



# SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization

*Serving our member governments and their constituents since 1972*

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**MEMO TO: ADMINISTRATIVE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES**  
**FROM: KEITH DENNIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**DATE: NOVEMBER 26, 2024**  
**SUBJECT: DECEMBER 5, 2024 JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

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Please see the details below for the conference call meeting which has been scheduled for action items that need to be approved in between the regularly scheduled meetings. *All members are invited and welcome to participate and provide their input; however, only the officers may make motions and vote.* **The call-in information is located at the bottom of the agenda.**

**Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.**  
SEAGO Main Office  
1403 W. Highway 92  
Bisbee, Arizona

If you have any questions, please contact me at (520) 432-5301 x 202 or send an e-mail to [kdennis@seago.org](mailto:kdennis@seago.org).

<b>AGENDA</b>	<b><u>PAGE</u></b>
1. Call to Order/Introductions	
2. Approval of May 30, 2024 Minutes	2
3. Call to the Public	
4. Discussion and possible action to approve the Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan and supporting Resolution Number 24-02 – Chris Vertrees	4
5. Adjournment	

**Direction may be given to SEAGO staff on any item on the agenda.**

**Call-in information:**

Dial 1-800-326-0013  
Conference ID: 5682213

**Press \*6 to mute and #7 to unmute your phone line.**

**Administrative Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**SEAGO Main Office (Telephonic)**  
**1403 W. Highway 92**  
**Bisbee, Arizona**

**Administrative Committee Present:**

Heath Brown, Town of Thatcher – Chair  
Dan Coxworth, Cochise County – Vice-Chair  
Jesus Valdez, Santa Cruz County - Secretary

**Executive Committee Present:**

David Gomez, Supervisor, Greenlee County – Chair  
Arnold Lopez, Vice-Mayor, City of Safford – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair  
Ken Budge, Mayor, City of Bisbee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair  
Jorge Maldonado, City of Nogales – Treasurer

**Members Present**

Steve Pauken, City of Bisbee – Administrative Council  
Carolyn Umphrey, City of Sierra Vista – Executive Board

**Staff Present:**

Keith Dennis, Executive Director  
Chris Vertrees, Transportation Program Administrator  
Celeste Vasquez, AAA Program Director  
David Miller, Community Coordinator

**1. Call to Order/Introductions**

**Chair Gomez** called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. David Miller read the names of those in attendance for the record.

**2. Call to the Public**

No one from the public was present.

**3. Discussion and possible action to approve AAA Fiscal Year 2025 Subaward recommendations – Celeste Vasquez**

Celeste Vasquez presented the joint Administrative-Executive committee with AAA's Subaward recommendations. Celeste offered to answer any questions.

**Executive Committee Action:**

Arnold Lopez called for a motion to approve AAA Fiscal Year 2025 Subaward recommendations.

**Motion: Arnold Lopez**

**Second: Jorge Maldonado**

**Action: Unanimous**

**Administrative Committee Action:**

Heath Brown called for a motion to approve AAA Fiscal Year 2025 Subaward recommendations.

**Motion: Heath Brown**

**Second: Dan Coxworth**  
**Action: Unanimous**

**4. Discussion and possible action to approve the Draft SEAGO Region 2024 – 2028 TIP Amendment #8 – Chris Vertrees**

Chris Vertrees informed the joint Administrative-Executive Committee of the approved amendments at SEAGO's May 16<sup>th</sup> TAC Meeting. Chris offered to answer any questions.

**Executive Committee Action:**

Ken Budge made a motion to approve the Draft SEAGO Region 2024 - 2028 TIP Amendment #8.

**Motion: Ken Budge**  
**Second: Jorge Maldonado**  
**Action: Unanimous**

**Administrative Committee Action:**

Heath Brown made a motion to approve the Draft SEAGO Region 2024-2028 TIP Amendment #8.

**Motion: Heath Brown**  
**Second: Dan Coxworth**  
**Action: Unanimous**

**5. Adjournment**

Chair Gomez adjourned at the meeting at 9:16 a.m.



# ADMINISTRATIVE – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PACKET

**MEMO TO:** ADMINISTRATIVE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES  
**THROUGH:** KEITH DENNIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**FROM:** CHRIS VERTREES, TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR  
**DATE:** NOVEMBER 26 , 2024  
**SUBJECT:** SOUTHEAST ARIZONA TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PLAN

SEAGO and SVMPO partnered to jointly update to the 2018 SEAGO/SVMPO Joint Regional Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Regional safety plans analyze safety data, review potential projects to mitigate areas of concern, prepare materials to support funding requests for projects that may reduce fatalities and serious injury crashes. Safety Action Plans currently should be updated every five years, and strategies that are identified incorporated into other transportation plans. The consulting firm of Kimely-Horn was selected to assist in preparing the Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan.

Two rounds of geographic focus area (GFA) workshops were held in each County in February and August to understand our member agency needs, review the results of the regional safety analysis, discuss emphasis areas and strategies, and to identify locations for potential safety improvement projects. In addition, interaction with the public occurred via a project website, interactive map, and an on-line survey. This allowed the public to provide their input on safety concerns and locations for potential safety improvement projects.

The final draft report was transmitted to the SEAGO TAC and GFA participants for review and comment on October 24, 2024. Review comments were due back to SEAGO by November 12, 2024. Many of those comments have been incorporated into the final plan.

Also included in the meeting packet is a Resolution in support of the Safety Plan. The plan was developed to comply with the Federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary grant program planning requirements. A Board approved resolution will be used to support future HSIP and SS4A grant applications. If adopted, this Resolution will be included in the Final Report and provided to our member jurisdictions to support future grant opportunities.

I have attached the plan's Executive Summary for your review. Due the plan's size it could not be included in your packet. The full plan can be accessed through this link: <https://www.keepandshare.com/doc12/view.php?id=258174&da=y>

**Attachments:** Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan Executive Summary  
Resolution Number 24-02

**Action Requested:**  Information Only  Action Requested Below:

**A motion to approve the Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan and supporting Resolution Number 24-02.**



# Southeast Arizona

# Transportation Safety Plan

Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization and  
Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization





## Statutory Notice

### **23 U.S.C. § 409: US Code - Section 409: Discovery and admission as evidence of certain reports and surveys**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, reports, surveys, schedules, lists, or data compiled or collected for the purpose of identifying, evaluating, or planning the safety enhancement of potential accident sites, hazardous roadway conditions, or railway-highway crossings, pursuant to sections 130, 144, and 148 of this title or for the purpose of developing any highway safety construction improvement project which may be implemented utilizing Federal-aid highway funds shall not be subject to discovery or admitted into evidence in a Federal or State court proceeding or considered for other purposes in any action for damages arising from any occurrence at a location mentioned or addressed in such reports, surveys, schedules, lists, or data.

*The Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan was supported by grant funding from the Federal Highway Administration (U.S. Dept. of Transportation) and the Arizona Department of Transportation. The contents of this report reflect the view and opinions of Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization and the Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization who are responsible for the facts and accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily state or reflect the official views or policies of the U.S. Dept. of Transportation, the Arizona Dept. of Transportation, or any other State or Federal agency. This report does not constitute a standard, specification, or regulation.*



## Executive Summary

The Southeast Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO) and Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization (SVMPO) cooperatively prepared the **Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan** (SEAZ TSP).

The study area includes all four counties in the SEAGO and SVMPO regions: Cochise County, Graham County, Greenlee County, and Santa Cruz County, incorporated jurisdiction within them, and the San Carlos Apache Tribe, as shown in **Figure E-1**. The SEAZ TSP provided a safety analysis informed by engagement with the public and stakeholders, considers equity, reviews current safety-focused practices, identifies specific locations that should be considered for safety improvements, and recommends strategies and projects. The SEAZ TSP meets requirements that allow jurisdictions to apply for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary grant program.

## Safe System Approach and Vision Statement

Recommendations made in this Safety Plan build upon the Safe System Approach, focusing on human mistakes and vulnerability to design a transportation system with redundancies to protect all users. The SEAZ TSP identified the following vision statement to guide the development of this Safety Plan:

**“Provide local governments a strategic roadway safety improvement plan to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries.”**

## Plan Development

The SEAZ TSP preparation followed the process shown in **Figure E-2**.

*Figure E-2. SEAZ TSP Plan Tasks*

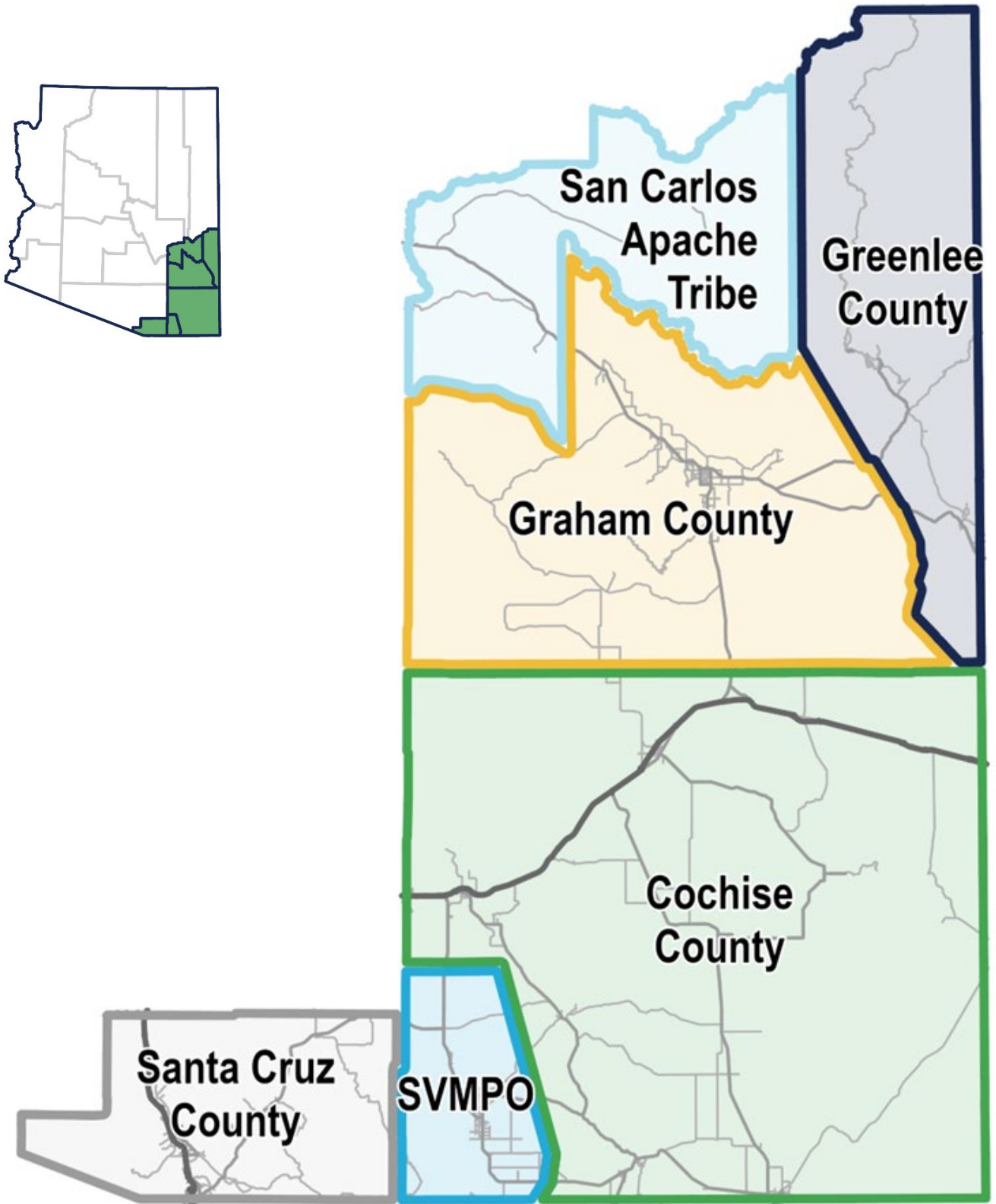


## Stakeholder Engagement

The public and member agency stakeholders were involved throughout the SEAZ TSP development process to capture perspectives, insights, and needs, related to transportation safety in the region. Two rounds of geographic focus area (GFA) workshops were held to understand planning partner needs, present results of the safety analysis, and discuss emphasis areas, strategies, and performance measures. Interaction with the public occurred via the project website, interactive map, and an on-line survey allowed the public to provide their input on safety concerns, locations for potential safety improvement projects, and identify potential opportunities for improvement.



Figure E-1. Study Area



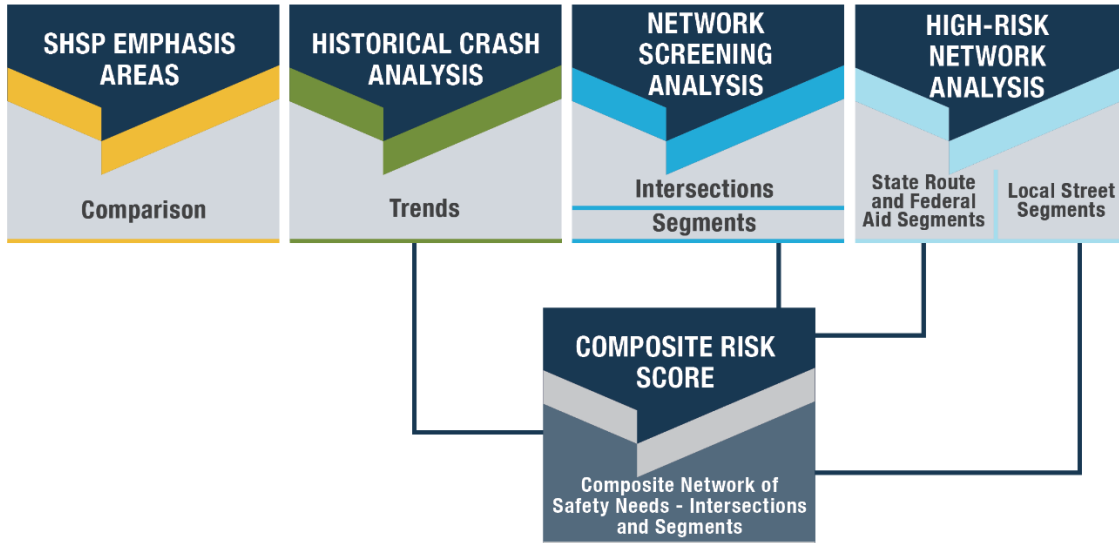




## Regional Safety Performance Analysis Results

The TSP safety analysis was informed by four sub-analyses, shown in **Figure E-3**, that each identified safety needs in the region. Safety needs from each sub-analysis were compiled to identify a composite network with the greatest need for safety improvements.

Figure E-3. SEAZ TSP Safety Analysis Methodology



The frequency of fatal and serious injury crashes in the SEAZ TSP planning area, by Arizona Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) emphasis area, is shown in **Table E-1**. Behavior-related crashes account for 49% of all serious injury and fatal crashes in the region. Historical crash analysis trends for the region are shown in **Figure E-4**. A network screening analysis identified intersections and segments where safety-focused countermeasures should be considered. The analysis identified locations that may not have a high historical crash rate but have characteristics that may contribute to potential crashes. The results of the regional safety performance analysis are shown in **Section 4**. The regional number of crashes are taken from the total number of crashes recorded in the Arizona SHSP and only reflect the percentages of crashes within the study area.

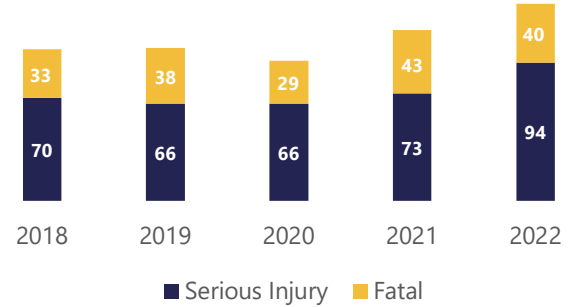
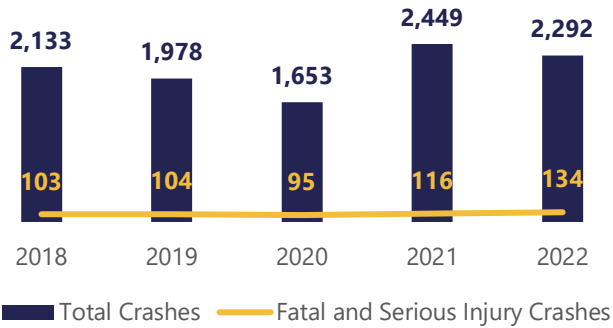
Table E-1. Regional Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes by Emphasis Area

ARIZONA SHSP EMPHASIS AREA	FATAL AND SERIOUS INJURY CRASHES	RANK
<b>Human Behavior</b>	271 (49%)	1
<b>Intersections</b>	102 (18%)	2
<b>Lane Departure</b>	70 (13%)	3
<b>Vulnerable Road Users (VRU)</b>	57 (10%)	4

