



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

# Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION:** Safe Arterials for Everyone  
Through Reliable Operations and  
Distraction-Reducing Strategies (SAFE  
ROADS) Initiative Next Steps

Date: February 10, 2026

From: Sean McMaster  
Administrator

In Reply Refer To:  
HSA-1

To: Division Administrators

Thank you for your leadership in advancing Secretary Duffy's Safe Arterials for Everyone Through Reliable Operations and Distraction-Reducing Strategies (SAFE ROADS) Initiative to improve safety, enhance mobility, and reduce distractions on our Nation's roadways. Together, we achieved a 100-percent response rate and identified nearly 4,300 prioritized locations for safety and operational improvements across urban and rural corridors.

The SAFE ROADS Initiative has significantly elevated national awareness of roadway safety. With locations identified from all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, we are now ready for the next phase. I am requesting your assistance in collaborating with your State departments of transportation (State DOT) Chief Executive Officers (CEO) to identify your State's most impactful SAFE ROADS success stories and best practices.

Please work with your State DOT CEOs and their key partners to submit between two to five SAFE ROADS projects or programs that showcase State's efforts and achievements. We are particularly interested in showcasing individual, corridor, or regional projects as well as new policies or programs that enhance roadway safety, such as technologies or countermeasures that increase pedestrian protection, provide positive guidance along arterials, reduce driver and pedestrian distractions within the right-of-way, or support consistent and predictable traffic flow. While we expect all SAFE ROADS projects will be addressed this year, we will focus on these showcase projects to monitor progress, highlight results, plan potential visits for the Secretary or me, and feature them in speeches and upcoming engagements. We ask that your office upload these submissions to the FHWA SAFE ROAD Showcase site by **March 13, 2026**.

The Associate Administrators for the Offices of Operations, Safety, and Planning, Environment, and Realty will continue to lead the next phase of the SAFE ROADS Initiative and to support the next steps. They will follow up with you and your staff with additional details.

Thank you again for your leadership and commitment to safety. Together, we are making our roadways safer and more reliable so everyone can get home safely each day.

cc:

Deputy Division Administrators

Directors of Field Services

Associate Administrator for Operations

Associate Administrator for Safety

Associate Administrator for Planning, Environment, and Realty