

**Design/
Construction****MAY 2026****Project Title:** Highway Safety Manual2 (HSM2)**Task Number:** 4440**Start Date:** July 1, 2024**Completion Date:** March 31, 2030**Task Manager:**

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DRISI provides solutions and knowledge that improves California's transportation system.

Highway Safety Manual 2nd Edition (HSM2) Implementation

Highway Safety Manual 2nd Edition Implementation in roadway design

WHAT IS THE NEED?

In 2010, the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) published the Highway Safety Manual 1st Edition (HSM). At that time, the AASHTO Committee on Safety established a goal in its Strategic Plan to institutionalize the HSM and its associated analytical tools to help transportation agencies make data-driven decisions, advance the science of safety, and to ultimately reduce fatalities and serious injuries. One proposed action in support of that goal was to establish and maintain an HSM Implementation Pooled Fund Study. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) agreed to organize and manage the Transportation Pooled Funded (TPF)-5(255) Highway Safety Manual Implementation Study, in which 22 States ultimately participated. With the anticipated publication of the AASHTO HSM Second Edition (HSM2) (estimated 2025), there was strong interest from States to establish a new pooled fund to accelerate implementation of HSM2.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

This study will conduct research and develop products to enable States to accelerate their implementation of HSM2. A Technical Working Group consisting of one representative from each participating agency will help identify and prioritize the specific tasks and products.

WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

Accelerate implementation of HSM2 and related analytical tools to assess current and future safety performance of existing roadways and alternative designs, and help practitioners make more informed decisions, better target investments, and reduce fatalities and serious injuries on the

nations roadways. This includes activities before and after publication of HSM2 (anticipated 2025).

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

The HSM2 Pooled Fund Study provides the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) with essential access to the development of HSM2 and its forthcoming analytical tools, ensuring that California's needs are represented as national safety methods evolve. Participation gives Caltrans a voting role in shaping new analysis tools, supplemental guidance, calibration methods, and Data-Driven Safety Analysis enhancements that will not be available at the time HSM2 is published.

WHAT IS THE PROGRESS TO DATE?

The FHWA hosted the quarterly meeting of the TPF on February 17, 2026. Notable updates discussed include:

- The contractor provided an update on deliverables to participant agencies.
- Washington noted they are nearly complete with updating the HSM Part C Spreadsheets to include in the HSM2 models.
- Northeastern Megalopolis Safety Performance Functions (SPFs) will be completed this summer.
- The contractor provided an update on current research topics, while reiterating the request for additional focus group members.

Activities Planned for Next Quarter (April-June 2026):

- A quarterly meeting is scheduled for May. The contractor will develop an agenda, facilitate the meeting, and distribute a summary.
- Work will continue on the remaining main tasks.
- The contractor will work with focus groups to finalize pending work plans.
- Work will begin on additional research topics approved by the states.

- States may continue to add funding commitments for the HSM2 Implementation Pooled Fund. To date during this reporting period, 19 states have committed to the study, committing \$1.52M over the life of the pooled fund.