

TPB REGIONAL ROADWAY SAFETY SUMMIT SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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Regional Roadway Safety Context

- The TPB has supported roadway safety for several decades to complement safety efforts by member jurisdictions
 - The Street Smart safety campaign was created in 2002 to educate drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists about safe travel behaviors
 - The Transportation Safety Subcommittee was established in 2012 to provide a forum for local transportation practitioners to convene and coordinate
 - A Regional Safety Study was completed in 2020-2021; an Update is in progress
 - The Regional Roadway Safety Program was established in 2020
- Following several years of declines, the region began to experience an increase in roadway fatalities beginning in 2016.
 - The increase was especially pronounced during the pandemic
- Chair Christina Henderson made roadway safety a priority for her chairmanship





Event Overview

- The Summit took place on October 31, 2024, in Alexandria, VA
- The event aimed to:
 - Share information about current safety trends and safety frameworks
 - Facilitate the generation of potential regional safety actions the TPB could pursue
- Approximately 60 people attended in-person, including 13 Board members and alternates
- Additional members attended virtually

Photo: Regional Roadway Safety Summit (COG/TPB Staff)



Review of Presentations



Photo Credit: COG/TPB Staff

Session 1

- Session 1 provided understanding about national and regional safety trends
- Vanessa Holt, Fairfax County staff, reviewed preliminary regional crash data and trends
- Nicole Waldheim, Fehr & Peers, spoke about taking a systemic approach to address roadway safety to address “upstream” contributing factors



Review of Presentations



Photo Credit: COG/TPB Staff

Session 2

- Session 2 provided frameworks for the development of potential safety strategies
- Paul Teicher, USDOT Office of the Secretary, discussed the goals of the National Roadway Safety Strategy and Allies for Action campaign
- Dr. Jeffrey Michael, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, provided an overview of the Safe System Approach and shared success stories



Safety Recommendations

In Session 3, TPB members and alternates raised ideas for action. On November 20, TPB members affirmed the following safety actions:

- Join the USDOT's Allies in Action partnership
- Inventory and report on safety-supportive activities undertaken by TPB members pertaining to TPB Safety Resolution R3-2021
- Conduct inventory of strategies proposed in TPB Safety Resolution (R3-2021)
- Gather more data about the impacts of automated enforcement systems
- Partner with and assist COG to develop a multijurisdictional arrangement to fully enforce traffic laws and hold dangerous drivers to account (including reciprocity of automated enforcement)
- Continue to provide input on federal safety rulemaking and coordinate with COG on regional advocacy strategies
- Regionally track/raise awareness of transportation safety funding opportunities
- Explore opportunities for enhanced driver education and training as part of driver re-certification process
- Gather information on what has worked best in Vision Zero plans elsewhere
- Initiate a regional Vision Zero plan
- Assist member jurisdictions to pursue Vision Zero activities
 - Use a systemic approach of preventive measures
 - Enhance coordination with non-transportation partners such as medical examiner offices
 - Explore emerging technologies



Outlook

- Meeting recording and materials are available on the COG website:
<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2024/10/31/2024-regional-roadway-safety-summit-regional-safety-program-tpb-traffic-safety/>
- TPB staff will begin implementing some of the recommendations this fiscal year (FY 2025) while other actions have been prioritized for FY 2026.



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