

**El Paso
Metropolitan Planning Organization**

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

August 19, 2022

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4:

Consider adopting a resolution of support and commitment to be included in the El Paso MPO's grant application for a Safety Action Plan to be submitted to the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) federal program

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Adopt a resolution of support and commitment to be included in the El Paso MPO's grant application for a Safety Action Plan to be submitted to the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) federal program

SUPPORT INFORMATION:

- Draft resolution

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS:

DRAFT

**RESOLUTION OF THE
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
FOR THE
EL PASO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

Approved at the Policy Board meeting on August ____, 2022

WHEREAS, the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (EPMPO) has the authority and responsibility for transportation policy-making in the El Paso metropolitan area that leads to the efficient and safe movement of people and goods in the El Paso metropolitan area

WHEREAS, the EPMPO performs transportation planning and funds programming activities based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive process with local, state and federal agencies, and partners to develop a safe multimodal transportation network,

WHEREAS, motor vehicle crashes that result in death or serious injury are not inevitable but largely preventable and stem in part from human inattention and designs that are ineffective in accommodating multimodal uses in urban environments; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas leads the nation in traffic deaths, had the highest number of deaths since 1981 and the second highest since record keeping began in the 1940s; and

WHEREAS, the number of people dying and suffering serious injuries on our streets is a serious public health problem which necessitates public action; and

WHEREAS, crashes in the El Paso metropolitan area necessitate a comprehensive and specific approach to street planning, design, policy, enforcement, legal processes, education, and communication to provide the most powerful solution to solve the problem; and

WHEREAS, a commitment to zero traffic deaths is a commitment to life and equitable opportunity for people in the El Paso metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, implementing a zero traffic deaths commitment requires the continued support of residents, business owners, and visitors to the El Paso metropolitan area, acting as individuals and collectively through neighborhood or advocacy organizations to improve the safety, comfort, and usability of streets in the EPMPO region for all users;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Transportation Policy Board of the EPMPO:

That the EPMPO commits to a goal of zero traffic deaths by 2050.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is acknowledged that achieving this goal requires significant effort and resources to develop an EPMPO Comprehensive Safety Action Plan following a successful Safe Streets for All grant award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan will use a data-driven approach and best practices to outline specific steps in planning, engineering, policy, enforcement, engagement, and education to reach interim steps toward zero traffic deaths.

DRAFT

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan will put equity at its forefront, striving to address the hazards on the most dangerous parts of the transportation network and reduce the harm to the most vulnerable and dependent users to improve the health and well-being of those traveling on streets in the EPMPO region, and the Plan will use data and community outreach to develop strategies that aim to end death and serious injuries on the region,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan will use refined data and public comments from those who use our streets, including those who live in areas that experience high crash rates, and those who advocate for safer streets for all modes obtained through a diverse range of outreach activities designed to understand both concerns and opportunities with advancing this commitment, to determine appropriate and effective steps to achieve the plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the EPMPO is dedicated to measuring the progress, challenges, and successes of the zero traffic deaths commitment and will do so with tangible, reportable metrics to be reported upon annually.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the EPMPO acknowledges and accepts that the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan may result in changes to the EPMPO’s approach to the planning and design of streets, education, engagement, and communication techniques, and enforcement policies and procedures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the EPMPO will work with partners in the region, including the State of Texas, El Paso County, municipalities, and stakeholders from the public and private sectors, to influence the street planning, design, maintenance, operations, and law enforcement, to achieve the zero traffic deaths goal by 2050.

APPROVED AND ENTERED THIS ___th DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

Walter Miller,
Transportation Policy Board Chairperson

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Sergio M. Estrada,
Legal Counsel

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Eduardo Calvo, Executive Director,
El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization