CALIFORNIA SAFE ROADS

THE TRAFFIC SAFETY NAVIGATOR

FALL 2026

The Traffic Safety Navigator is the 2025–2029 California Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) e-newsletter. The newsletter provides SHSP updates along with insights into best practices for implementing strategies that achieve zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries on California's roadways.

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SUPPORTING THE SHSP'S DATA-DRIVEN APPROACH

Welcome to the fall edition of the Traffic Safety Navigator! Access to reliable, timely, and accessible data is one of the most powerful tools available for advancing roadway safety and supporting the California Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) goal of zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries. In this issue, we highlight key traffic safety data resources available to practitioners, including new data added to the SHSP Crash Data Dashboard, the UC Berkeley Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC)'s Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS), the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)'s California Crash Victim Data Dashboard, as well as national initiatives from the Federal Highway Administration and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that are helping guide roadway safety efforts through a Safe System Approach.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO DATA WITH DIFFERENT DASHBOARDS

Reliable and accessible data is essential for understanding crash trends, identifying safety needs, and supporting data-driven implementation of the SHSP. In addition to the SHSP Crash Data Dashboard, another widely used road safety resource in California is the Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS), which is developed and maintained by UC Berkeley's Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC). TIMS provides free access to Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS) crash data through interactive mapping, visualization, and analysis tools that support transportation safety professionals, planners, researchers, and local agencies across California. The platform includes geocoded crash locations, roadway functional classification information, and downloadable crash datasets that help transportation professionals identify crash trends, prioritize investments, and conduct detailed safety analyses. Through its partnership with the SHSP, TIMS provides the geocoded crash locations, roadway functional classifications, and tribal land attribution data that supports statewide SHSP analyses and helps ensure consistent safety data across agencies. These datasets are incorporated into and displayed on the SHSP Crash Data Dashboard.

TIMS recently released finalized 2024 crash data and now also includes provisional crash data for 2025 and 2026, providing stakeholders with access to the most current crash information available while finalized records are being developed. To learn more about TIMS, visit the TIMS website or contact the TIMS team at tims_info@berkeley.edu.

In addition to the SHSP Crash Data Dashboard and TIMS, the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) maintains a California Crash Victim Data Dashboard. The dashboard provides information on crash victims and licensed drivers, allowing users to explore demographic trends and compare crash victim characteristics, including race, ethnicity, and gender, across California counties.

Each of these tools plays a distinct role in advancing road safety in California. The SHSP Crash Data Dashboard supports statewide performance monitoring and strategic decision-making, TIMS enables detailed geographic and crash trend analyses, and the DMV Crash Victim Data Dashboard provides valuable insights into the characteristics of crash-involved populations. Together, they offer a comprehensive data ecosystem that helps practitioners identify risks, prioritize investments, and implement effective safety strategies.

ADVANCING ROADWAY SAFETY: NATIONAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL ACTION

The United States Department of Transportation's National Roadway Safety Strategy (NRSS) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Pathways to Safer Streets (P2SS) initiative provide a complementary roadmap for reducing fatalities and serious injuries on the nation's roadways. Together, they offer transportation professionals a coordinated framework that combines engineering, enforcement, education, emergency response, and data-driven decision making to move toward the shared goal of zero roadway deaths.

The NRSS establishes three core objectives: Safer People, Safer Roads, and Safer Vehicles. The strategy emphasizes a Safe System Approach that recognizes human mistakes will occur and seeks to design transportation systems that prevent those mistakes from resulting in fatal or serious injuries. Key priorities include improving roadway design through proven safety countermeasures, supporting rural and tribal communities, strengthening law enforcement partnerships, enhancing emergency response efforts, reducing unsafe commercial vehicle operations, and accelerating deployment of lifesaving vehicle technologies such as automatic emergency braking (AEB).

For transportation engineers, the NRSS reinforces investment in evidence-based infrastructure improvements, systemic safety analyses, and innovative roadway design practices. For law enforcement and EMS professionals, it highlights the critical role of traffic enforcement, incident management, and post-crash care. Educators and safety advocates benefit from the strategy's emphasis on public awareness, behavior change, and community engagement. By aligning the efforts of all roadway safety disciplines, the NRSS provides a common language and strategic direction for safety programs nationwide.

