

STATE PRIORITY SAFETY CORRIDOR INITIATIVE

Launching Oct. 15, 2025, In Conjunction with the Joint Secretary's Policy on Road Safety

OVERVIEW

The State Priority Safety Corridor initiative demonstrates California's renewed commitment to preventing fatal and serious injuries on our roadways. These corridors apply the Safe System Approach, now formally adopted through the Joint Secretary's Policy on Road Safety, into action at the corridor scale. Each corridor is prioritized and supported by data as a high-injury location where State, regional, and local partners will apply the Safe System principles of prevention, shared responsibility, and equity to reduce harm and save lives.

PURPOSE

To institutionalize injury prevention practice into corridor planning, design and operations, creating models for institutionalizing safety statewide.

HOW CORRIDORS IMPLEMENT THE POLICY

Each corridor provides a great opportunity to apply and evaluate the Policy's guiding principles.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Demonstrate how upstream, system-level safety measures deliver measurable reductions in fatalities and serious injuries.
- Develop a framework for corridor-scale Safe System planning and investment that can be used throughout the state and nation.
- Build public trust through transparent collaboration and joint leadership between CalSTA, CalHHS, Caltrans, CHP, OTS, and local partners.
- Achieve a 30% reduction in fatalities and serious injuries by 2035, as part of a longer term goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2050.

WHY IT MATTERS

Together, the Policy and the Corridor Initiative mark a turning point: safety becomes the organizing principle of California's transportation system. These corridors will show how coordinated, prevention-based action, across agencies and communities, creates lasting change on our roads.

POLICY COMMITMENT

Prevention first: Prioritize population level prevention of harm

Safety for all users: Equitable access to safe travel

Institutional alignment: Integrate safety and apply principles across programs, standards and operations

Investment discipline: Direct resources to strategically achieve the highest level of safety and return on investment.

CORRIDOR IMPLEMENTATION

Apply the Safe System hierarchy (exposure, likelihood, severity) to select upstream, system-level strategies rather than rely on individual behavior change

Co-develop actions with community partners and address disproportionate risk for vulnerable road users

Align Caltrans, CHP, OTS, and local actions under one coordinated Safe System implementation effort per corridor

Use corridor data to prioritize and sequence investments that yield the greatest reduction in severe injury risk

