

EMS Focus

A Collaborative Federal Webinar Series

NHTSA's Office of EMS

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 1pm ET

**Leveraging DOT Grant Funds for EMS Crash
Response Improvement**



EMS FOCUS WEBINAR



VARIETY OF TOPICS

Provides the EMS community with a unique opportunity to learn more about Federal EMS efforts and programs.



EXPERIENCE

Brings Federal, State and local leaders to you



REGISTER

With opportunity for Q&A. Closed captioning is available.



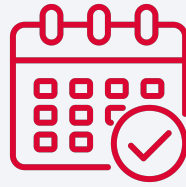
FEEDBACK & QUESTIONS

nhtsa.ems@dot.gov

UPCOMING WEBINARS



March 2024



June 2024



Register & Watch Previous
Webinar Recordings

NHTSA Office of EMS



Mission



Reduce death & disability



Provide leadership & coordination to the EMS community



Assess, plan, develop, & promote comprehensive, evidence-based emergency medical services & 911 systems

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Featured Resources

Use these links to find the most popular resources on EMS.gov:

- "Star of Life" Brochure
- Education Standards
- EMS Agenda 2050
- Evidence-Based Guidelines
- Innovation Opportunities for Emergency Medical Services: A Draft White Paper
- Managing Emerging Diseases
- NEMESIS
- Scope of Practice Model
- State Assessments

Sign up for the EMS Focus Webinars

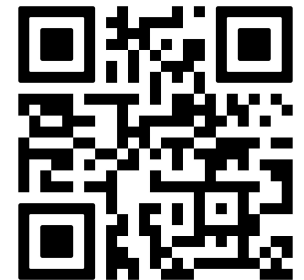
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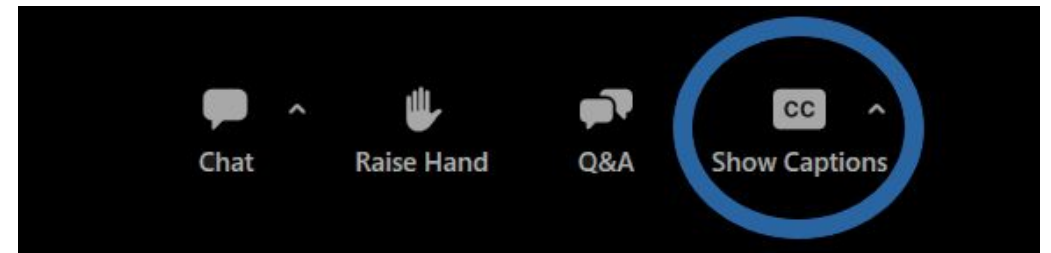
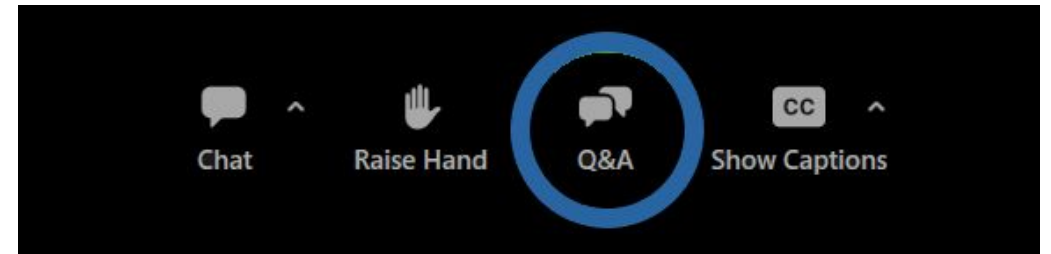
- Advancing EMS Systems
- Education
- Emerging Diseases
- EMS Data
- EMS Focus Webinars
- EMS Update Newsletters
- Evidence-Based Guidelines
- FICEMS
- National EMS Instructional Guidelines



ZOOM FUNCTIONS

This webinar will utilize two features in the Zoom Meeting controls.

- “Q&A” - Use this feature to submit your question virtually in a pop-up window/chat box
- “Show Captions” - Use this feature to turn on closed captions at any point during the webinar



Leveraging Grant Funds for Improved Crash Response

Paul Teicher

Senior Policy Analyst·DOT - Office of the Secretary (OST)

Bruce Evans MPA, CFO, NRP, SPO

Fire Chief·Upper Pine River Fire Protection District

EMS Focus

A Collaborative Federal Webinar Series

- **911 telecommunicators & EMS clinicians** are critical to successful crash response
- Since the 1960s, **NHTSA** has supported the development of **robust EMS systems**
- The **right care** at the **right time** is our last best chance to enhance survivability after a crash occurs



The DOT's National Roadway Safety Strategy

“Outlines a comprehensive approach to significantly reduce serious injuries and deaths on our Nation’s highways, roads and streets.

This is the first step in working toward an ambitious long-term goal of reaching zero roadway fatalities.”

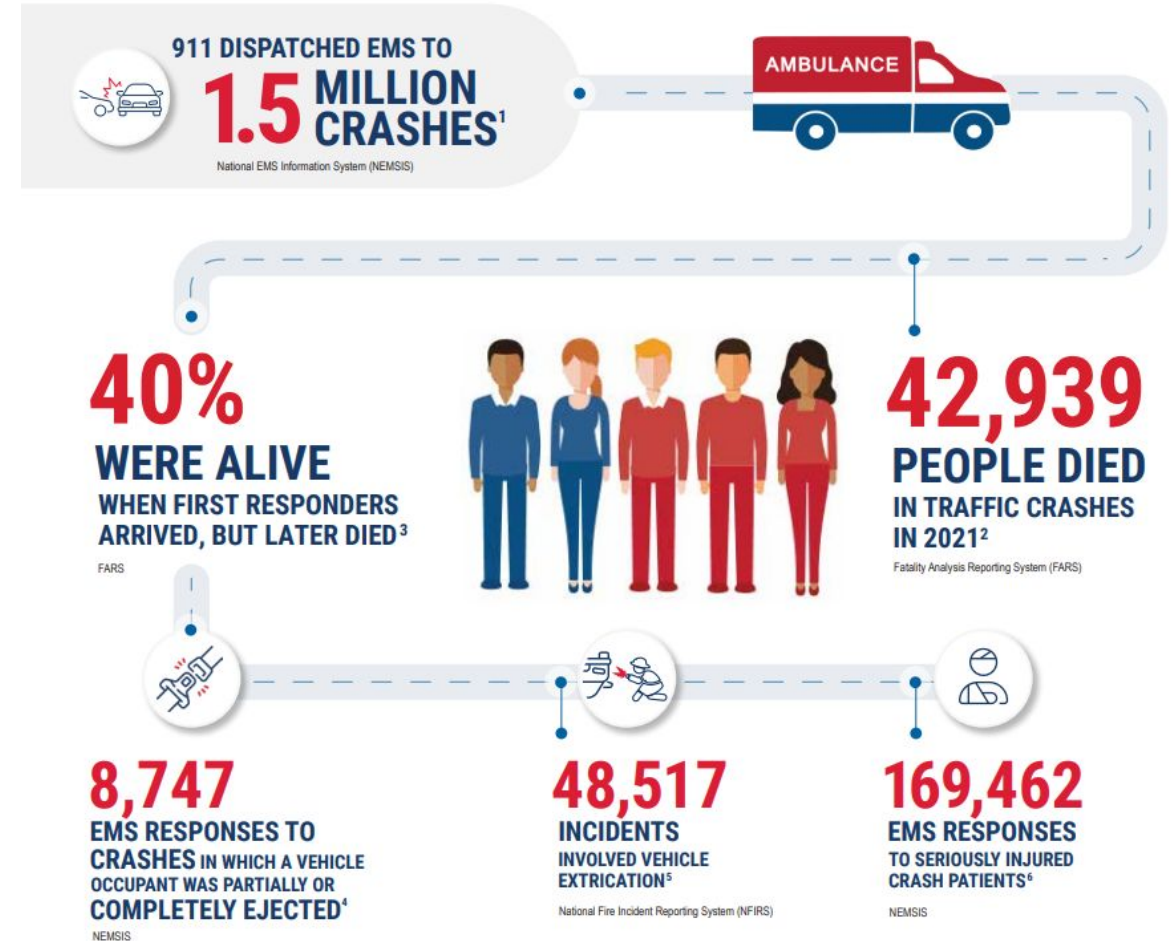
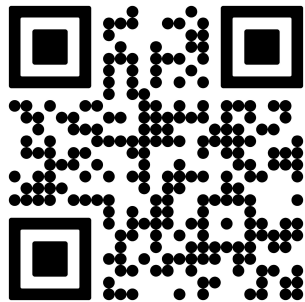
Safe System Approach

- Safer People
- Safer Roads
- Safer Vehicles
- Safer Speeds
- Post-Crash Care



Post-Crash Care

- **EMS and 911** provide post-crash care for every motor vehicle crash in the country



Paul Teicher

Senior Policy Analyst·DOT - Office of the
Secretary (OST)





U.S. Department of Transportation

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)



NHTSA

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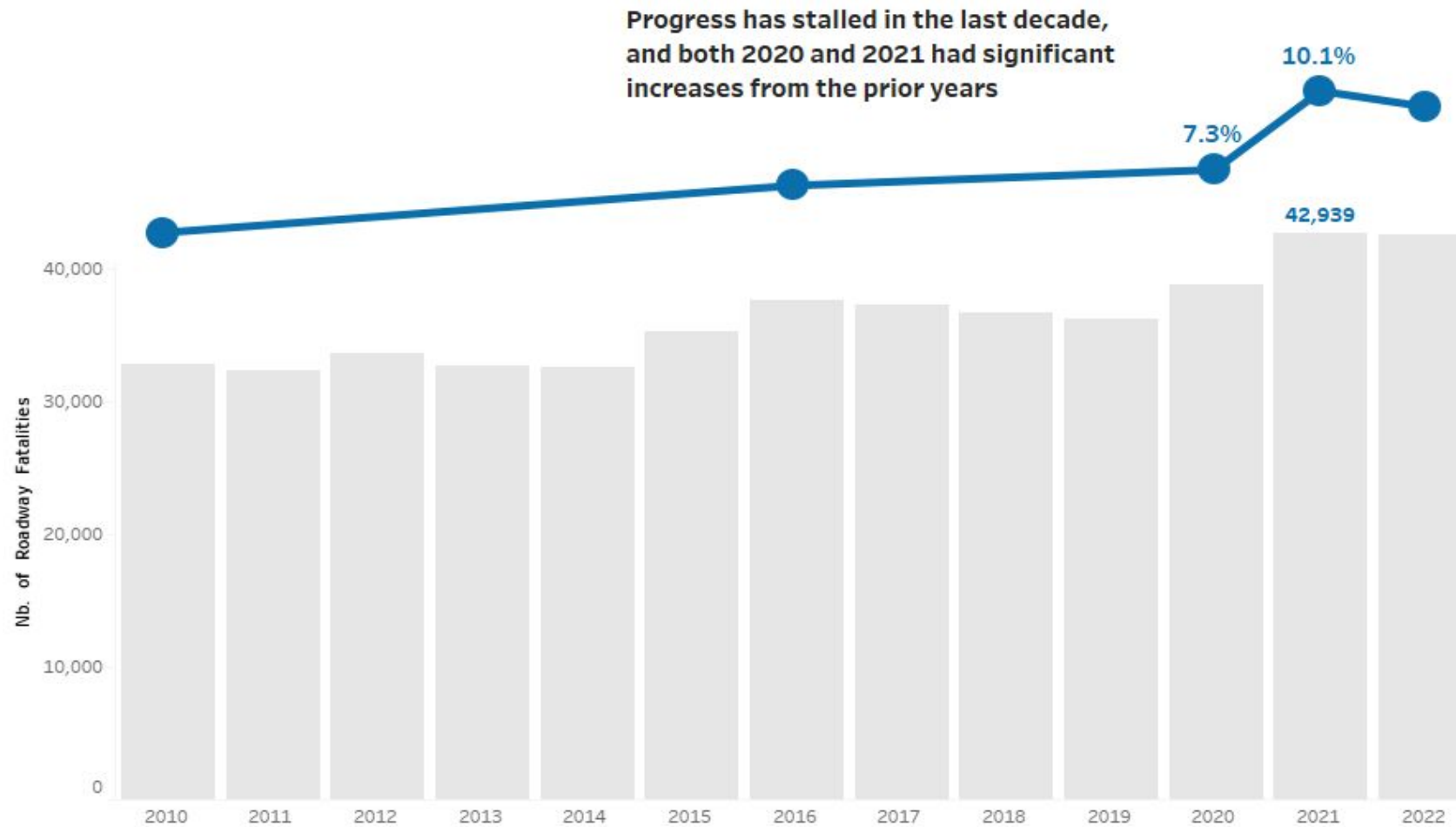
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U.S. DOT and Roadway Safety

