

Memorandum

*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

To: DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Traffic Operations
DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Design

Date: August 12, 2019

From: JASVINDERJIT S. BHULLAR
Chief
Division of Traffic Operations



JANICE BENTON
Chief
Division of Design



Subject: **PROJECT GUIDANCE FOR PERFORMANCE-BASED DECISION-MAKING USING
HIGHWAY SAFETY MANUAL**

This memorandum provides project guidance on implementing performance-based decision-making processes for highway design using the American Association of State Highways and Transportation Officials Highway Safety Manual (HSM). The HSM is a nationally recognized reference that can be used to make informed performance-based decision-making on design solutions. The purpose of the HSM is to provide fact-based statistical information and proven data-driven analysis tools for collision frequency prediction. The HSM can facilitate the integration of quantitative collision frequency and severity performance measures into roadway planning, design, operations, and maintenance decisions. The primary focus of the HSM for the California Department of Transportation is to increase the use of analytical tools to assess the safety impacts of transportation projects and program decisions.

The HSM shall be used based on the project application guidelines in the Performance-Based Decision-Making Using Highway Safety Manual Project Application Guidelines document (attached). The HSM implementation shall apply to projects that meet the minimum criteria specified in the guidelines and have a Project Approval and Environmental Document date after June 30, 2020.

This guidance shall be effective until superseded by a subsequent memo or the appropriate updated project development guidance manuals.

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If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact Thomas Schriber, Chief, Office of Traffic Safety Programs, Division of Traffic Operations at (916) 654-7138 or by e-mail <thomas.schriber@dot.ca.gov>, or Ranjeet Bagha, Office of Project Support, Division of Design at (916) 654-4693 or by e-mail at <ranjeet.bagha@dot.ca.gov>.

Attachment

Performance-Based Decision-Making Using Highway Safety Manual-Project Application Guidelines

c: Michael Keever, Chief, Division of Project Management
Thomas Schriber, Chief, Office of Traffic Safety Programs, Division of Traffic Operations
Ranjeet Bagha, Office of Project Support, Division of Design