



Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan

Roadway Departure Emphasis Area Plan

Priority Strategies

1. Implement roadway improvements that ensure human mistakes and vulnerabilities do not result in serious injuries or fatalities.
2. Adopt an approach that considers risk when prioritizing locations for safety improvements and programs.
3. Recognize traffic safety as a public health issue and establish policies and programs that promote safe behavior and reduce crash severity outcomes.
4. Develop and implement programs that provide education and awareness to high-risk road users.
5. Implement innovative solutions and utilize current and emerging technologies.

Emphasis Area Tasks

- Review actions and select 10. Include a mix of what can be done today and what can be done in the future. Refrain from just selecting all ongoing strategies and focus on priorities. *(Note: each individual's selections will not necessarily make it to the final list. We will identify those 10 that capture the needs of the group.)*
- Combine or reword actions whenever possible. Example: Combine actions 1 & 2 - *Use data to identify which population groups are at highest risk for not wearing safety belts and develop materials to increase awareness of the benefits of safety belt use among these low-use groups.*
- Apply the Action Test for each action.
- Determine the time frame, e.g., those actions that can be done in the next two years (short term) ; those that can be done in the next three to five years (longer term) and any that are ongoing.
- Identify any new actions that support the principal strategies and are not included on this list.

Action Test

- What can actually be accomplished? *(What is working today and ideas for the future.)*
- Is there an interest in pilot testing a program or project?
- Is it feasible in terms of budget and resources?
- Are there policy or political considerations that require it to be included?
- Is there a way to combine or rewrite actions to result in fewer actions?

| Action # | Priority Strategy | 4E | Action | Time Frame |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | 1 | Engineering | Update Roadway Departure Plan network screening using recent safety performance research, curve inventory, and best countermeasure practices. Provide training on methods and countermeasures for consideration in maintenance and construction project planning and development. | Near Term |
| 2 | 4 | Engineering | Review and improve related engineering and traffic control device standards and specifications. Expand the use of and maintain existing roadway and bridge delineation and visibility features. | Ongoing |
| 3 | 4 | Engineering | Continue VDOT Systemic Implementation Plan for roadway departure-related traffic control devices and pavement countermeasures. | Ongoing |
| 4 | 2 | Engineering | Complete Pavement Friction Management Program development and continue data collection and support improved analysis methods. Develop and promote high-friction surface treatment (HFST) knowledge and use where appropriate. Explore application of other pavement surfacing treatments that may offer properties that uniquely respond to specific safety concerns. | Near Term |
| 5 | 1 | Engineering | Promote benefits and alternate funding of complete streets, road conversions, and roadway/roadside design improvements, based on potential for safety network screening, during capital project planning and design. | Ongoing |
| 6 | 3 | Engineering | Promote and support road safety action plans to locality, agency, and District staff through the Safety Circuit Rider Program. | Ongoing |