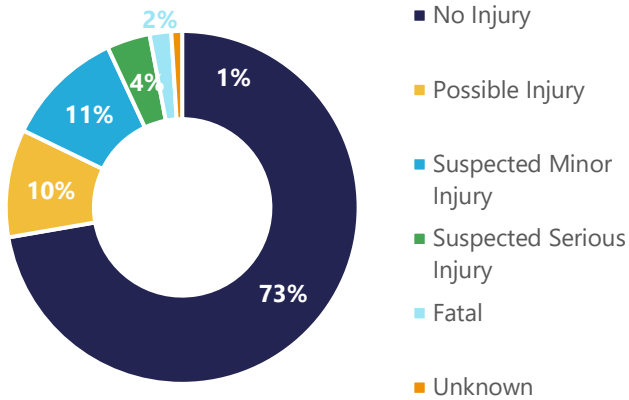


Figure E-4. Regional Safety Overview

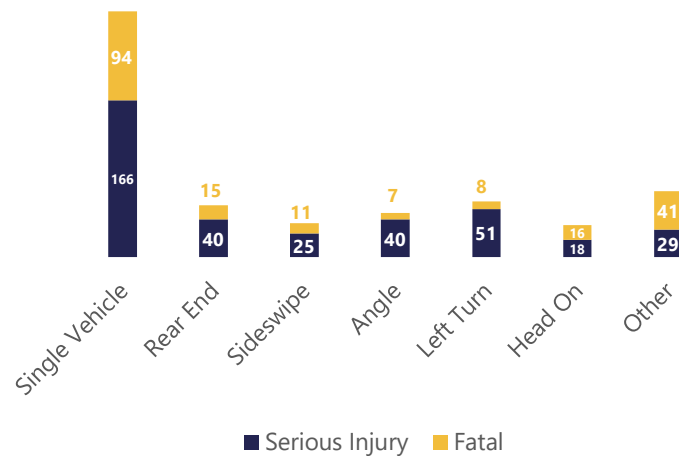
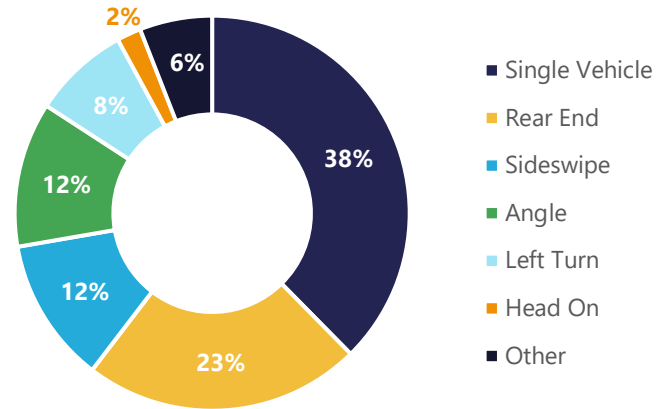
## CRASHES BY YEAR



## CRASHES BY INJURY LEVEL



## TOP MANNER OF COLLISION



**57** OF **135** VRU-INVOLVED CRASHES RESULTED IN A SERIOUS INJURY OR FATALITY



## Equity Considerations

Equity in transportation refers to fairness in mobility and accessibility to meet the needs of all community members. The USDOT Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Disadvantaged Areas dataset and the Council on Environmental Quality's Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) were used to evaluate equity in the SEAZ TSP study area. The equity analysis is provided in **Section 5** of the Final Report.

## Recommended Strategies and Solutions

The SEAZ TSP recommends **projects and strategies** to reduce the frequency of fatalities and serious injuries. To assist communities in the region to select appropriate and effective countermeasures, the SEAZ TSP includes a Safety Countermeasures Toolbox. The toolbox summarizes segment-related countermeasures, intersection-related countermeasures, and non-engineering countermeasures. Each countermeasure includes an applicable emphasis area or crash problem, crash modification factor (CMF) value, unit cost, application guidance, context recommendation (urban or rural, signalized and unsignalized).

## Best Practices and Policies and Procedures

Best practices for safety policies, processes, education, and enforcement were identified for the region. Policy and procedure recommendations for the region includes:



**Speed limit setting and speed management**



**Crash data improvement**



**Proven safety countermeasures in design standards**



**Complete streets policies**



**Safety terminology in plans, policies, and studies**



**Education strategies**

## Monitoring and Evaluation

The SEAZ TSP is a living document that has been reviewed, discussed, and collectively agreed upon by the planning partners. The SEAZ TSP provides guidance to SEAGO, SVMPO, and safety stakeholders to proactively improve transportation safety through implementation of strategies, countermeasures, and policies.

SEAGO and SVMPO recognizes the importance of accountability and performance monitoring to reduce traffic deaths and serious injuries. However, monitoring should not distract from the focus to eliminate fatal and serious injuries on roadways for all users across the region.

The general approach to SEAZ TSP monitoring and evaluation includes the following elements:

**Leadership:** SEAGO and SVMPO will each assume leadership of the Safety Plan and will promote its implementation throughout their respective regions.



**Implementation Meetings:** SEAGO and SVMPO anticipate that they will convene stakeholders annually, to discuss progress, associated challenges, and opportunities to implement the Safety Plan.

**Annual Evaluation:** When the most recent year's crash data is available, from ADOT, SEAGO and SVMPO will evaluate progress toward Safety Plan goals by reporting region-wide fatalities and serious injuries.

**Updating the Plan:** SEAGO and SVMPO anticipate that the Safety Plan will be updated routinely as well as revisiting data analysis and proposed strategies in context of other regional planning efforts.

**Funding Safety:** SEAGO and SVMPO will encourage communities to place increased emphasis to including safety improvements in their Capital Improvement Program.

