# ALASKA

STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN

2023-2027





### WHAT IS THE STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN (SHSP)?

The SHSP is the statewide coordinated safety plan to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads in Alaska and is a requirement of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) (23 U.S.C. § 148). The five-year plan identifies traffic safety problems, priorities, and planned solutions.

The SHSP is the roadmap of strategies and actions the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), Alaska Highway Safety Office (AHSO), and our many safety partners will work on collaboratively through 2027 to move *Toward Zero Deaths* and serious injuries on Alaska's roadways. Our partners include state, regional, and local agencies, as well as private sector and non-profit/advocacy stakeholders.

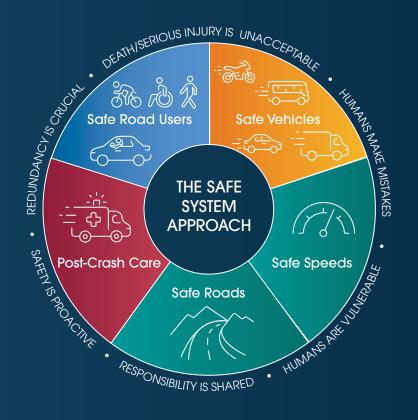
The SHSP guides how traffic safety-related plans and programs throughout Alaska will promote a safe transportation system for all road users. The SHSP sets safety priorities for the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan, State Transportation Improvement Program, HSIP, Highway Safety Plan, and Commercial Vehicle Safety Plan. The plan reflects the many people, organizations, and agencies serving essential roles to improve safety effectively and innovatively on Alaska's roadways.

# THE SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH AND SHSP EMPHASIS AREAS

This SHSP is grounded in the **Safe System Approach**, which consists of six principles and five elements. The **Safe System Approach** is the core tenet of the <u>National Roadway Safety Strategy</u> to significantly reduce serious injuries on our nation's highways, roads, and streets.

Alaska believes in our shared responsibility to proactively make our roads and vehicles safer for everyone. Multiple elements of the transportation system should address risks and contributing factors to crashes, protecting roadway users through redundancy in case one or more elements fail.

The Emphasis Areas set the priorities for where Alaska has chosen to focus funding, resources, and effort to reduce fatalities and serious injuries. Alaska's four SHSP Emphasis Areas reflect the **Safe System Approach** elements.



# FOCUS AREA STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

Each Emphasis Area has Focus Areas that direct Alaska's efforts towards specific types of road users, behaviors, vehicles, and infrastructure.

The Focus Area Teams developed action plans, which considered strategies from the previous SHSP, proven countermeasures, national best practices, and stakeholder input. Each Focus Area has strategies and actions to address traffic safety through the 4 Es of Traffic Safety.

#### 4 Es OF TRAFFIC SAFETY









Over the next five years, Alaska's safety partners will implement the SHSP strategies and actions. The SHSP Focus Area Teams and Steering Committee will meet regularly to report on progress, address challenges, and review crash trends. These groups will evaluate what works and should continue versus what is not working and should be modified or discontinued.

#### **Across Focus Areas, team members will:**

- **CONDUCT** media campaigns, education, and outreach about how to drive and ride safely
- IMPLEMENT proven engineering and roadway design countermeasures
- **CONDUCT** high visibility enforcement



- **PROVIDE** training for law enforcement and first responders
- **COLLECT, ANALYZE,** and **USE** data to identify and better understand traffic safety issues and possible solutions
- **DEVELOP** model legislative language and fact sheets for select topics

### ALASKA NEEDS YOUR HELP

Creating a Safe System depends on all of us. **We need your help to build a culture of safety where everyone believes death and serious injury is unacceptable.** Making personal decisions about safe driving, biking, and walking can save lives and reduce injuries when combined with safe speeds, roadway design, vehicle technologies, and post-crash care.

Through this shared responsibility, we can move Alaska *Toward Zero Deaths* and serious injuries.