



BENTON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ACTION PLAN

DATE: December 4, 2024

TO: Project Team

FROM: John Bosket, PE; Harshala Sardar, PE | DKS Associates

SUBJECT: Benton County Transportation Safety Action Plan
Vision and Goals – Revised DRAFT

Project #25003-000

This memorandum provides guidance for the development of Benton County’s long-range vision for transportation safety, as well as supporting goal statements. The County’s overall vision for moving toward zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries will be discussed with the Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP) Task Force and will ultimately be approved by the County Board of Commissioners.

BENTON COUNTY TSAP VISION AND GOALS

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.

The TSAP vision statement and optional supporting goals are typically used to fulfill this requirement. Options for how the vision statement could be structured include:

- Target date of 2035 for the zero goal. This would be consistent with the State of Oregon goals. Example: “Benton County envisions ZERO crashes that result in fatalities and serious injuries by the year 2035.”
- Target date of 2040 for the zero goal. This would be consistent with the horizon year for the County’s 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative and Transportation System Plan (TSP). This could be paired with an interim 2035 target date for achieving a significant reduction (e.g., 50%) in fatalities and serious injuries.

- Adopt an ultimate zero goal without a target date. In this case, a target date of 2035, 2040, or other year must be set for achieving a significant reduction. Example: “Benton County envisions a future with zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries. By 2040, the County aims to reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries by 50%.

Example vision/goal statements from other TSAPs, as well as the goals in Benton County’s TSP and vision statements in Benton County’s 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative, are provided in the appendix for reference. The project team will solicit input from the TSAP Task Force to form a suggested vision statement for consideration by the Board of Commissioners.

As an option, the vision statement, which will be determined early in the TSAP development process, can be supported by a set of goal statements. Such statements may provide more specific direction on how the County would like to achieve the overall vision and might look similar to the goals of the 2021 Oregon TSAP included in the appendix. These could be informed by the safety emphasis areas identified during the TSAP development process or could be aligned with safety-related goals in the County’s TSP. They should also align with the performance measures selected for tracking TSAP implementation progress.

While the vision statement will be developed early in the TSAP process, any supporting goals should be developed later in the process because they would likely be informed by the findings from the analysis and community input and aligned with chosen performance measures.

**APPENDIX A: EXAMPLE VISION/GOAL STATEMENTS
FROM OTHER TSAPS**

EXAMPLE VISION/GOAL STATEMENTS FROM RECENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ACTION PLANS

1. We envision a region with zero crash-related deaths and life-changing injuries by 2035, and a 50% reduction in these crashes by 2030.

(Salem, Oregon)

2. Oregon envisions no deaths or life-changing injuries on Oregon's transportation system by 2035

(2021 Oregon Transportation Safety Action Plan)

3. PBOT aims to make our transportation system the safest possible and to move toward zero traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries in the next 10 years.

(Portland, Oregon)

4. Vision Zero Maui is an initiative to end fatalities and serious injuries caused by traffic crashes on Maui by 2040.

(Maui, Hawaii)

5. This Vision Zero Action Plan will focus the County's efforts over the next five years to achieve the goal of eliminating traffic-related fatalities on unincorporated County roadways by 2035.

(Los Angeles County, California)

6. The City's Vision Zero Resolution establishes a goal of eliminating serious injuries and fatalities on City streets by 2040.

(Lynn, Massachusetts)

7. Our goal is to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes to zero by 2035.

(Clackamas County, Oregon)

APPENDIX B: GOALS FROM THE 2021 OREGON TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ACTION PLAN



Over the long term, the goals of the TSAP are:

- 1 SAFETY CULTURE**

Transform public attitudes to recognize all transportation system users have responsibility for other people's safety in addition to their own. Transform organizational transportation safety culture among employees and agency partners (e.g., state agencies, MPOs, Tribes, counties, cities, Oregon Health Authority, stakeholders, and public and private employers) to integrate safety considerations into all responsibilities.
- 2 INFRASTRUCTURE**

Develop and improve infrastructure to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries for users of all modes.
- 3 HEALTHY, LIVABLE COMMUNITIES**

Plan, design, and implement safe systems. Support enforcement and emergency medical services to improve the safety and livability of communities, including improved health outcomes.
- 4 TECHNOLOGY**

Plan, prepare for, and implement technologies (existing and new) that can affect transportation safety for all users, including pilot testing innovative technologies as appropriate.
- 5 COLLABORATE AND COMMUNICATE**

Create and support a collaborative environment for transportation system providers and public and private stakeholders to work together to eliminate fatalities and serious injury crashes.
- 6 STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS**

Target safety funding for effective engineering, emergency response, law enforcement, and education priorities.

APPENDIX C: GOALS FROM THE BENTON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1 – Safety: A safe transportation system minimizes risks and conflict.