NHTSA's Pathways to Safer Streets translates many of these goals into targeted actions focused on behavioral safety. The initiative is organized around eight pathways, including reengaging law enforcement, reducing excessive speeding, preventing impaired driving, strengthening occupant protection, eliminating distracted driving, leveraging State Highway Safety Offices, expanding pre-hospital blood transfusion programs, and increasing collaboration across safety partners. The plan places significant emphasis on using data, technology, and coordinated enforcement to address the leading causes of fatal crashes.

For a multidisciplinary audience of engineers, law enforcement officers, EMS personnel, educators, and safety advocates, these programs offer clear opportunities for collaboration. Engineers can use crash and risk data to identify systemic improvements, law enforcement agencies can deploy targeted enforcement strategies, EMS professionals can strengthen trauma response capabilities, educators can promote safer driving behaviors,

and advocates can help build a stronger culture of traffic safety. Together, the NRSS and P2SS provide the framework, tools, and partnerships needed to support safer transportation systems and the Strategic Highway Safety Plan's goal of zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all of California's public roadways.

For more information visit the FHWA NRSS website and the NHTSA P2SS website.

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT: UC BERKELEY SAFE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER

By Katherine Chen, Director of Programs at the UC Berkeley Safe Transportation Research and Education Center

From constructing state-of-the-art data mapping and analysis tools for transportation planners and engineers, to evaluating road safety policy impacts, to conducting on-the-ground community engagement with transportation practitioners, UC Berkeley Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC)'s mission is to inform decision-making and empower communities to improve roadway safety for all.

SafeTREC's contribution to the SHSP includes the Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS), widely used by government agencies and researchers to conduct geographic analysis of traffic crashes. SafeTREC's research on topics such as automated vehicles and speed safety cameras helps position California as a national leader in establishing innovative safe transportation solutions.

Beyond research, SafeTREC provides direct training, technical assistance, and support to local, regional, and tribal safety practitioners to achieve zero fatalities and serious injuries on all of California's public roadways. SafeTREC's Community Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program and California Safe System Institute for Road Safety provide capacity-building needed to help communities implement the Safe System Approach.

Affiliated with the university's Institute of Transportation Studies and School of Public Health, it also partners with students and faculty in academic departments including Civil and Environmental Engineering, City and Regional Planning, and Public Policy. It is a member of the Center for Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety, a Tier-1 University Transportation Center (UTC) supported by the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT). SafeTREC staff also serve in an advisory capacity on a multitude of statewide task forces and committees dedicated to safety, including those for the California SHSP.

Learn more about SafeTREC at safetrec.berkeley.edu.

GET INVOLVED AND SHSP RESOURCES

CHECK OUT THE SHSP CRASH DATA DASHBOARD

The California SHSP Crash Data Dashboard was developed to provide SHSP implementers with direct access to crash data to support data-driven implementation of the SHSP. The dashboard currently uses finalized crash data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) and the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS) and allows users to customize reports by location and other characteristics, including whether a fatal or serious injury crash was within five miles of a tribal boundary. The SHSP Team is excited to share that the Dashboard has now been updated with the latest SWITRS crash data available, including the finalized 2024 data, located in the 2015–2024 Dashboard, as well as Provisional 2025 data. Additional updates include a new mobile-friendly format, option to filter data by an urban or rural area, improved design for the map page, and pedestrian and bicyclist telematics data from the SHSP partners at Replica. If you are unfamiliar with the Crash Data Dashboard, it only takes a few minutes to register and create an account; there is a user guide and videos available in both English and Spanish.

View Dashboard

High Priority Challenge Areas

- Bicyclists (Active Transportation)
- Pedestrians
- Impaired Driving
- Intersections
- Lane Departures
- Speed Management/ Aggressive Driving

Focus Challenge Areas

- Aging Drivers
- Commercial Vehicles
- Distracted Driving
- Driver Licensing
- Emergency Response
- Emerging Technologies
- Motorcyclists
- Occupant Protection
- Work Zones
- Young Drivers

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU

The SHSP is just the start. We all need to work together to implement the actions developed in the SHSP. Involvement in an SHSP Challenge Area Team is a direct way to influence countermeasures selected to improve safety. Volunteers are needed for all Challenge Areas. Join today!

Get Involved

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Tell us about your successful implementation of traffic safety countermeasures! We will be highlighting success stories on the SHSP website and in future newsletters.

Share Your Story

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 10–14, 2027, Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting, Walter E. Washington Convention Center and Marriott Marquis, Washington, D.C.