The Roadway Safety Crisis

An estimated 42,795 people died on America's streets, roads, and highways in 2022

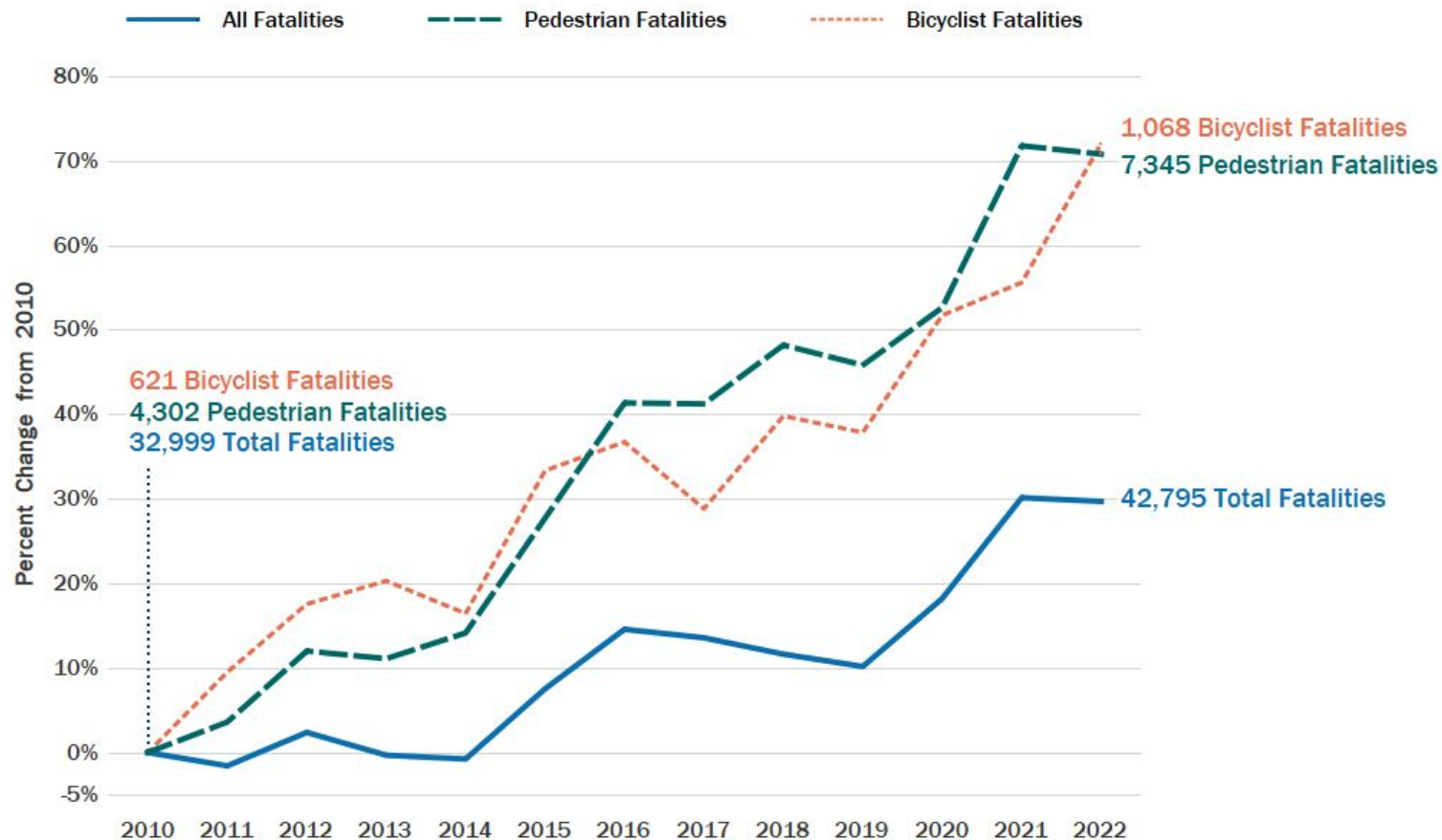




We have a National Roadway Safety Problem

Fatalities among **all users** have been increasing.

Fatalities among **pedestrians** and **bicyclists** have been **increasing even faster.**



Source: FARS 2010-2020 Final File; 2021 Annual Report File

National Roadway Safety Strategy (NRSS)

U.S. DOT's comprehensive approach to significantly reducing serious injuries and deaths on our Nation's highways, roads, and streets.

- ❖ **Sets a vision and goal** for the safety of the Nation's roadways.
- ❖ **Adopts the Safe System Approach** principles to guide our safety actions, which includes Post-Crash Care.
- ❖ **Identifies new priority actions and notable changes to existing practices** and approaches that target our most significant and urgent problems, and are, therefore, expected to have the most substantial impact.
- ❖ **Call to Action** for stakeholders to commit to substantive, defined safety actions.



The Safe System Approach (SSA)

Principles of a Safe System Approach

- ❖ Deaths and serious injuries are unacceptable
- ❖ Humans make mistakes
- ❖ Humans are vulnerable
- ❖ Responsibility is shared
- ❖ Safety is proactive
- ❖ Redundancy is critical





About SS4A Grants

Disclaimer: the SS4A information is based on the FY23 NOFO, and may be subject to change

Safe Streets and Roads for All

- \$5 billion discretionary grant program, with ~\$1 billion/year over 5 years.
- Purpose: prevent deaths and serious injuries on our roadways.
- Focus on comprehensive safety action planning, and implementing those plans
- Inclusive of all types of roadway safety interventions across the Safe System Approach.
