

FACT SHEET – NEEDS BY MODE

HIGHWAY SAFETY



CONNECTIONS TO LRTP GOALS

S

Safety & Security for All Users

H

Livable & Healthy Communities

M

Multimodal Mobility, Reliability & Accessibility

Ensuring safety and security for all transportation system users is a top priority in West Virginia. In 2019, the State had a total of 1,078 serious injuries and 279 fatalities. According to the USDOT, motor vehicle crashes contribute an estimated \$1.4 billion in annual economic cost in WV. By keeping safety at the forefront of transportation investment, operations, and management, the State can enhance overall network mobility and livability while reducing the number of traffic crashes.

STAKEHOLDER INPUT

In the short-term, reducing fatalities and serious injuries was the most important goal for WV MPOs and tied as the 2nd most important goal for WVDOT staff

Traffic record-keeping is a “soft” program that could call for more resources including opportunities to provide training to local police forces



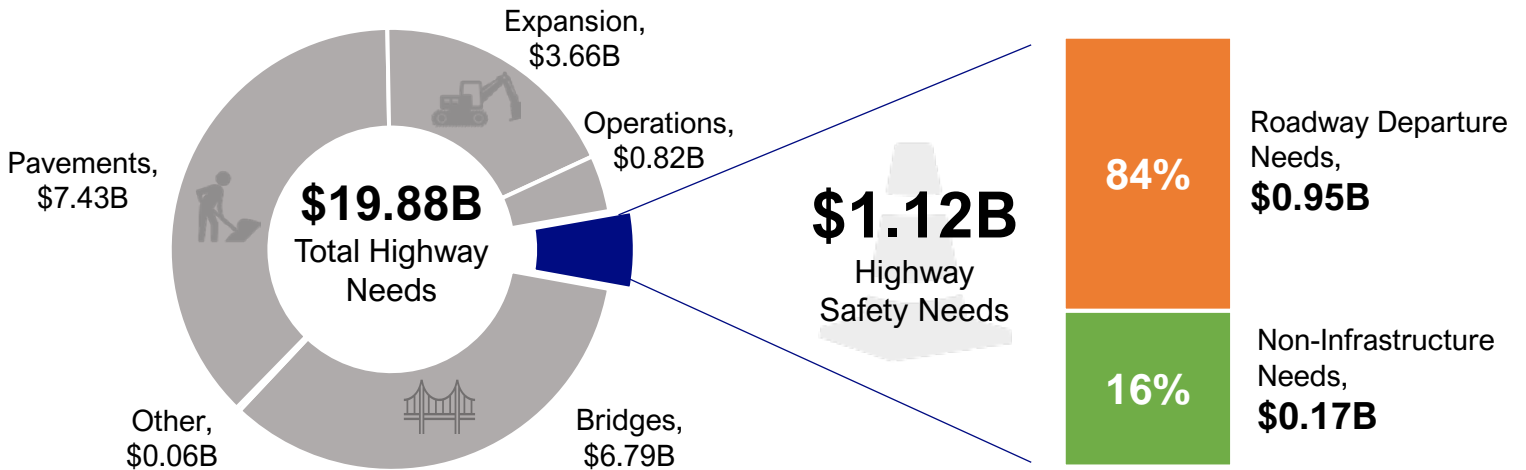
To forecast safety numbers, obligated funds were gathered from the previous seven years of the HSIP in the state (2013-2019). An average annual amount was determined and projected to 2050. The annual amounts were then adjusted to forecasted VMT amounts to reflect the relationship between total VMT and total crashes. This only includes projects where the primary purpose is safety-related.

FORECASTING METHOD

Sources considered: [West Virginia Highway Safety Plan \(HSP, 2021\)](#); [West Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan \(SHSP, 2017\)](#); and [West Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program \(HSIP, 2013-2019\)](#)

FACT SHEET – NEEDS BY MODE

HIGHWAY SAFETY



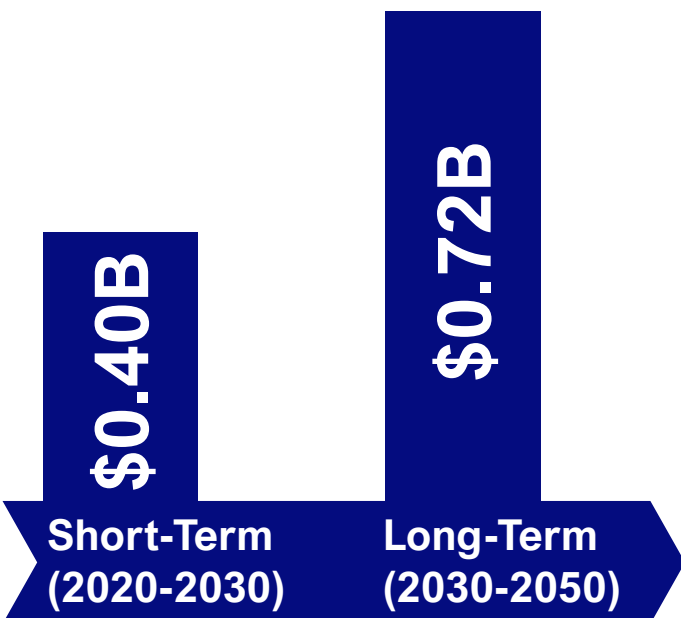
OPPORTUNITIES

Continue to pass Legislation that inhibits dangerous driving behavior (such as House Bill 4464 passed in 2020) and encourage WVDOH Divisions and Districts to regularly recommend safety improvement locations eligible for HSIP funding.

TRENDS AND EMERGING NEEDS

The SHSP, HSIP, and HSP have adopted a series of goals, strategies and performance targets to reach zero fatalities by 2030. Due to the State’s mountainous terrain, roadway departure continues to be a top emphasis area requiring safe infrastructure and additional funding.

SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM FORECASTS



- Achieve 2050 LRTP Goal “Safety and Security for All Users”
- Decrease overall fatalities and serious injuries to reach Target Zero
- Continue to fund safety programs such as Click It or Ticket, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, and Alcohol/Drug Initiatives that promote safe driver behaviors
- Implement improvements and strategies focused on minimizing risk associated with roadway departures, aggressive driving and other SHSP emphasis areas
- Continue to improve collection and sharing of Highway Safety Data