**Other Planning Efforts:** SEAGO and SVMPO continually learn about, and inform, member jurisdictions of current and new local and statewide safety programs, policies, plans, guidelines, and/or standards.

## Safety Plan Regional Evaluation

Annual safety reporting will include **effectiveness measures** that directly assess outcomes. These metrics can be aligned with overarching goals, including reducing fatalities and serious injuries. The proposed measures are already collected and reported by ADOT, and it is expected that SEAGO and SVMPO will utilize subsets of these existing resources for region-specific review. Not only does this leverage existing procedures for crash reporting, but it may also facilitate greater interagency uniformity and collaboration. The proposed performance measures are listed below. Performance measures will be evaluated in comparison to the previous three or more years of data, as appropriate.

- Number of fatalities
- Number of serious injuries
- Number of unrestrained vehicle occupant fatalities (all seat positions)
- Number of alcohol-impaired driving fatalities
- Number of drug-impaired driving fatalities
- Number of distracted driving fatalities
- Number of speed-related fatalities
- Number of motorcyclist fatalities (helmeted and un-helmeted)
- Number of fatal crashes involving younger drivers
- Number of roadway departure fatalities
- Number of intersection fatalities
- Number of bicyclist serious injuries and fatalities
- Number of pedestrian serious injuries and crashes



## Safety Monitoring Tools

Local agency staff are encouraged to request a log-in from ADOT to access ACIS. SEAGO and SVMPO will also inform local jurisdictions of training opportunities for staff on how to utilize ACIS. Promoting access to these tools will improve communities' access to safety-related resources so they can tailor local approaches to reduce fatalities and serious injuries.

## SVMPO Long-Range Transportation Plan

The SVMPO Long-Range Transportation Plans sets regional priorities for meeting future transportation needs. The LRTP has a planning horizon of at least 20 years and must be updated every five years. The last LRTP was adopted in August of 2021 and an update will be underway in 2025. Safety is one of seven priority considerations for regional projects, with a 19% top weighted ranking for determining priorities for funding. The LRTP incorporates projects that improve safety and should include the recommended projects from the SVMPO identified in this Safety Plan in the next LRTP update.

## Local Jurisdiction Implementation of Safety Plan

Local agencies should partner with SEAGO and SVMPO to proactively implement the recommendations of this Safety Plan, within local agency staff and resource capacity.

- Commit to implementing the recommended strategies and countermeasures, when appropriate and possible, in their local agency.
- Conduct one crash assessment or a safety analysis at identified project locations of concern.
- Collect and report on speed data annually, especially at accident locations.
- Prioritize transportation projects in general plans and capital improvement plans based on at least one safety criteria, such as total crashes, number of fatalities or serious injuries, location on Composite Network, or location in an Equity Focus Areas area.
- Consider selecting at least one of the recommended safety projects to design and begin construction within the next five years.
- Consider adopting design guidelines or Complete Street Policies to support strategic safety improvements in local codes.
- Collaborate with at least one new partner to address traffic safety, such as law enforcement, EMS, school districts, or health departments in a targeted outreach effort.
- Support safety educational messages and broadcast those through local agency social media and newsletter opportunities.

## Regional Recommendations and Implementation

SEAGO and SVMPO agree to collaborate with their member jurisdictions to proactively move recommended actions and prioritized projects forward, as funding and opportunity allows.



Regional support of local transportation safety projects includes providing potential resources through planning, programming, collaboration, and funding.

