



CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK

CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	April 23, 2026
Originating Department	Public Works
Contact Person	Nova Heaton
Title	Local Road Safety Plan

Legislative History

- First Presentation April 23, 2026 Council Meeting
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Executive Summary

Introduction to what a Local Road Safety Plan is, how it is developed, how it fits in with our current planning process, and why we want one.

Background

A Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) is a data-driven, strategic framework used by local jurisdictions to identify, analyze, and prioritize roadway safety improvements. The primary goal of an LRSP is to reduce traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries on local roads through targeted, evidence-based actions.

Developing an LRSP allows a city to proactively address safety concerns, leverage funding opportunities, and align with broader regional, state, and national safety initiatives.

Why is a LRSP Important?

- Improves Safety Outcomes: Focuses resources on locations and behaviors with the highest risk of severe crashes.
- Data-Driven Decision Making: Uses crash data, roadway characteristics, and community input to guide investments.
- Funding Eligibility: Many state and federal safety grants prioritize or require jurisdictions to have an LRSP.
- Community Confidence: Demonstrates a commitment to protecting all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.

Connection to State and Regional Efforts

The LRSP will align with Washington State's Target Zero initiative, which aims to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries.

It will also complement regional transportation safety goals and planning efforts, ensuring consistency with broader policies and improving competitiveness for external funding opportunities.

Integration with Local Planning Efforts

The LRSP will be closely integrated with the City's broader transportation and planning initiatives to ensure a cohesive and consistent approach to safety and mobility. Specifically, the plan will support and reinforce policies related to Healthy Streets, Complete Streets, and the City's Multimodal Transportation Plan by emphasizing safer, more accessible travel for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and drivers. Identified safety projects and strategies will be evaluated using the City's prioritization matrix, currently being developed, and incorporated into the City's long term transportation plan. This ensures that LRSP recommendations are aligned with existing goals, are ranked appropriately for funding, and are implemented in coordination with other planned capital improvements.

Guiding Framework

The plan will follow nationally recognized LRSP guidance and Vision Zero frameworks:

- Safe System Principles
 - Death and serious injury are unacceptable.
 - Humans make mistakes.
 - Human bodies have limited tolerance to crash forces.
 - Responsibility is shared across the system.
 - Safety is proactive.
- Vision Zero Core Elements
 - Leadership and commitment
 - Equity-focused planning
 - Data-driven decisions
 - Safe road design
 - Safe speeds
 - Safe road users
 - Post-crash care
 - Transparency and accountability

Ongoing Review and Updates

To ensure the LRSP remains effective and relevant, it is recommended that the plan be:

- Reviewed annually to assess progress and performance
- Updated periodically to incorporate new data, emerging trends, and completed projects
- Adjusted as needed to reflect changing community needs and priorities

Current Project Status

The Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) is currently in the project development phase. To date, Transpo Group has completed the data collection and analysis components of the project. This work included compiling and evaluating historical crash data, identifying high-risk locations, and assessing contributing factors to serious injury and fatal collisions.

The project is now transitioning into the next stages of development, which include refining key findings, and developing prioritized safety strategies and projects. These efforts will inform the draft LRSP and ultimately guide implementation actions aimed at improving roadway safety throughout Lake Forest Park.

Fiscal & Policy Implications

The creation of a LRSP supports city goals and policies and improves chances for grant funding for transportation projects.