- Key program supporting the National Roadway Safety Strategy.



<http://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>

SS4A Overview: Eligibility

Eligible Recipients

- Political subdivision of a State
- Metropolitan planning organization (MPOs)
- Federally recognized Tribal government

Quick Build Demonstration Activity



Source: Solomon Foundation

Eligible Activities

- Develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
 - Develop or complete an Action Plan
 - Conduct supplemental planning
 - Carry out demonstration activities
- Planning, design, and development activities for **projects and strategies** identified in an Action Plan
- Implement projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan



Planning and Demonstration Grants

Action Plan

- Develop or complete a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
- 8 components to an Action Plan

Supplemental Planning

- **Topical safety plans**
- Road safety audits
- **Additional safety analysis and data collection**
- Targeted equity assessments
- Follow-up stakeholder engagement

Demonstration Activities

- Feasibility studies using quick-build strategies
- **Pilot programs for behavioral or operational activities**
- **Pilot programs for new technology**
- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) engineering studies



Implementation Grants

- Implementation Grants applications must fund projects and strategies **identified in an Action Plan** that address a roadway safety problem.
- Infrastructure, behavioral, and **operational safety activities** are all eligible.
- Applicants must have a qualifying Action Plan in place to apply for Implementation Grants.
- Implementation applications may also include supplemental planning and demonstration activities.



Source: FHWA





SS4A Awards

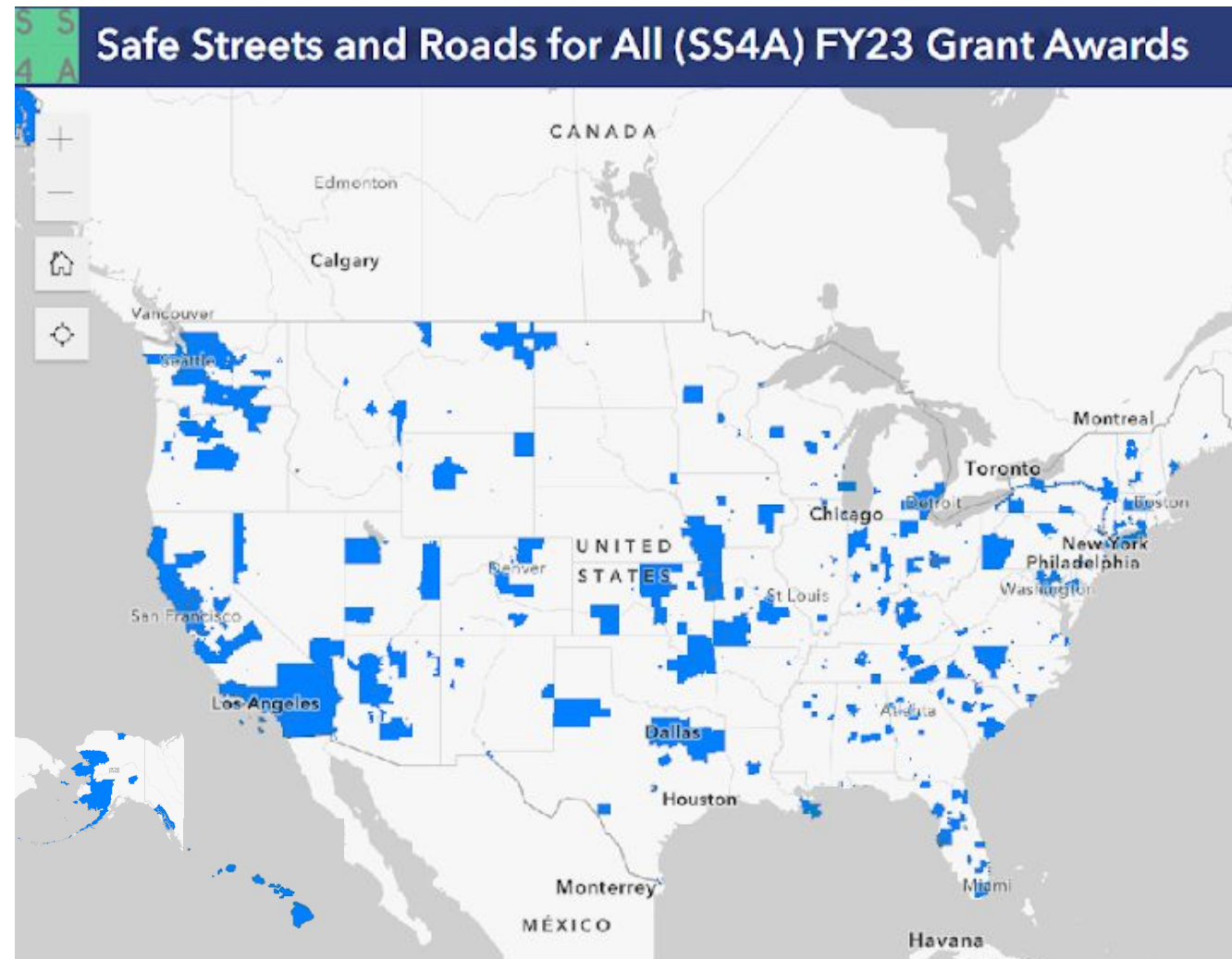
Fiscal Year 2023 Safe Streets and Roads for All

FY23 Awards

- Almost \$900 million in funding for the FY23 cycle.
- 620 regional, local, and Tribal communities received awards.

Calendar Year 2023

- Over 1,000 communities received funding totaling \$1.7 billion.
- Awards made to date will improve roadway safety planning for around 70% of the nation's population.



