


# Benton County Transportation Safety Action Plan

Board of Commissioners Status Update

February 4, 2025





The Safe System Approach recognizes that **we can't "engineer" our way to zero...** we all have a shared responsibility to keep ourselves and others safe.

<https://www.transportation.gov/NRSS/SafeSystem>

# SS4A Requirements

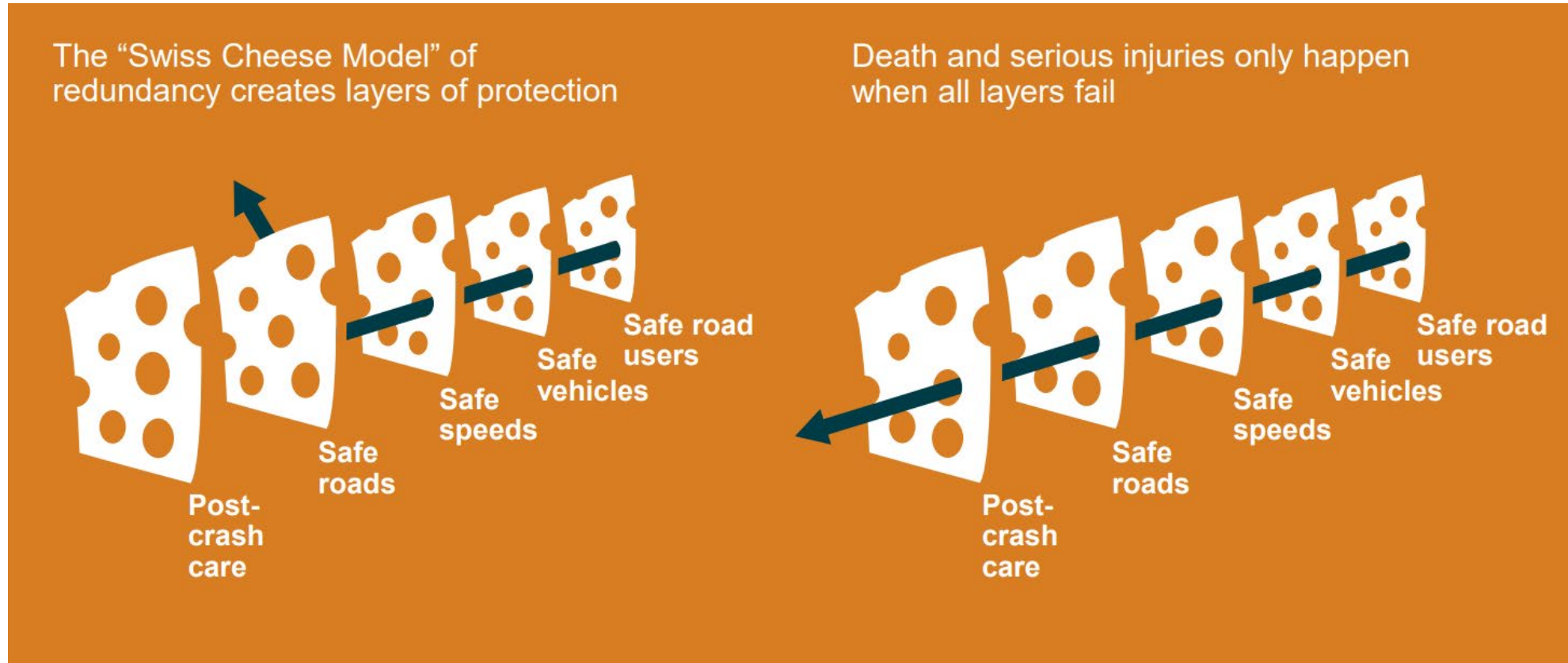
- Leadership commitment to a “Zero” Goal
- Committee/ Task Force
- Data driven safety analysis
- Engagement and collaboration
- Equity considerations
- Policy and process changes
- Strategy and project selections
- Progress & Transparency

# The Safe System Approach

A holistic and comprehensive approach that provides a guiding framework to make places safer for people.



# The Safe System Principle of Redundancy



# Project Process and Schedule

		2024		2025		2026		
		FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	
PUBLIC OUTREACH			T	T 🏠	T S	T S 🏠	T	
	<i>ONGOING COMMUNITY OUTREACH THROUGH OUR PROJECT WEBSITE</i>							
	<span>T</span> Task Force <span>S</span> Stakeholder Advisory Committee              🏠 In-person and Online Open House							
PROJECT TASKS	UNDERSTAND & PRIORITIZE				DEVELOP SOLUTIONS		RECOMMEND & APPROVE	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss community values and safety vision</li> <li>• Understand recent crash trends and risk factors</li> <li>• Understand conflicts between freight movement and people biking on key rural corridors</li> <li>• Obtain community input</li> <li>• Identify a “High Injury Network” and “Emphasis Areas”</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop safety solutions for High Priority Safety Corridors and systemic crash patterns</li> <li>• Coordinate solutions with State and local plans</li> <li>• Recommend updates to County policies, standards, and processes</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommend performance measures and monitoring plan</li> <li>• Draft Transportation Safety Action Plan</li> <li>• Board of Commissioner’s Approval</li> <li>• Final Transportation Safety Action Plan</li> </ul>	

# Coordinating Benton County and Corvallis TSAPs

CREATING WORK EFFICIENCY • SUPPORTING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION •  
STRENGTHENING APPLICATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

- **Project Management**
  - Representation on each Project Management Team
  - Coordinating schedules to align tasks and outreach as feasible
- **Boundaries**
  - City limits, County facilities within the city limits and urban fringe
  - County/City coordination on issues/solutions within urban fringe and city limits

# Coordinating Benton County and Corvallis TSAPs

- **Data and Analysis**
  - Sharing all data collected and analyzing crash data concurrently for efficiency
- **Public Engagement**
  - Coordinated messaging
  - Shared public input
  - Joint open houses as feasible
  - Linked websites and shared comment mapping



