

Research at a Glance

Technical Brief

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NJDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program Implementation Plan

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) engaged Cambridge Systematics (CS) to assist with the development the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Implementation Plan that will be used to improve the safety of New Jersey roads and ensure the state meets federal performance targets in the coming years.

Research Problem Statement

Each year, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) assesses the following safety performance targets for each state:

- Number of fatalities
- Rate of fatalities (per 100 million vehicle-miles traveled)
- Number of serious injuries
- Rate of serious injuries (per 100 million vehicle-miles traveled)
- Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries

If a state has not met at least four of the five performance targets, FHWA requires that the state complete an HSIP Implementation Plan to help meet subsequent targets.

Research Objectives

The goal of the Implementation Plan is ultimately to help New Jersey meet its subsequent safety targets by reducing transportation fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads, including non-State-owned roads. The Implementation Plan requires a data-driven, strategic approach to improving highway safety with a focus on performance.

Methodology

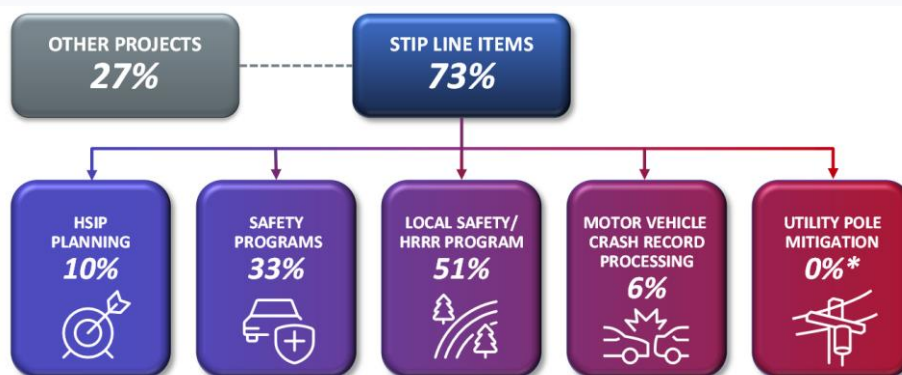
In order to complete the HSIP Implementation Plan, New Jersey reviewed recent safety data, studied five years of funding data and how that aligned with safety data, identified noteworthy practices that could help the state meet its future goals, and identified specific opportunities that could be incorporated in future HSIPs to improve safety in the state.

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Results

For FY 2022, NJDOT will dedicate HSIP funds in excess of \$57.3 million to currently programmed projects on the State and Local systems. The purpose is to progress towards New Jersey's safety goal of a three percent per year reduction of fatalities and serious injuries, as defined in the New Jersey 2020 Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), while also making progress towards meeting or exceeding the safety performance targets. Funds will be obligated in the manner shown below.



**The state is working on agreements with the various utility companies*

As part of the development of the HSIP Implementation Plan, New Jersey identified several opportunities and actions to explore and advance in an effort to address challenges. Highlights of these actions include:

- Align project development and safety investments with the New Jersey 2020 SHSP, while including equity in the process.
- Increase the development and implementation of HSIP-funded pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure projects with a focus on underserved communities.
- Conduct annual safety summits to update stakeholders on the status and progress of the SHSP actions and goals while maintaining partnerships for future safety plans and initiatives.
- Engage with Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) partners to initiate the development of Local Strategic Highway Safety Plans.
- Lead efforts to streamline the Capital Project Delivery Process for HSIP projects.

New Jersey continues to consistently use national best practices in their program. The development of this plan is viewed as an opportunity to re-assess the program, identify any challenges and continue to engage with safety stakeholders to optimally plan on meeting the obligation requirements. These efforts strive to reduce fatalities and serious injuries in subsequent years and may help meet safety performance targets.

This brief summarizes FHWA-NJ-2022-01, "NJDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program Implementation Plan", produced through the New Jersey Department of Transportation Bureau of Research, 1035 Parkway Avenue, P.O. Box 600, Ewing, NJ 08625 in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration.