and after members are selected.

Recommendation: CRCOG staff recommends approval of the Vision Zero Task Force Charter. The Transportation Committee will provide a recommendation at their meeting on October 23, 2023.

Attachments:

- Additional Background: Need for CRCOG Vision Zero Task Force and Goal Setting
- Vision Zero Task Force Charter, October 2023

Additional Background: Need for CRCOG Vision Zero Task Force and Goal Setting

CRCOG has received a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant to supplement the Regional Transportation Safety Plan for the CRCOG region. The new federal SS4A grant program takes steps to formalize the Safe System approach in local safety planning documents through its Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (Action Plan) requirements. The Action Plan requirements are important now, because CRCOG municipalities seeking future SS4A implementation grant funds require an Action Plan. The 8 components of an Action Plan are:

1. Leadership Commitment and Goal Setting
2. Planning Structure
3. Safety Analysis
4. Engagement and Collaboration
5. Equity Considerations
6. Policy and Process Changes
7. Strategy and Project Selections
8. Progress and Transparency

The Planning Structure (#2 above) requires a committee, task force, implementation group or similar body charged with oversight of the Action Plan development, implementation, and monitoring.

The committee/task force that is established will have Leadership Commitment and Goal Setting (#1 above) as a primary first task. This component of an Action Plan requires “An official public commitment by a high-ranking official and/or governing body (e.g., CRCOG Policy Board) to an eventual goal of zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries. The commitment must include one or both of the following:

1. The target date for achieving zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries , OR
2. An ambitious percentage reduction of roadway fatalities and serious injuries by a specific date with an eventual goal of eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries.

To meet components #1 and #2 above, CRCOG staff is recommending the formation of a CRCOG Vision Zero Task Force.

Note that CRCOG staff will be seeking consulting firms to assist in completing the Action Plan components. Also, the City of New Britain is a designated subrecipient of SS4A grant funds to create a comprehensive safety action plan for the City of New Britain. The CRCOG Vision Zero Task Force will not have direct oversight or implementation responsibilities for the City of New Britain action plan.

Vision Zero Task Force Charter October 2023

1. The Task Force will advise CRCOG's Transportation Committee and Policy Board.
2. Recommendations of the Task Force will initially be submitted to the Transportation Committee, and then to the Policy Board as needed.
3. The Task Force may make suggestions for agenda items to be addressed by the Transportation Committee and other CRCOG committees.
4. The Task Force will, at a minimum, be established for the duration of the SS4A grant agreement with an ending date of September 30, 2026. (Note that elements of the SS4A grant activities are anticipated to be completed in advance of that final agreement ending date).
5. The Task Force is charged with oversight, development, implementation, and monitoring of the Regional Transportation Safety Plan.
6. The number of Task Force members is not to exceed 15.
7. The Task Force members will be approved by the Transportation Committee, from a multi-disciplinary group among the following organizations and positions.
 - Town/City Engineers and DPW Directors
 - Town/City Planners
 - Police Department
 - Fire Department
 - EMS and Traffic Incident Responders
 - Educators
 - Vulnerable Transportation Users (Bicycles , Pedestrians, etc.)
 - Local Traffic Authorities (LTA Officials)
 - UConn Transportation Technology Center
 - CTDOT
 - FHWA
 - Outreach / Publicity personnel
 - CRCOG Staff