

New Visions 2050 Safety & Security White Paper Summary

The safety and security of the Region's transportation system is CDTC's top priority. It is possible that technology in 2050 will greatly contribute toward reducing if not nearly eliminating fatalities and injuries. However, the Region should not wait for these technologies to become widely available. Instead, the Region should support changes in the safety culture to design safe streets, encourage safe transportation system user behavior and to improve the security of the transportation system for all.

The Safety and Security White Paper describes the progress made over the last five years to improve transportation system safety and security, describes the availability of funding and how that funding is being used, reviews emerging regional and national trends in safety and security planning and recommends a new set of strategies and actions to be considered for incorporation into New Visions 2050. Federal Safety Performance Measures, CDTC's Local Road Safety Action Plan (2019), the New York State Strategic Highway Safety Plan (2017) and other state and regional plans for safety and security were also considered.

Safety and Security Planning Principles

The existing New Visions safety and security planning and investment principle has been revised creating two principles as follows.

Safety Principle: Our Region will move toward eliminating transportation related deaths and serious injuries by 2050.

A "move to zero" will require creating a travel environment for all users that reduces risk and considers the context of communities. Through continued encouragement of best safety practices, evaluation of current data and monitoring of the effectiveness of implemented countermeasures, CDTC's safety program will support the reduction of fatal and serious injury crashes. This will require a long-term commitment at all levels of government to shift policy and transportation infrastructure design to support a cultural change in how our transportation system is used and operated.

Security Principle: Protection of critical transportation infrastructure from natural disasters, acts of terrorism and cyberattack is of increasing concern. Scenario planning and computer modeling will support regional security planning efforts.

CDTC will support regional security planning efforts through modeling transportation system related scenarios, encouraging resiliency planning and providing technical support to all levels of government as they develop security plans. Through these efforts, CDTC will be available to assist with the reduction of threats to the Regional transportation system, transportation facilities, and transportation system users.

Safety Performance Measures

CDTC is required to integrate safety performance-based planning and programming into its decision-making processes by adopting performance measures and targets developed by New York State. To monitor the region's performance, CDTC reviewed crash data and tracked progress in five federal safety performance measures. In 2018, the most recent year for which crash data is available, progress has been made to reduce fatalities but the region only met one of the state's five safety targets.

CDTC 2018 Safety Performance Summary

Performance Measures	2018 CDTC and NYSDOT % Reduction Target	CDTC 2011-2015 5-Year Average	CDTC 2014-2018* 5-Year Average	CDTC 2018 % Change
Number of Fatalities	- 5.0%	54	53	- 1.8%
Rate of Fatalities (Fatalities per 100 Million VMT)	- 3.0%	0.67	0.64	- 4.5%
Number of Serious Injuries	- 6.0%	614	655	6.7%
Rate of Serious Injuries (Serious Injuries per 100 Million VMT)	- 5.0%	7.6	7.9	3.8%
Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Non-motorized Serious Injuries	- 1.0%	98	101	1.1%

**2018 fatality data is preliminary and subject to change. Sources: Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), FARS Annual Report File (2018), Traffic Safety Statistical Repository (TSSR) and the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) for vehicle miles traveled (VMT) data.*

Proposed Strategies and Actions

Planning

- 1) Plan and implement complete streets.
- 2) Further develop the Regional crash profile.
- 3) Encourage adoption of Safe Systems and Vision Zero policies.
- 4) Encourage land use planning that supports safety and security.
- 5) Collaborate with safety and security partners.
- 6) Support goals in the NYS Strategic Highway Safety Plan and NYS safety action plans.
- 7) Create a Local Safety Project Development Program.
- 8) Create an Incident Management Committee.
- 9) Support the creation of a more secure transportation system.
- 10) Develop a Climate Resiliency Plan & Vulnerability Assessment Tool.

Funding

- 1) Encourage safety in all transportation projects.
- 2) Prioritize safety in all funding decisions.
- 3) Continue funding for the Transportation Management Center and ITS technologies.

Engineering

- 1) Design streets for safety over speed.
- 2) Encourage Regional implementation of State and Regional Systemic Countermeasures.
- 3) Support State efforts to improve crash data systems.
- 4) Continue to identify and address high risk locations and corridors.
- 5) Begin to plan for fully Connected/Automated Vehicles (CAVs).

Education and Enforcement

- 1) Develop Capital Coexist into CDTC's comprehensive safety education and awareness program.
- 2) Provide law enforcement with data, educational tools and training to impact road user behavior.
- 3) Expand CDTC's collaborations with advocacy groups, schools and other transportation safety stakeholders.