



Date: June 14, 2022

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Author and title: Becky Bucar, Engineering Manager

Title: **Local Road Safety Plan Adoption, C1919**

Approved By: _____ Jen Callaway, Town Manager

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 2022-35 adopting the Town of Truckee Local Road Safety Plan.

Discussion: The Town of Truckee initiated a Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) in 2021 to gain a comprehensive understanding of transportation-related safety issues throughout the Town and identify and prioritize countermeasures and solutions. The local roadway safety plan not only recommends engineering solutions to help reduce collisions, but addresses the 5 E's of traffic safety: Education, Enforcement, Engineering, Emergency Response, and Emerging Technologies. A staff summary of the Townwide LRSP is provided in **Attachment A** and the full report is provided as **Attachment B**.

The LRSP was developed consistent with the Federal Highways Administration requirements (see Federal Highways Administration LRSP infographic below) and primarily used Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant funds. Development of the plan is necessary for the Town to remain eligible to receive future HSIP funding, which is a new requirement for the next HSIP cycle (HSIP Cycle 11 applications are due Monday, September 12, 2022). HSIP funds have been used on the Town to implement a variety of projects, including the 2020 Guardrail Upgrade Project (\$230,917), the 2019 Phase 1 Envision DPR Project (\$1.5 million), and the 2014 Glenshire Drive/Highland Avenue Intersection Improvement Project (\$900,000).



Source: Federal Highway Administration

The LRSP process combined data analysis with community and stakeholder input to develop a data-informed approach to solving safety issues. The effort included reviewing crash data to identify trends or patterns that could be addressed through systemic treatments or strategies as well as identify streets and intersections that have historically experienced a greater frequency and/or severity of crashes. The Town of Truckee's LRSP should be considered a living document that evolves as the Town works toward achieving its vision for a safer roadway system for every person.

Public Engagement

Stakeholder Group

The LRSP was developed in coordination with a number of local and state stakeholders, including representative from the following:

Town of Truckee

- Truckee Police Department (Danny Renfrow, Acting Chief of Police and Robert Womack, Emergency Services Coordinator)
- Truckee Public Works Department (Engineering and Roads Division, Dan Wilkins, Public Works Director, Becky Bucar, Engineering Manager, Riley Morrison, Street Maintenance Manager)

Truckee Special Districts

- Tahoe Truckee Unified School District (Jorge Rojas, Director of Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations)
- Tahoe Forest Hospital (Dylan Crosby, Director Facilities and Construction Management,)
- Truckee Fire Protection District (Kevin McKechnie, Deputy Fire Chief)

State

- California Highway Patrol (Sergeant Erik Egide)
- Caltrans (Fernando Rivera, Traffic Safety Chief, District 3)

Community

- Truckee Trails Foundation (Allison Pedley, Executive Director and Paco Lindsay, Board Director)
- Sierra Community House (Anibal Cordoba Sosa, Director of Community Engagement)
- Glenshire Devonshire Residents Association (Claudia Hansson, Board President)
- Tahoe Donner Association (Brain Yohn, Director of Risk Management and Jon Mitchell, Director of Capital Projects)

The Stakeholder group met twice virtually during the process and an administrative draft report of the LRSP was also provided to the Stakeholder group for review and comment before it was released to the general public.

Public Survey

A public survey that focused on travel patterns and perceptions of traffic safety issues related to infrastructure and individual behavior was conducted online in August and September 2021. The survey was available in English and Spanish and was accompanied by an interactive map which could be used to identify specific areas of concern. 181 people responded to the survey, 86% of which were full time residents, and 37 people commented on the map. Appendix A of the LRSP is a Public Engagement Memorandum and details the results of the survey.

Data Analysis

Two separate data analyses were conducted using the crash data reported by the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS). The first analysis identified recurring crash patterns and trends for the Town based on reported crash data over a 10-year period (January 1, 2010 through December 31,

2019). The second analysis identified intersections and segments with the highest crash severity to target locations where improvements may have the highest impact. The intersection and segment analysis was based on a shorter 5-year crash reporting period (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019) to focus the efforts on immediate needs and meets state grant timeframe requirements. A detailed crash and roadway data analysis is provided in Appendix C of the LRSP.

