

Reviewing Strategy and Project Selections

Objective: Reflect on strategies for selecting and prioritizing transportation safety projects as part of your Action Plan.

Activity Instructions:

- 1) **Based on whether you have identified your priority safety issues, you will complete option one or option two.**
 - a) **Option one: Strategy Brainstorming**
For participants who have not yet identified their priority safety issues. Your task is to review a hypothetical case study located on the next page. These examples provide insight into how other communities have prioritized and selected safety projects. Review the provided Action Plan and discuss how you might apply similar strategies to your community.
 - b) **Option two: Project Selection and Prioritization**
For participants who have already identified their priority safety issues and are focusing on selecting strategies and countermeasures. Your task is to dive deeper into your own project selection and prioritization process. Discuss the countermeasures you are selecting, how these align with the conditions in high-risk areas, and how they reflect your Action Plan's goals.
- 2) **Use prompt questions in the Activity Worksheet to guide your reflection and document any notes.**
- 3) **Record any next steps or actions you can take after this activity.**

Activity Worksheet: Option One

Bluffs Rest Abbreviated Action Plan

Disclaimer: Bluffs Rest is a fictional city made up for use in the SSA and Your Action Plan Workshop.

Introduction

The City of Bluffs Rest continues to make meaningful progress in creating a safe, connected, and reliable transportation system. The City's recent planning efforts, existing policy framework, and infrastructure investments make clear that it is committed to a multimodal system that safely accommodates travel for all modes, ages, and abilities.

Bluffs Rest recognizes that all traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries are preventable and is committed to providing a safer environment for all users. It also recognizes that the transportation system is central to the community's high quality of life, economic vibrancy, and significant population growth that will occur in the next 5-10 years.

Crash Analysis

The purpose of this crash analysis was to identify crash patterns and trends and locations where severe crashes occurred.

The team evaluated historic crash data for a period of five (5) years between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2022. The crash data only included City-owned and maintained roads. State Department of Transportation state highways and private roads were not included because Bluffs Rest does not have jurisdiction over these facilities.

The analysis looked at the number, location, and type of crashes that occurred, as well as the average severity of crashes at various locations across the City.

Recommendations

Based on this evaluation, the team proactively identified traffic safety trends and developed recommendations that would help to reduce and eventually eliminate fatalities and severe injuries on the City's roadway network. This consisted of addressing 1) top crash locations according to crash history and 2) systemic recommendations based on crash trends and other inputs, regardless of crash history.

A total of 26 recommendations were identified. Some apply to specific locations, but most could be applied systemically at multiple locations throughout the network. These recommendations fall under the following categories:

- General
- Arterial & Collector
- Schools
- Bicyclists and/or Pedestrians
- Location Specific
- Signing & Striping
- Construction Zones

Project Prioritization

Finally, the top crash locations and systemic recommendations were prioritized.

- Systemic **recommendations** were prioritized based on three factors:
 - o Safety Impact: Each of the systemic recommendations was scored based on whether it had a high (5 points), medium (3 points), or low (1 point) safety impact.
 - o Distribution of Improvement: Consider impacts across communities, vulnerable road users (bicyclists and pedestrians), and accessibility improvements. Impact was scored based on high (3 points), medium (2 points), or low (1 point)
 - o Public Priority: Public priority was based on frequency of comments related to an improvement and was scored based on high (3 points), medium (2 points), or low (1 point).

The scores for each of the systemic improvements are listed in *Figure 1*.

Figure 1: City of Bluffs Rest Project Prioritization chart.

Category	Recommendation	Timeline for Implementation	Safety Impact	Distribution	Public Priority	Total Score
Bicycles / Pedestrians	Construct a new bicycle and pedestrian bridge over local interstate.	Long	5	3	3	11
Schools	Evaluate traffic flow around schools and install bulb outs at crosswalks.	Mid	5	3	3	11
Location Specific	Narrow vehicle lanes to 10 feet and provide buffered bike lanes.	Near/Mid	5	3	3	11
Pedestrians	Complete missing sidewalk gaps	Mid	3	3	3	9
Arterial / Collector	Install red protective technology at signals and evaluate yellow and red clearance times.	Near	5	1	3	9
Signage / Striping	Evaluate frequency of existing striping contract.	Near	5	1	2	8
General	Consider the installation of cameras that can detect distracted drivers.	Mid	5	1	1	7
General	Educational campaign on roundabouts.	Near	3	1	2	6
Signage/Striping	Identify standard for RRFB's and update signage to meet the standard.	Near/Mid	1	1	1	3

1) Project prioritization methods.

a) How would you adapt this framework to work in your community? How can you tie your guiding principles into Project Selection?

b) Are there any barriers to prioritizing projects that do not have a substantial crash history?

2) Parameters to be considered.

a) Recall your work on the Safety Analysis module. What types of data (costs, location, crash data) would influence how you evaluated similar projects in your community?

b) Recall your work on the Engagement and Collaboration module. Which stakeholder needs in your community might drive this type of hybrid prioritization?

3) Record any next steps or actions you can take after this activity.

Activity Worksheet: Option Two

1) Factors for project selection.

a) What factors or criteria are you using to select projects in your Action Plan?

b) How can you tie your guiding principles into Project Selection?

2) What countermeasures are you selecting, and how do they address specific safety issues identified through your data?

3) What criteria should you consider in your decision-making process?

4) How do the selected projects align with the overall goals and guiding principles of your Action Plan?

5) Record any next steps or actions you can take after this activity.