# Topic of Interest - Multimodal Corridors

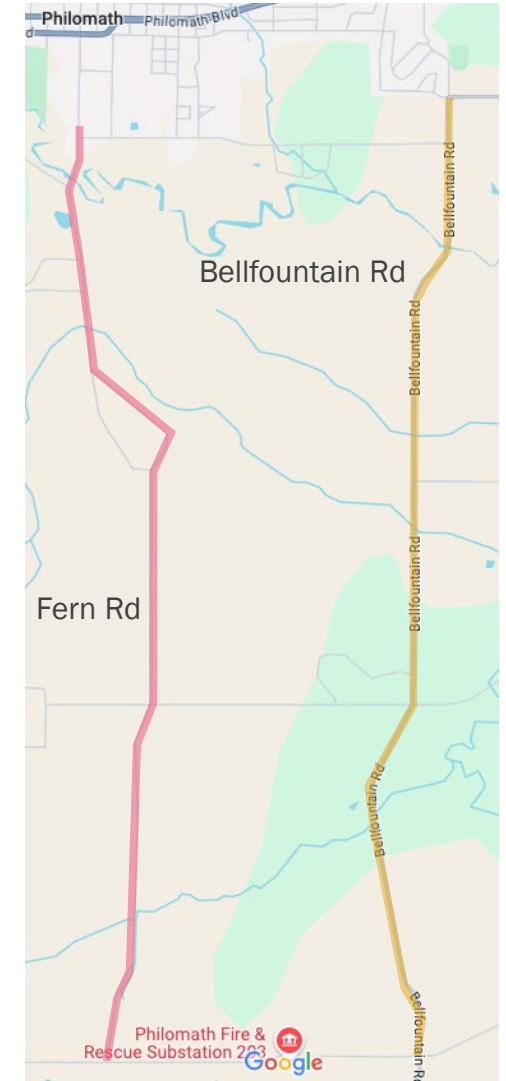
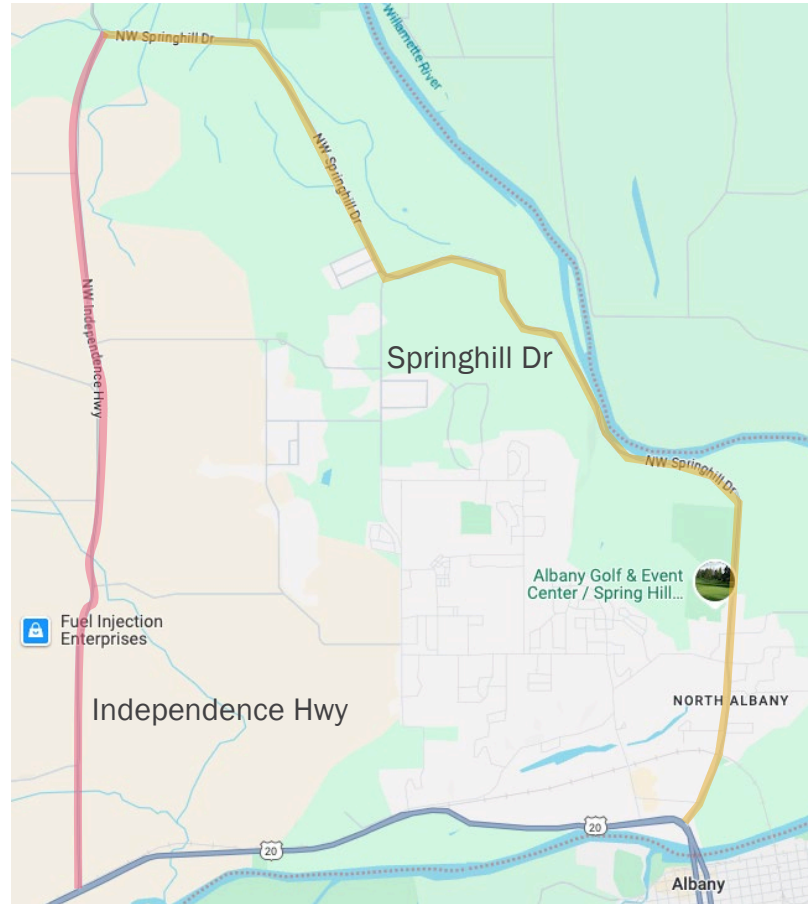
- Previously recognized need to provide an economically competitive transportation network for **freight movement**.
- Also recognized the need to provide safe and comfortable conditions for people **biking in rural corridors**, especially those heavily used for freight movement.



Source: Google

# Topic of Interest - Multimodal Corridors

Solutions for this pair of parallel corridors was deferred in the TSP to a future study – to be addressed now through the TSAP



# Task Force Role & Responsibilities

The Benton County TSAP Task Force will provide recommendations to the project team and help us produce a plan that reflects local needs.

The Board of Commissioners will be the ultimate decision makers and approval body.

