

# NAEMSO HITS Committee meeting

## *EMS Involvement in Strategic Highway Safety Plans (SHSPs)*

Jennifer Warren  
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)  
Office of Safety



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Highway Administration**



**Safe Roads for a Safer Future**  
*Investment in roadway safety saves lives*



Highway Safety Improvement Program  
*Data Driven Decisions*

# SHSP Background

- Requirement of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP): 23 USC 148
- Data-driven, statewide plan that:
  - Identifies State's priority roadway safety needs
  - Provides a comprehensive framework for reducing highway fatalities and serious injuries
  - Includes behavioral and infrastructure priorities and strategies



# SHSP Requirements

- Development led by the state DOT in consultation with local, state, tribal, federal and other safety stakeholders
- Considers safety needs of all public roads
- Describes emphasis areas and effective strategies to reduce or eliminate roadway safety hazards
- Addresses 4 E's when determining highway safety priorities and strategies
- Guides investment decisions for safety projects
- Updated no later than every 5 years

## *The Four Es*

- *Engineering*
- *Enforcement*
- *Education*
- *EMS*



# The “Umbrella” Plan



# The Importance of EMS and the SHSP

- Supporting a well-functioning EMS system is essential to reducing deaths and injuries on public roads, especially in rural areas.
- Many safety resources and investment decisions are based on SHSP priorities and strategies, so it's critical that the state EMS office is involved and EMS is considered in the SHSP process.



# How is the SHSP relevant to EMS Officials?

- Coordinating the state's SHSP safety goals and strategies with other statewide plans and programs advances EMS's safety agenda as well.
- Programs and plans reflect statewide priorities, provide a blueprint for action for key agencies, and influence how resources are distributed.
- EMS-related improvements could potentially receive funding through the SHSP process or other resources if they are deemed a priority based on available data.



# EMS is SHSPs

- 16 States have EMS Emphasis Areas
  - Hundreds of EMS strategies included in EMS emphasis areas and others.



# Sample of EMS Strategies in SHSPs

- Continue the development of the Electronic Patient Care Record to access data on response time to crashes
- Implement electronic EMS run form
- Install reference markers (mile-markers) at appropriate intervals on rural expressways throughout the State
- Ensure ample EMS access & coverage statewide – Identify areas with greater than 20 minutes response (notification to arrival); Place personnel, equipment, stations in deficient areas
- Expand the appropriate use of Critical Care Transport (CCT) Ambulances
- Improve and increase communication statewide – Cellular coverage; Interoperable coverage for service providers; Statewide transfer and transport protocols (right patient, right place, right time)





# Sample of EMS Strategies in SHSPs

- Improve enforcement and public understanding of ‘move-over’ law
- Promote ITS technologies for crash identification and facilitate emergency response
- Implement “Yellow Dot” program to assist EMS personnel and first responders by providing detailed medical information that can be crucial following a crash
- Develop and implement ambulance traffic safety protocols at state, regional and service level
- Provide safe stopping and emergency cross-over locations for law enforcement and emergency services personnel.
- Encourage the expanded use of interoperable communication capabilities



# How Can EMS Officials be Involved in the SHSP?

- Ask to be involved in the SHSP process
  - stakeholder meetings
  - member of SHSP committees (SHSP Executive or Steering Committee or emphasis area teams)
- Ask to be included on communications that are sent out regarding upcoming SHSP and other Highway Safety meetings and projects.
- Offer to speak at or present at the next SHSP or other related Highway Safety meeting
- Ask about Highway Safety grant programs and how they specifically relate to EMS.



Collaborate with  
Highway Safety



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration



Safe Roads for a Safer Future  
*Investment in roadway safety saves lives*



# Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Background



## Core Federal-aid program

- Purpose: achieve a significant reduction in fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads
- \$2.5 billion annual apportionment
- Federally-funded, state administered