- Support moving at least two HSIP application forward for funding to ADOT during the timeframe of this Safety Plan.
- Support moving at least five SS4A applications forward for funding during the timeframe of this Safety Plan (note that SS4A grant cycles are available in 2025 and 2026).
- Partner with member jurisdictions to provide safety educational messages that are released in at least 50% of the member jurisdictions through local agency PIO's or offices.
- Provide press releases that reference safety data and safety messages at least once a year.
- Inform our regional Boards and TACs of updated safety information and funding opportunities for safety projects.
- Provide timely support to local agencies of any action needed to support safety project funding applications, including providing support letters and placing proposed projects into the regional TIPs, as appropriate.
- Participate with federal and state partners to prepare and implement state-wide strategic highway and alternative mode safety plans.

## Final Report

For more information and the complete Safety Report, please visit the SEAGO and SVMPO websites at [www.seago.org](http://www.seago.org) or [www.svmppo.org](http://www.svmppo.org).

*The Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan was supported by grant funding from the Federal Highway Administration (U.S. Dept. of Transportation) and the Arizona Department of Transportation.*



# SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization

*Serving our member governments and their constituents since 1972*

## RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02

### A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA GOVERNMENTS ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING THE SOUTHEAST ARIZONA TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PLAN SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH AND VISION TO REDUCE TRAFFIC FATALITIES AND SERIOUS INJURIES

**WHEREAS**, the SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO) is a council of governments serving the four-county region of Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz Counties: and

**WHEREAS**, SEAGO in partnership with the Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization (SVMPO), and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), analyzed crash data in Southeast Arizona, and developed the Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan that includes policies, strategies, and projects, to reduce fatalities and serious injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, from 2018 to 2022, the combined SEAGO and SVMPO planning areas had 548 fatal and severe injury crashes. This includes 183 lives lost; and

**WHEREAS**, it is acknowledged that people may make mistakes while operating a vehicle or motorcycle, riding a bicycle or walking along the roadway, and in general use of the transportation system, and it is desired to minimize the probability that those inevitable mistakes would result in a life altering crash event; and

**WHEREAS**, SEAGO is committed to implementing reasonable policies, strategies, and projects, consistent with the United States Department of Transportation Safe System Approach, towards reducing fatalities and serious injuries for all roadway users; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent and purpose of the Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan to support our member jurisdiction's eligibility and applications for federal designated safety funds, including the Safe Streets and Roads for ALL (SS4A) discretionary grant program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHAIR AND SEAGO EXECUTIVE BOARD, AS FOLLOWS:**

**THAT** we support the vision of the Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan to provide a strategic roadway safety improvement plan to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries by proactively using a "Safe System Approach" to improve safety for all roadway users.

**THAT** educating roadway users on safe behaviors for all who use our transportation network is imperative to saving lives and we commit to partnering with emergency services, health providers, transportation professionals, and jurisdiction staff to share the safety message.

### SEAGO Member Entities

- Cochise County*
  - Benson*
  - Bisbee*
  - Douglas*
  - Huachuca City*
  - Sierra Vista*
  - Tombstone*
  - Willcox*
- Graham County*
  - Pima*
  - Safford*
  - San Carlos*
  - Apache Tribe*
  - Thatcher*
- Greenlee County*
  - Clifton*
  - Duncan*
- Santa Cruz County*
  - Nogales*
  - Patagonia*

### SEAGO Main Office

**Administration  
Community and  
Economic Dev.  
Transportation**

1403 W. Hwy 92  
Bisbee, AZ 85603  
520-432-5301  
520-432-5858 Fax

### Area Agency on Aging Office

1403 B Hwy 92  
Bisbee, AZ 85603  
520-432-2528  
520-432-9168 Fax

[www.seago.org](http://www.seago.org)

**THAT** we encourage our member jurisdictions to implement identified safety strategies and will support actions needed to seek and apply for funding to implement prioritized safety projects.

**THAT** SEAGO will measure, review, and report, on progress towards reducing fatalities and serious injuries in our region.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the SEAGO Executive Board hereby approves the Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan finalized in dated November 25, 2024.

Passed and adopted by the SEAGO Executive Board on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2024.

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David Gomez,  
Executive Board Chair

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Keith Dennis,  
Executive Director