SS4A Previously Awarded Projects

- The **Upper Pine River Fire Protection District** in Colorado received \$201,500 in Federal funding in FY22 to develop a comprehensive safety action plan.
- **City of Richardson**, Texas received \$320,000 in Federal funding in FY23 to develop a comprehensive safety action plan, and pilot a GPS-based preemption system to reduce response times for emergency vehicles.
- **City of Burlington** received \$1,176,800 in Federal funds in FY23 for a number of activities, including to establish a framework for future deployment of signal priority and signal preemption that can improve emergency service.
- The **Town of Colonie EMS & Regional Emergency Services**, New York received \$2,400,000 in Federal funding in FY23 to pilot an emergency transponder system to alert drivers of emergency response to a crash, and a platform to interface with specialty care registries.
- **Nashville-Davidson County** received \$13,049,572 in Federal funds in FY23 to implement an infrastructure project on Nolensville Pike, and included an emergency vehicle preemption activity along a key emergency response route.



SS4A Provides Benefits for Post-Crash Care and First Responders

- SS4A Action Plans should consider all types of interventions, including operational and post-crash care activities.
- Demonstration activities, supplemental planning, and the implementation of projects and strategies can all include operational, first responder and post-crash care activities.
- Example activities that can be funded by SS4A:
 - Changes to reduce response times;
 - Emergency Medical Dispatch improvements;
 - Traffic signal preemption and prioritization;
 - Improvements to on-scene EMS care;
 - Other evidence-based EMS or 911 countermeasures.





Getting Involved in SS4A

Ways to Get Involved

- 1. Developing an Action Plan.** Does your area already have an SS4A Action Plan underway?
 - If no, would you want to work with others to start a plan through a Planning and Demonstration Grant?
 - If yes, are you involved in the action planning process to inform its development?
- 2. Demonstration Activities and Supplemental Planning.** If there is an Action Plan completed or underway in your area, would a demonstration activity or supplemental planning make sense through a Planning and Demonstration Grant?
- 3. Implementing Projects.** Does an established Action Plan have operational projects and strategies that need funding through an Implementation Grant?





1. Developing an Action Plan

Is a SS4A Action Plan for My Community?

- Will SS4A meet the safety needs of my community?
- How burdensome is the application process?
- What's the likelihood I'll get funded?
- I'm concerned about non-Federal matching fund requirements. What's the story?



Planning and Demonstration Grant Selection Criteria

- Developed to be accessible to all communities, lower barrier to entry.
- Three selection criteria:
 1. Safety Impact (*quantitative, two ratings*)
 - Count of roadway fatalities from the most recent set of 5-year data (FARS 2017-2021 or equivalent).
 - Fatality rate, normalized per 100,000 persons.
 2. Equity (*quantitative, one rating*)
 - Percentage of the population in an Underserved Community (ETC Explorer or CEJST, 2020 Census data)
 3. Additional Safety Context (*1-2 page narrative*)
- Budget costs are an additional consideration.



Planning and Demonstration Grant Narratives

- Maximum 2 pages.
- Narrative should respond to the **Additional Safety Context** selection criterion outlined in NOFO Section E.1.i.
 - Scope of the work to be performed.
 - Roadway safety issues that necessitate safety activities.
 - How the funded activities will inform an Action Plan.
- If proposing demonstration activities to inform an Action Plan:
 - Describe how you will measure the potential benefits.
 - Provide a brief schedule showing when the activities will be in place (e.g., hardware installed, when the pilot would begin, etc.), and the start/end dates of the work.





2. Supplemental Planning and Demonstration Activities

Eligibility: Supplemental Planning and Demonstration

- Eligible **supplemental planning** activities support an existing Action Plan.
- Eligible **demonstration activities** inform the development of an Action Plan by testing project and strategy approaches to assess their potential benefits.
- Eligible applicants may request supplemental planning and demonstration funds under one of these conditions:
 - Applicants in the process of developing safety Action Plans
 - Applicants with complete safety Action Plans
 - Applicants within the scope of an established Action Plan (e.g., in a city within the boundaries of a county or regional Action Plan, etc.)
 - Applicants within the scope of an Action Plan currently in progress
- If you are going to use someone else's plan to apply, you need to coordinate with them!



Demonstration Activities vs. Projects and Strategies

Demonstration activities in support of an Action Plan (A).

- Temporary in nature
- Pilots and testing, finite period
- Small scale
- Informs the list of projects and strategies in an Action Plan
- Assesses the benefits of an approach

Projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan (C).

