

VISION ZERO

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



August 7, 2025

Vision Zero Implementation Plan

1. Background:

Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all road users. Harris County Commissioners Court adopted a Vision Zero Resolution in 2020 with a goal to end traffic related fatalities and serious injuries in the county by 2030. The Office of the County Engineer (OCE) in coordination with a steering committee developed a Vision Zero Action Plan. This Action Plan developed a High Injury Network (381 miles) and 33 Priority Corridors (73 miles) for safety improvements based on crash data from 2014 to 2018. The Vision Zero Action Plan included the following four goals:

1. Promote a culture of traffic safety
2. Enhance Harris County processes and collaboration
3. Build safe streets that provide transportation equity for all users
4. Improve data collection and evaluation

The Vision Zero Action Plan includes six Strategies (E's), Engineering, Education, Enforcement, Encouragement, Evaluation, and Equity.

2. Harris County Commissioner Court Action

Harris County Commissioners Court has directed the OCE on June 12, 2025 (under item 292), to update the Vision Zero Action Plan and return to Commissioners Court with a transmittal of next steps to update the Action Plan on August 7, 2025.

- Update vision zero action plan
- Updated crash data,
- Updated high injury network with comprehensive methodology, and
- An assessment of existing standards policy and guidelines on transportation safety as related to vision zero in Harris County.

Additional discussion occurred related to potential development of implementation of strategies (6 E's) in the Vision Zero Action Plan such as an outreach campaign, traffic enforcement activities, etc.

3. Implementation Plan

The following description outlines the next steps and resources required to implement the above Court directives.

3.1. Crash Data and High Injury Network Update

The crash data will be collected for the years from 2019 through 2024 from the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Crash Record Information System, and any additional coordination with Harris County's Sheriff's Office. Coordination will be conducted with Harris County's Vision Zero Workgroup, City of Houston, Houston-Galveston Area Council, and TxDOT related to update of crash data and High Injury Network. A consultant will be procured for this data update, and this task is anticipated to be completed by December 2025.

Expected Deliverable: Current crash data and updated high injury network.

3.2. Vision Zero Steering Committee

The Vision Zero Steering Committee has been formed to oversee and assist with updating and implementing the Action Plan. The Vision Zero Steering Committee includes representatives from each of the Court Offices, Office of the County Administration, and Office of the County Engineer. The Working Group met on June 18, 2025, and identified the following key responsibilities of the Workgroup:

- Guide crash data update and evaluation
- Guide the development of methodology for High Injury Network
- Review and provide feedback on Vision Zero Action Plan Update
- Develop or refine safety performance measures
- Develop interim deliverables for Vision Zero Action Plan implementation, accountability, and reporting
- Guide the review and update of policies, guidelines, and standards in the context of Vision Zero
- Identify external funding sources
- Make action plan more competitive for grant funding
- Share best practices, project experience, and budget updates on safety projects

A Vision Zero Workgroup will be formed that will include Steering Committee members and various external stakeholders such as the City of Houston, Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Houston-Galveston Area Council, Texas Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and others as identified. This group will provide periodic feedback on various implementation activities.

Expected Deliverable: Collaboration on the implementation of Vision Zero activities.

3.3. Vision Zero Action Plan Update

Vision Zero Action Plan will be updated in coordination with the Vision Zero Steering Committee and Workgroup. A consultant will be procured to assist with the update of plan. Vision Zero recommendations will be incorporated into Harris County Transportation Master Plan that is under development. The update of the Vision Zero Action Plan is anticipated to be completed by September 2026.

Expected Deliverable: Updated Vision Zero Action Plan.

3.4. Review and Update of County Policies, Guidelines, and Standards

The planning and development of transportation infrastructure in unincorporated Harris County is guided by several policies, guidelines, and standards. As per the Harris County Commissioners Court direction to the OCE on June 12, 2025, a comprehensive review of the policies, guidelines, and standards will be conducted in the context of Vision Zero. The information will be shared with Vision Zero Steering Committee, and recommendations will be developed to update

Geometric Design Guidelines. A consultant will be procured to assist with this project. The development of revised geometric design guidelines includes robust coordination Vision Zero Workgroup, City of Houston, industry, and other stakeholders. The policy review and the update of the Geometric Design Guidelines are anticipated to be completed by September 2026.

Expected Deliverable: Policy review and updated Geometric Design Guidelines.

4. Vision Zero Program Implementation

The Vision Zero Action Plan includes six Strategies (E's), Engineering, Education, Enforcement, Encouragement, Evaluation, and Equity as shown in the Figure 1 below. A consultant will be procured for the development of a detailed Vision Zero Implementation Plan including near-term and long-term activities and also assist with the implementation activities.

Expected Deliverable: Detailed Vision Zero Implementation Plan for 6 E's and implementation of activities.

Figure 1: 6E's of Vision Zero

