



**MEMORANDUM**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**TRANSPORTATION DIVISION**  
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors

DATE: March 9, 2021

FROM: Ken Grehm, Director of Public Works  
By: Phil Vassion, Associate Civil Engineer

SUBJECT: Local Roadway Safety Plan / Approval of Final Plan

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

Adopt a Resolution approving a Local Roadway Safety Plan and authorize the Director of Public Works, or designee, to implement this plan.

**BACKGROUND**

A Local Roadway Safety Plan (LRSP) is a plan that allows local agencies an opportunity to address roadway safety. The process of preparing a safety plan creates a framework to systematically identify and analyze safety problems and recommend solutions. Preparing a safety plan facilitates the development of local agency partnerships and collaboration, resulting in a prioritized list of improvements and actions that can demonstrate a defined need and contribute to the overall road safety of Placer County as well as allowing the County to apply for various funding opportunities.

Roadway safety plans are critical as according to the Federal Highway Administration over 80% of all public roads are operated by local governments and therefore experience the most collisions. In 2019 Placer County experienced 447 traffic collisions, which is lower than the prior year. Placer County's overall collision trend has seen a decrease since 2015. The injury collision has also seen a decrease with 183 occurring in 2019 compared to 230 in 2018 (the data presented in this LRSP is from 2015 to 2019). Similar trends are seen with the state and nation as the State of California has experienced a 6% and the US a 2% reduction in overall collisions as reported by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA).

The LRSP is a revision of our existing Traffic Accident Analysis System (TAAS) that has been in place since 2010. The primary goal of TAAS was to completely concentrate on the identification of problem collision areas in Placer County with 100% emphasis on engineering solutions to help reduce collisions. The local roadway safety plan not only recommends engineering solutions to help reduce collisions, but addresses the 4 E's of traffic safety: Engineering, Enforcement, Education, and Emergency Services. Specifically, the attributes that have been developed coincide with:

- Implementing goals that are representative of the 4 E's
- Reducing fatal and injury collisions on all public roads
- Promoting roadway safety awareness
- Developing lasting partnerships that will benefit future projects and ideas
- Instilling a sense of collaboration among different disciplines
- Advance risk-based, data-driven and systematic approach to improving safety
- Empower incorporation of safety into routine business such as capital and maintenance projects
- Leverage funding opportunities

The LRSP, while essential for the continued support of safety in Placer County, is also required for the Department to be able to apply for future Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding, beginning in 2022. It will also be utilized and referenced for potential applications to Active Transportation Program (ATP), Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP), Congestion

Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) and other funding sources that become available in the future, and therefore is a critical document to be utilized for the department.

The Department retained GHD, Inc. as the consultant on the project. GHD, Inc. specializes in the transportation industry and has assisted the Cities of Arroyo Grande, Fortuna, Healdsburg and Petaluma, as examples, in the implementation of their Local Roadway Safety Plans. Public outreach and comments were obtained and included three platforms: a web-based community engagement platform where the public was able to view a prerecorded presentation of the plan and review the draft plan, and two virtual townhall meetings-one for West Placer held on January 14 and one for East Placer held on January 7.

The total cost of the project, including staff time, was approximately \$100,000 and was fully funded by the states Systemic Safety Analysis Report Program (SSARP) funding.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

The development of the LRSP is exempt from CEQA under CEQA Guidelines Section 15262.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The total cost for development of the LRSP was approximately \$100,000, including staff time, and fully funded through the state-funded Systemic Safety Analysis Report Program (SSARP) funding. No local funds were used in preparation of this document.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Resolution

On File with Clerk of the Board: Local Roadway Safety Plan

# Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

**In the matter of:** A Resolution approving a Local Roadway  
Safety Plan.

Resolution No.: \_\_\_\_\_

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer  
at a regular meeting held March 9, 2021, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of said Board

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WHEREAS, The County of Placer currently has a Transportation Accident Analysis System (TAAS) that assists County engineering staff in focusing their attention and efforts toward the most appropriate locations throughout the County for roadway safety improvements, and

WHEREAS, A Local Roadway Safety Plan (LRSP) creates a framework to systematically identify and analyze safety issues, collaborate with partner agencies and stakeholders, and develop a multidisciplinary tool box of traffic safety countermeasures, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) is the County's main source of safety grant funding and eligibility for grant funding under this program now requires an adopted LRSP, and

WHEREAS, The County of Placer embarked on a work effort to update and convert its current TAAS into an LRSP, and

WHEREAS, The County engaged with partner agencies and the public in the development of this LRSP, and

WHEREAS, The LRSP will serve not only as a requirement for grant fund eligibility but also a blueprint for addressing traffic safety issues throughout the County across the 4 E's of traffic safety disciplines; Engineering, Education, Enforcement, & Emergency Services.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of Placer County that the Placer County Local Roadway Safety Plan is hereby approved and the County Public Works Director or the appointed designee(s) are authorized to implement the LRSP.