Join transportation professionals from government, industry, academia, and research to explore the latest developments across every mode of transportation. The 2027 TRB Annual Meeting will feature nearly 60 workshops and other sessions, as well as technical committee meetings and exhibits covering transportation research, policy, planning, infrastructure, safety, mobility, and emerging technologies. The event provides opportunities to learn about current transportation practices, connect with industry peers, and exchange ideas on challenges facing the transportation field. To register, visit the TRB website.



February 5–9, 2027, American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) Convention and Traffic Expo, Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, CA

ATSSA's Annual Convention & Traffic Expo brings together roadway safety and transportation professionals from across North America and around the world. Attendees can participate in education sessions, explore the latest roadway safety technologies and products, and connect with public agency officials, engineers, contractors, manufacturers, suppliers, and transportation leaders. The Traffic Expo will feature innovations related to traffic control, work zone safety, pavement markings, infrastructure, vehicle safety technologies, and other roadway safety solutions. To register, visit the ATSSA website.

February 8–11, 2027, National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) Winter Conference, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Join leadership from federal agencies, members of Congress, and active sheriffs to explore current legislation, learn about relevant topics, and explore trending technologies and products. Attendees can also participate in the exhibit for the opportunity to meet, engage, and generate new leads with sheriffs and other law enforcement professionals from various sectors. For more information, visit the NSA Winter Conference website.

March 6–9, 2027, Lifesavers Annual Conference, Henry B. González Convention Center, San Antonio, TX

The Lifesavers Conference brings together highway safety officials, law enforcement representatives, safety advocates and service providers, public health professionals, researchers, and industry leaders to share information and strategies for improving roadway safety. Don't miss this opportunity to network with highway safety professionals highlighting research to practice efforts across the country! Information will be available on the Lifesavers Conference website.

March 7–10, 2027, California Police Chiefs Association (CPCA) Annual Training Symposium, Rancho Mirage, CA

The CPCA Annual Training Symposium brings together police chiefs and executive law enforcement leaders from throughout California for professional development and education. Presentations will address current challenges and opportunities, offering both strategic insight and practical, actionable takeaways that can be applied in day-to-day leadership. For upcoming event information, visit the CPCA website.

March 9–11, 2027, League of American Bicyclists 2027 National Bike Summit, MLK Jr. Memorial Library, Washington, D.C.

Join bicycle advocates, transportation professionals, community leaders, and others from across the country to learn, connect, and share strategies for making bicycling safer and more accessible. Attendees can participate in interactive sessions, workshops, and networking opportunities focused on bicycle-friendly communities, active transportation, advocacy, and bicycle safety. The Summit also provides opportunities for participants to engage with policymakers and connect with others working to advance bicycling in their communities. For more information, visit the League of American Bicyclists website.

March 15–19, 2027, County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) Spring Conference, Hyatt Regency, Orange County, CA

In conjunction with the League of California Cities Public Works Officers Institute, each year the CEAC Spring Conference brings together County and City Public Works officials, other senior-level staff, and private sector consultants to network and receive valuable information from relevant experts. This year's conference will feature a three-day educational and peer-learning event to discuss the biggest issues affecting local communities. For more information, visit the CEAC website.



SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TOPICS?

We want to know what topics are of interest to California! Complete our simple feedback form to provide suggestions on future newsletter topics.

Submit Feedback

To stay up-to-date on SHSP news, subscribe HERE.

WHAT IS THE SHSP?

The California Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) is a comprehensive, statewide road safety plan which provides a collaborative framework for eliminating fatalities and serious injuries across all travel modes and on all public roads. The SHSP utilizes a data-driven process to identify key safety needs and guides resource and investment decisions that provide the greatest potential to achieve the plan's goal of zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all of California's public roadways. Started in 2005, the SHSP is updated regularly to ensure continued progress and to meet changing safety needs. Currently, over 1,700 safety stakeholders from over 600 public and private agencies and organizations work together on this effort under the guidance of the SHSP Executive Leadership and Steering Committees. The California SHSP is aligning its activities and actions with California's Safe System Approach, which identifies six interconnected elements to achieve the goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries:

- **Safe Roads**
- **Safe Speeds**
- **Safe Road Users**
- **Safe Vehicles**
- **Post-Crash Care**
- **Safer Land Use**



VISION

Safe and accessible roads for all road users in California



MISSION

Collaborate to enhance safety for all modes of travel on California's public roadways



GOAL

Zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all of California's public roadways

Learn More

More Information

For more information about the California SHSP, please visit
https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/shsp

Questions? Comments? Email to SHSP@dot.ca.gov

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