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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Transportation Committee and MPO Policy Committee

**From:** CMAP Staff

**Date:** May 23, 2025

**Subject:** Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Safety Action Planning

**Action Requested:** Recommend MPO Approval

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Through the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program, CMAP provided technical assistance to county partners to develop county-wide safety action plans based on a regional framework. These plans will enable the counties and jurisdictions within them to meet the eligibility requirements for future federal implementation grants.

Recognizing that addressing safety meaningfully will require system-level changes to how transportation systems are planned, designed, and maintained, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) developed the [Safe System Approach](#) - realigning our approach to traffic safety.

On behalf of the region, CMAP applied for and received the SS4A grant in 2023 with the target of approving a regional approach to traffic safety by June 5, 2025. The grant funds supported the development of six county comprehensive Safety Action Plans with the Safe Systems Approach serving as a guiding framework. Adopting the Safe Systems Approach is vital in helping prevent deaths and serious injuries on our roadways across northeastern Illinois.

Traffic fatalities have been increasing in northeastern Illinois since 2014, especially among pedestrians and bicyclists. In the 5 years between 2018 and 2022, 2,847 people lost their lives in traffic-related crashes in northeastern Illinois, including 855 people walking and biking. The proportion of crashes that result in death increased by 38% from 2018 to 2022. During the same period, another 27,592 people survived crashes but suffered disabling or life-altering injuries.

The plans are roadmaps for improving traffic safety by reducing the risk of death and serious injury on roadways throughout the region, particularly for people walking and biking, and for

communities with disproportionately excessive crash rates. Each county has committed to safer roads, grounded in the fundamental approach that traffic-related deaths and serious injuries are preventable. By adopting this proactive, data-driven approach, our region aims to systematically address safety risks and promote a culture of safety across all transportation modes.

Collectively, these plans represent a regional approach to safety action planning for the region. Through the implementation of this approach, CMAP is committed to reaching zero roadway deaths and serious injuries in the region by 2050 as recommended in our long-range comprehensive plan, ON TO 2050.

The full county-wide plans are available starting May 24, 2025, via the following links:

- Cook County ([PLAN – Appendix](#))
- DuPage County ([PLAN – Appendix](#))
- Kane County ([PLAN – Appendix](#))
- Lake County ([PLAN – Appendix](#))
- McHenry County ([PLAN – Appendix](#))
- Will County ([PLAN – Appendix](#))