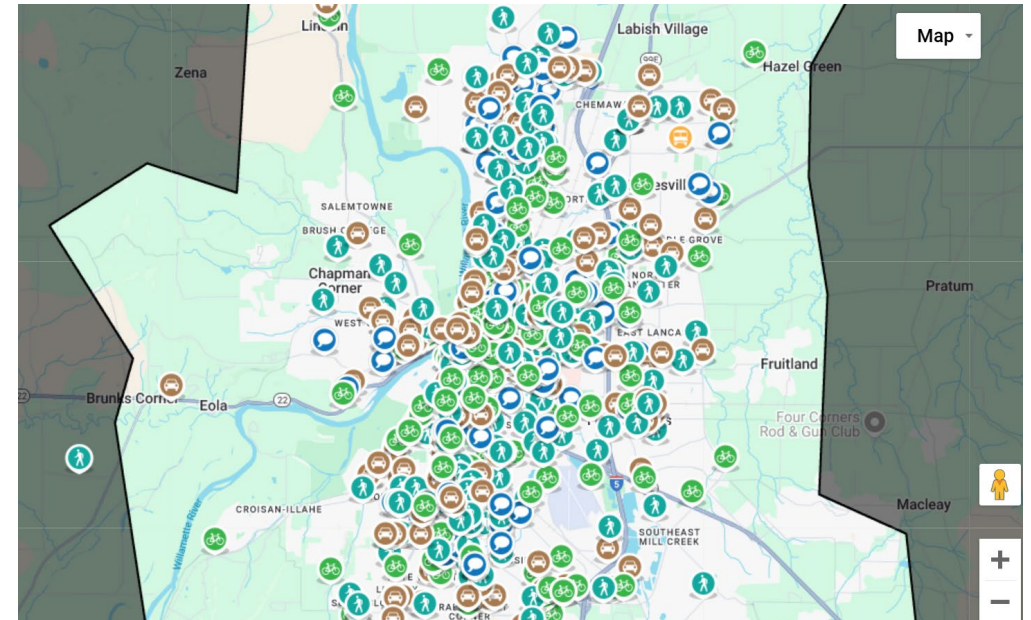
- Share expertise and local perspectives throughout the project
- Guide the selection and prioritization of projects and safety recommendations
- Participate in Task Force meetings (5)
- Promote and encourage public engagement

# Key Public Engagement Objectives

- Accessible engagement opportunities
- Transparent and collaborative process
- Comprehensive and inclusive feedback
- Targeted multimodal input for decision-making
- Safety education and clear communication

# Planned Public Involvement Activities

- **Community Open Houses**  
*In-person events across the county*
- **Online Engagement**  
*Virtual open houses, interactive comment map*
- **Stakeholder Interviews**  
*Input from local residents and multimodal users*
- **Advisory Committees**  
*Task Force and Stakeholder Advisory Committee*



*Interactive comment map from Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study Metropolitan Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP)*

# Vision Statement

The Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program requires that TSAPs document leadership commitment, demonstrated by:

- A high-ranking official and/or governing body in the jurisdiction publicly committed to an **eventual goal of zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries**; and
- The commitment includes either setting a **target date to reach zero** OR setting **one or more targets to achieve significant declines in roadway fatalities and serious injuries by a specific date**.

# Vision Statement

**Aiming to completely eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries might seem like an unachievable goal, but...**

- It acknowledges what we might all believe – that no fatality or serious injury should be deemed acceptable
- It can be a powerful aspiration that encourages culture change
- Pursuing ambitious goals leads to bold actions that achieve significant results

# Vision Statement

## Feedback from the Task Force:

- Support having a Vision Zero goal
- Support having a target date to reach zero (like 2040, or having a common date as the Corvallis plan)
- Also support having an interim milestone for significant decline
- Recommend being clear about funding and staff resource constraints
- “Goal” is stronger than “Vision” (1 member)



# Vision Statement

Options for how the vision statement could be structured include:

- Benton County envisions zero crashes that result in serious injuries or fatalities by 2040.
- Benton County envisions zero crashes that result in serious injuries or fatalities by 2040, and a 50% reduction in these crashes by 2035.
- Benton County's goal is to eliminate serious injuries and fatalities on County roads by 2040 and achieve a 50% reduction by 2035.

# Next Steps

- Stakeholder interviews related to "Multimodal Corridors"
- Findings from crash data analysis (e.g., trends, contributing factors, hotspots, emphasis areas, "High Injury Network")
- First round of in-person and online open houses (April)
- **Task Force Meeting #2**
- Identification of High Priority Corridors
- **Task Force Meeting #3**
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting #1



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