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration



Safe Roads for a Safer Future  
Investment in roadway safety saves lives

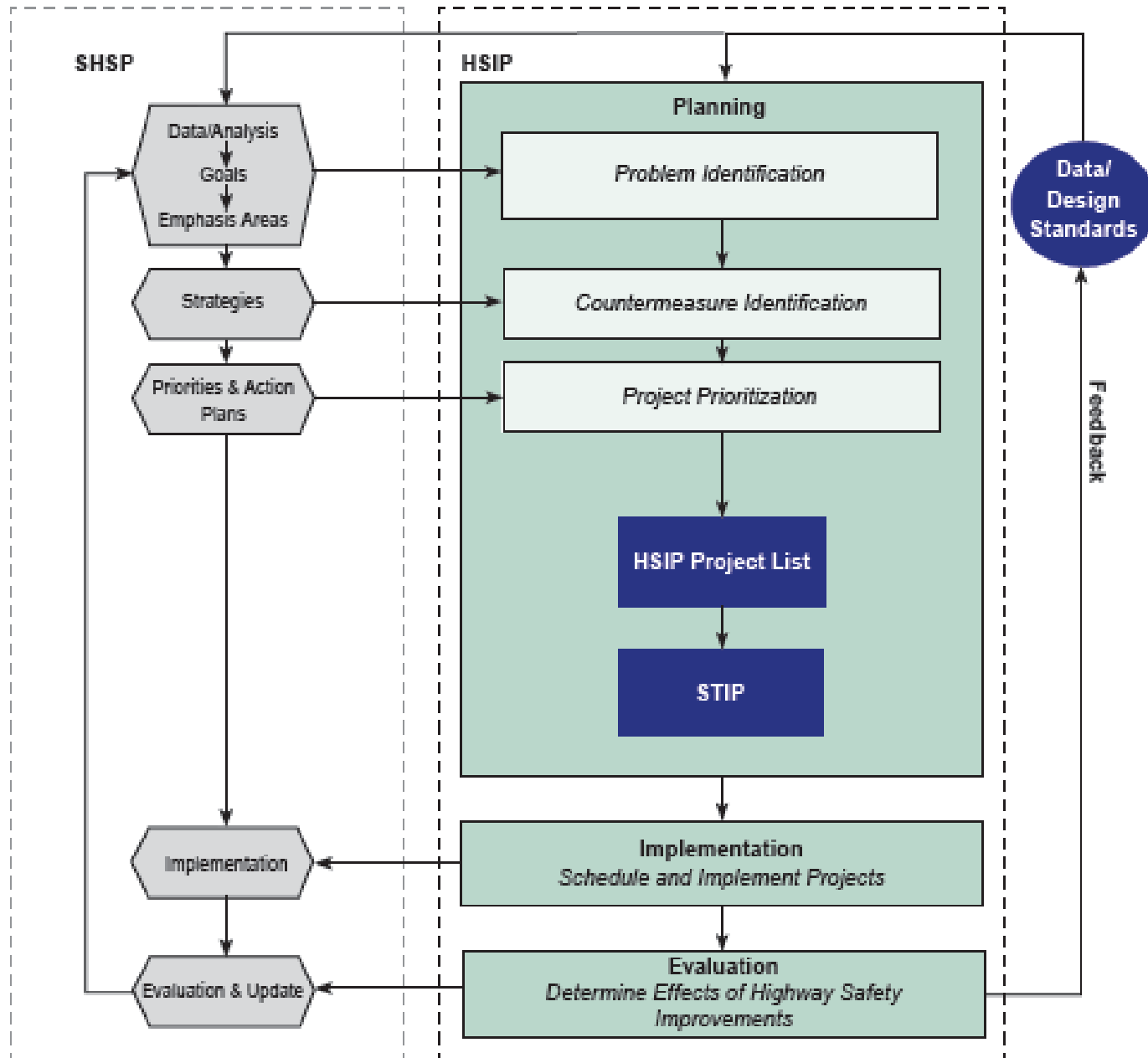


# HSIP Funds

- To obligate HSIP funds, a State must **develop, implement, evaluate and update** an SHSP that identifies and analyzes highway safety problems and opportunities



Figure 1.4 Relationships between the SHSP and HSIP



# HSIP Funds

Used for projects that:



- Are on the inclusions list in 23 U.S.C. [148(a)(4)(B)]

# EMS Related (HSIP) Projects on Inclusion List

- Installation of a priority control system for emergency vehicles at signalized intersections.
- Collection, analysis, and improvement of safety data.
- Planning integrated interoperable emergency communications equipment, operational activities, or traffic enforcement activities (including police assistance) relating to work zone safety.



# Resources



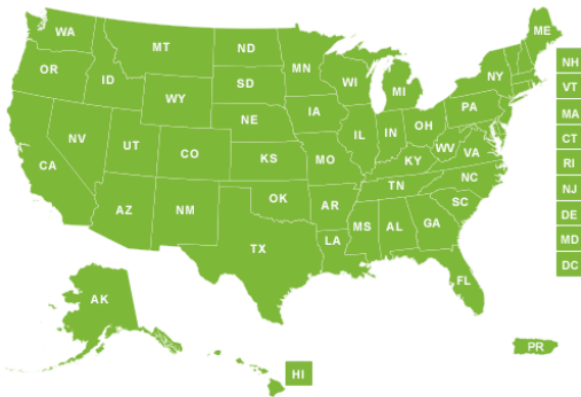
## Strategic Highway Safety Plan Community of Practice

Many Stakeholders, One SHSP Community



The Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Community of Practice (COP) is an online community for SHSP practitioners and stakeholders who represent the 4 E's of safety (engineering, enforcement, education, and emergency services/response). If you participate in your State's SHSP development and implementation, or would like to, this forum is for you. Here you will have the opportunity to interact with peers on SHSP related issues and learn about the latest SHSP resources, noteworthy practices, and events.

[Get involved in your SHSP. Learn how. →](#)



### SHSP State Profiles

Click on a state to view summary information from its SHSP and a link to the full plan.

Or, [view a list](#) of emphasis areas by state.

### Understanding the SHSP Process



<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/shsp/>



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration



Safe Roads for a Safer Future  
Investment in roadway safety saves lives





# Questions



Jennifer Warren

[jennifer.warren@dot.gov](mailto:jennifer.warren@dot.gov)

(202) 366-2157



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration



Safe Roads for a Safer Future  
*Investment in roadway safety saves lives*