Implementation Components of the Plan

The LRSP implementation plan (summarized below) focuses on action items to address the goals and emphasis areas.

Vision, Goals and Actions

The LRSP includes the following Vision Statement and Goals. Specific action items for each goal are identified in Chapter 7 Implementation (starting on page 30 of the LRSP).

Vision: The Town of Truckee will improve the safety of all road users of all modes of transportation within the Town by reducing fatalities and serious injuries.

Goals:

- 1. Maintain an accurate collision database and routinely evaluate roadway safety.***
- 2. Educate motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians on how to travel safely and limit the potential for collisions.***
- 3. Implement projects that make streets safer for every person.***
- 4. Integrate equity into the safety decision-making process.***

Emphasis Areas

Based on recurring crash patterns and trends, the greatest opportunity to improve roadway safety in Truckee comes through implementing strategies that are effective at addressing the following emphasis areas:

- High crash frequency and severity locations
- Speed management
- Safety for people who walk and bike
- Driving under the influence
- Coordination and evaluation

The “5 E’s”

The study also considers and evaluates the “5 E’s” of traffic safety including Education, Enforcement, Engineering, Emergency Response, and Emerging Technologies.

Funding

The LRSP identifies potential funding sources for planning and construction of safety improvements. It should also be noted that additional grant programs are expected with the recent increase in federal infrastructure funding.

In order to adopt the plan, staff is recommending that the Council adopt Resolution 2022-35 adopting the Town of Truckee Local Road Safety Plan (***Attachment C***, excluding Exhibit A, the LRSP)

Priority:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced Communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Climate and Greenhouse Gas Reduction	<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Infrastructure Investment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emergency and Wildfire Preparedness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Core Service

Fiscal Impact: Much of what the Local Roadway Safety Plan recommends is already being implemented, particularly in terms of enforcement and education. However, implementation of many of the infrastructure countermeasures would be pursued as Capital Improvement Program projects, which will undergo review by the Town Council as part of the annual budget process or on a case-by-case basis.

Public Communication: Public outreach for this project included the creation of a Stakeholder group (which met twice), a public survey and interactive map, and a draft plan that has been published on the Town website for review since April 8, 2022. The public comment that has been received to date on the draft LRSP is provided in **Attachment D** and summarized below.

Ksenya Gusak: Identified several issues:

- Concern over bicycle safety and infrastructure and maintenance.
- Concern that too many roundabouts are proposed (especially at the bottom of hills at Northwoods and Glenshire).
- Concern the new Tahoe Donner connector will impact existing paved trail.
- Questions about timing on the West River Street project.

Laura Lindgren and Allan Crawford: Provided suggestions to “improve safety, calm traffic, facilitate pedestrian and bicycle transportation and reduce automobile traffic,” including:

- Buffered bike lanes
- High Visibility Cross walks in heavily used areas
- Traffic Calming Islands
- High Visibility Crosswalks

Kristen Mansel: Concerns over traffic speeds on Northwoods Boulevard. Suggested speed bumps, more stop signs, and requested reduced speed limit (25 or 30 miles per hour).

Tim Cross: Concerns over traffic speeds on Northwoods Boulevard. Suggested more radar speed warning signs along Northwoods Blvd and Schussing Drive; and increasing Police Department funding to enforce the posted speed limits throughout town.

Anonymous Tahoe Donner Resident: Suggested more pedestrian crossing signs and enhancements on Donner Pass Road.

Elizabeth Swanson: Concern over icy road buildup in front of Carpenter Valley Rd parking area on Alder Creek. Suggested road signs be placed in winter or thorough and regular sanding applied.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Town of Truckee Townwide Local Road Safety Plan Summary

Attachment B: Town of Truckee Townwide Local Road Safety Plan Summary (Kittelson & Associates, April 2022)

Attachment C: Resolution 2022-35 adopting the Town of Truckee Local Road Safety Plan (excluding Exhibit A, the Truckee Townwide Local Road Safety Plan

Attachment D: Public comment received on draft LRSP (as of June 5, 2022).