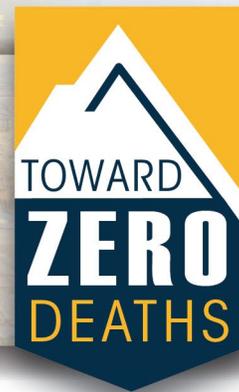


ALASKA

STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN

2023-2027



SHSP Accomplishments in 2023, 2024, and 2025

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Safety (DOT&PF) is mid-way through implementing its [2023-2027 Strategic Highway Safety Plan](#) (SHSP). The SHSP is Alaska's statewide roadmap to reduce deaths and serious injuries on all public roads over five years. The Alaska DOT&PF and our many safety partners have contributed important traffic safety accomplishments between 2023 and 2025, based on strategies and actions outlined in the SHSP.

▶ Helping vehicles safely re-enter the roadway

Alaska DOT&PF published the [Chief Engineer Directive](#) on April 1, 2025 requiring highway projects to include an Asphalt SafetyEdgeSM where applicable. The SafetyEdge design is a wedge-shaped edge that makes it easier for drivers who leave the paved roadway to return to the pavement safely. This can help reduce the number and severity of roadway departure crashes.



▶ Increasing visibility with reflective gear for people walking, rolling, and biking

The DOT&PF leveraged state funds to purchase and distribute reflective gear for people who choose to walk, roll, or bike along Alaska's streets. DOT&PF distributed reflective gear at events such as state fairs and Project Homeless Connect in Anchorage. This reflective gear makes people more visible to vehicle drivers, helping to raise driver awareness and encourage safe driving behaviors around pedestrians and bicyclists.



▶ Improving traffic safety and incident monitoring in real-time

The Alaska DOT&PF and Department of Public Safety are partnering to establish a Joint Traffic Management Center, integrating emergency alert systems and computer-aided dispatch. The goal is to begin construction in 2028. This investment will improve reporting and detection of traffic incidents, reduce response times, provide responders and travelers with prompt and accurate information, and improve the safety of first responders at crashes.



▶ Understanding why pedestrians and cyclists are killed in crashes

The DOT&PF are partnering with law enforcement to get a firsthand look at crash sites where a person walking, rolling, or biking was killed, within one month of each crash. As a part of the new after-crash review process, DOT&PF engineers, law enforcement officers, and regional and municipal partners visit crash sites to better understand why the crash happened. These visits help participants identify what types of quick-build projects can be easily implemented to prevent similar types of crashes in the future, as well as longer-term solutions.



► **Using innovative flare technology to light the way towards first responder safety**

Using Highway Safety Improvement Program funds, DOT&PF has equipped all Emergency Medical Services organizations, Alaska State Trooper vehicles, and numerous DOT&PF maintenance and operations stations with connected, sequential LED flares. This product improves first responder safety at crash scenes and increases visibility along curves by lighting up flares in sequence to warn approaching vehicle drivers there is an incident ahead. The separate lights pair with one another and are easily rechargeable for future use.



► **Educating all drivers on the latest rules of the road**

The Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles published an updated version of the [Alaska Driver Manual](#) in October 2025. This update incorporates best practices for child passenger safety, including requirements for car seats, booster seats, and seat belts for children ages 12 and under. The manual update also expands guidance on “sharing the road” with people walking, rolling, and biking on or next to the roadway. SHSP members collaborated with the Division of Motor Vehicles to identify and update manual content.



► **Keeping street racing out of Anchorage**

The Anchorage Police Department is building a Street Racing Task Force to help make Anchorage’s streets safer. The Task Force coordinates enforcement efforts between the Anchorage Police Department, Alaska State Troopers, and Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson Police. The goal is to prevent street racing along Anchorage’s main thoroughfares through both enforcement and educational interventions.



► **Promoting tourism roadway safety best practices in Juneau**

The Vehicle Safety Focus Area collaborated with Travel Juneau’s Tourism Best Management Practices (TBMP) group to encourage roadway safety in its TBMP Guidelines. Updated annually, the [TBMP Guidelines](#) offer guidance to tourism operators and owners to promote responsible and safe tourism using a community-first approach. The expanded roadway safety guidance includes education on pedestrian right-of-way, keeping passengers safe in and near tour buses and shuttles, and encouraging vehicle rental companies to add safe driving language to rental waivers.



► **Spreading traffic safety awareness with media campaigns**

The Alaska Highway Safety Office produces annual public education and media campaigns targeting SHSP Focus Area topics. Investing more than \$3 million in FY2023 and FY2024 combined, these campaigns highlighted traffic safety topics such as teen/novice drivers, distracted driving, impaired driving, speeding, pedestrian and bicycle safety, wearing seatbelts, child passenger safety, and motorcycle safety. Paid media included audio, video, print, and web advertising, which are coordinated with local and national campaigns.