OBJECTIVE 1: Provide safe facilities for all modes.

OBJECTIVE 2: Reduce the frequency of crashes and strive to eliminate crashes resulting in serious injuries or fatalities.

OBJECTIVE 3: Proactively improve areas where crash risk factors are present.

OBJECTIVE 4: Provide both primary and secondary access for emergency services.

Goal 2 – Equity: Transportation investments should serve everyone in the community and recognize disparities in people’s access to transportation modes.

OBJECTIVE 1: Ensure mobility to the transportation disadvantaged.

OBJECTIVE 2: Consider the needs of the population that are unable to afford housing in close proximity to employment and daily needs in the project selection process.

Goal 3 – Health: The transportation system should encourage healthy lifestyles.

OBJECTIVE 1: Support access to public spaces and encourage active transportation and social interaction.

OBJECTIVE 2: Provide healthy transportation options for students traveling to school.

OBJECTIVE 3: Consider the impact of particulate emissions in transportation projects.

OBJECTIVE 4: Work with neighboring jurisdictions to identify and promote opportunities to commute to and around Benton County by means other than single occupant vehicles.

Goal 4 – Mobility and Circulation: The transportation system should efficiently connect people with where they want to go.

OBJECTIVE 1: Develop a transportation system to facilitate appropriate travel modes.

OBJECTIVE 2: Ensure sufficient capacity is provided concurrent with future travel demand to, within, and through Benton County.

OBJECTIVE 3: Coordinate with local agencies and providers to expand transit services countywide.

OBJECTIVE 4: Ensure an adequate truck route network to reduce commercial/ neighborhood conflicts.

Goal 5 - Economic Development: Transportation should support a thriving economy.

OBJECTIVE 1: Preserve and protect transportation corridors essential to the economic vitality of the County.

OBJECTIVE 2: Promote the use of freight rail and air service to reduce trucking activity on County roads.

OBJECTIVE 3: Promote efficient and affordable ground transportation to existing regional airports (Portland, Eugene, and Salem) and the Albany Amtrak Station.

Goal 6 - Financial Stewardship: Investments in transportation should manage assets efficiently and responsibly.

OBJECTIVE 1: Maximize the useful life of existing facilities.

OBJECTIVE 2: Maximize the cost effectiveness of transportation improvements.

OBJECTIVE 3: Ensure adequate and equitable long-term funding mechanisms.

Goal 7 - Environment: The transportation system should allow a community to live harmoniously with the environment.

OBJECTIVE 1: Provide transportation services that preserve and protect the scenic and natural resources and rural character of Benton County.

OBJECTIVE 2: Provide a transportation system that allows a community to absorb the impact of and quickly recover from natural disasters.

OBJECTIVE 3: Minimize conflicting uses on the transportation system that degrade neighborhoods and rural communities.

OBJECTIVE 4: Consider the impact of transportation projects on greenhouse gas emissions, and utilize best practices and latest technologies to meet the County's climate action goals.

APPENDIX D: VISION STATEMENTS FROM THE BENTON COUNTY 2040 THRIVING COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE



Vision Statements per Focus Areas

Benton County Government endorses and will operationalize the Core Values identified by the 2040 Thriving Communities Council and will specifically recognize and promote Health, Equity, and Resource Efficiency.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Vision Statement	Benton County commits to ensure all people enjoy safe, just, welcoming, and supportive communities.
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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Vision Statement	Benton County commits to secure resilient communities where individuals and the County government can survive and recover from emergencies, shocks, and disasters by appropriate levels of threat awareness, preparation, mitigation, response, & capacity for recovery.
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OUTDOOR RECREATION

Vision Statement	Benton County actively promotes a range of outdoor recreation activities and will responsibly protect, manage, and develop our parks & natural areas.
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PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

Vision Statement	Benton County commits to support a prosperous, balanced, equitable, and sustainable economy.
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ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Vision Statement	Benton County commits to protect, conserve, & enhance our treasured, limited natural resources & prepare for future environmental challenges.
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MOBILITY & TRANSPORTATION

Vision Statement	Benton County will ensure people are efficiently connected to the places they work, play, shop, learn, enjoy, and receive services through transportation options that promote activity, reduce congestion, & build community.
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HOUSING & GROWTH

Vision Statement	Benton County will strive for access to affordable, safe, and stable housing for all while retaining a sense of place in the face of growth pressures.
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ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, CULTURE, & HISTORY

Vision Statement	Benton County will actively promote vibrant, inviting, and enriching artistic & entertainment opportunities while recognizing our history & celebrating our communities.
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FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Vision Statement	Benton County supports local agriculture and forestry and celebrates our rural communities.
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LIFELONG LEARNING & EDUCATION

Vision Statement	Benton County recognizes that learning never stops and will ensure professional and personal education opportunities for all ages.
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