- Listed in an Action Plan as a project and/or strategy
- Permanent
- Major construction
- System wide
- Implementing the Action Plan



Supplemental Planning and Demonstration Activity Deliverables

- **The final deliverable for supplemental planning** is a publicly available, written document that connects to, or enhances, an Action Plan. Examples include:
 - A Vision Zero Action Plan which has been updated to include results from a targeted equity assessment.
 - A new Complete Streets Plan which complements and informs the City's Vision Zero Action Plan.
- **The final deliverable for demonstration activities** is an updated Action Plan which includes an assessment of the demonstration activities performed.
 - Action Plans must incorporate information gathered from demonstration activities into the final list of projects or strategies and/or inform another part of the Action Plan.





3. Implementation of Projects and Strategies

Implementation Grant Selection Criteria and Considerations

- 10–12 page narrative
- Required selection criteria (from most to least important):
 - Safety Impact
 - Equity, Engagement, and Collaboration
 - Effective Practices and Strategies
 - Other DOT Strategic Goals
- One optional selection criterion:
 - Supplemental Planning and Demonstration Activities (only if these activities are included in the application)
- Project readiness rating
- Award selection considerations:
 - % of funds to underserved communities;
 - Rural area;
 - Thriving Communities network priority;
 - Enhance the geographic diversity; and
 - Federal funding requests < \$10 million.





SS4A FY24

SS4A FY24 NOFO

- The next Notice of Funding Opportunity is expected to be released in February.
- Over \$1.2 billion is expected to be made available, of which over half is dedicated for planning and demonstration activities.
- Additional webinars post-NOFO release are expected in February.





Questions?

Bruce Evans MPA, CFO, NRP, SPO
Fire Chief-Upper Pine River Fire Protection
District



Safe Streets Grant....Why Fire/EMS

Upper Pine River Fire

- 282 Square Miles
- 30 Miles of US 160
- 8 People Day
- 5 Admin Staff
- Super Rural Fire/Paramedic/EMS



Why Apply?

“To Control The Narrative”

- ▶ Safety Plan \$200,000 to Write and Follow a Template
 - ▶ Controls the narrative for an action plans grant
 - ▶ \$5 Billion for action items
 - ▶ Action plan can focus on post crash care
 - ▶ Traffic Incident Management Course (TIMS)
 - ▶ Anything for the Safety of Responders and Strategies
 - ▶ Extrication Tools
 - ▶ Anything to increase the chances of survival of a crash victim
 - ▶ Whole Blood?
 - ▶ PHTLS?



Incorporate the Pillars of SS4

“Injury Prevention Should Belong to EMS”



- ▶ Safer People
- ▶ Safer Roads
- ▶ Safer Vehicles
- ▶ Safer Speeds
- ▶ Post-Crash Care



Only Fire Based EMS Awarded

Writing the Grant

- Find the demographics
- Use the hyperlinks in the Grant
- Take some responsibility for more than post crash care
- Review the pillars
- Assess your fatalities with FARS Data and Data from the “Cube”
- Talk to your EMS data and law enforcement data
- Stretch your area to underserved

Contracting

- Know the Secretary's Goals and leadership vision
- Speak to carbon footprint (i.e. battery powered extrications equipment)
- Underrepresented and underserved people. (i.e. indigenous peoples)
- What are you doing about diversity

Parsing the Work

- Get writing
- Make time
- Set up multiple media streams
- Meet with your State Rep regularly.
- Solicit Public Opinion
- Talk to Your Providers
- Talk to State DOT's
- Talks to State Patrol

Our Grant/Safety Plan

- US 160 Wolf Creek to Arizona State Line
 - Encompasses Ute Mountain Tribe
 - Multiple Fire Departments
 - One of The Deadliest Highways in Colorado
- Broken into Sections
 - Each has a unique danger
 - Near miss data
 - Each has a unique application of the specific pillar



Opportunities For Fire & EMS Staff

- ▶ A mentoring opportunity to write technically
- ▶ A break from the street to recharge
- ▶ A chance to engage with the community
- ▶ Keeping your people safe
- ▶ Problem solving and critical thinking
- ▶ Each crash has a story and somebody's family



Q&A

Use Q&A function for Live Responses.



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Feedback & Questions

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THANK YOU!