



COMMONWEALTH *of* VIRGINIA  
Office of the  
SECRETARY *of* TRANSPORTATION

**Safety is for Everyone**

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# ARRIVE ALIVE VIRGINIA

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## Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)

### Vision

Toward Zero Deaths

### Mission

Save Lives and  
Reduce Injuries  
through 5E's



# Vision Zero and the SHSP

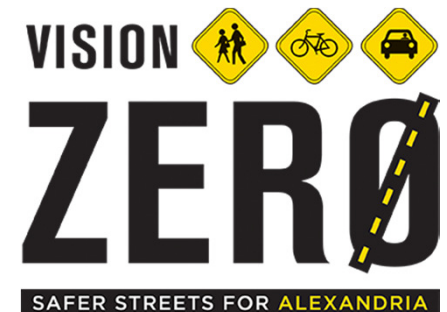
## TRADITIONAL APPROACH

Traffic deaths are **INEVITABLE**  
**PERFECT** human behavior  
Prevent **COLLISIONS**  
**INDIVIDUAL** responsibility  
Saving lives is **EXPENSIVE**

VS

## VISION ZERO

Traffic deaths are **PREVENTABLE**  
Integrate **HUMAN FAILING** in approach  
Prevent **FATAL AND SEVERE CRASHES**  
**SYSTEMS** approach  
Saving lives is **NOT EXPENSIVE**



## Key SHSP/Vision Zero Strategies

### Recognize highway safety as a public health issue

- Reduce vehicles leaving the travel lane(s)
- Minimize consequences of road departure
- Improve traffic control device effectiveness
- Integrate pedestrian/bicycle safety in planning, design, maintenance and operations
- Implement speed management techniques
- Educate all road users, law enforcement, and judiciary about highway safety issues
- Enforce highway safety laws



# SHSP Distracted Driving Strategies and Actions

*In 2017, over 200 Virginia deaths involved Distracted Driving (DD)*

**Virginia's SHSP includes several DD Strategies and Actions:**

- **Strengthen enforcement programs**
- **Implement strategic outreach campaigns (training and media)**
- **Increase quality and use of DD data**
- **Train police, judges and prosecutors**





# Safety is #1

**GOAL** reduce

deaths and  
serious  
injuries by

**50%** by 2030



**2%**

reduction per year  
for **fatalities**

**3%**

reduction per year  
for **fatality rate**

**5%**

reduction per year  
for **serious  
injuries**

**7%**

reduction per year  
for **serious  
injury rate**

# Positive Train Control (PTC)

- PTC is mandated by Congress in order to prevent:
  - Train-to-train collisions
  - Derailments caused by excessive speed
  - Unauthorized movement onto track where maintenance is occurring
  - Movement of a train through a track switch left in the wrong position
- Required where passenger service and/or hazmat trains exist
- PTC equipment must be installed on locomotives and signals, and the two must integrate regardless of the Operator
  - i.e. In Virginia, Amtrak/VRE locomotive equipment must be compatible with CSX/NS/NEC wayside equipment.
- Employees must be trained to operate, maintain, and repair the system.
- Federal deadline for implementation was extended from December 2015 to December 2018, with extension to 2020 to “turn it on.”
- Buckingham Branch has a federal exemption because of low density traffic.

Railroad (System-wide, including beyond Virginia)	Total Hardware Installed (On-board & Wayside Hardware)	Employees Trained
Virginia Railway Express	100%	0/108
Amtrak	96%	9,817/10,985
CSX	91%	18,711/19,234
Norfolk Southern Railway	83%	17,325/18,832



# Railroad Crossings

- FHWA Railway-Highway (Section 130) program provides funding and guides standards for elimination of hazards at railroad crossings.
  - Administered by VDOT through the Highway-Safety Improvement Program, which includes the Railroad Crossing Safety Program
- Grade crossing signals are owned and maintained by host Railroad
- Federal Railroad Administration oversees safety and enforcement for passenger and freight. Virginia State Corporation Commission inspects railroad infrastructure to FRA standards.
- No federal or state regulation requires upgrade of safety mechanisms after a grade-crossing accident.
  - VDOT Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety Program utilizes ‘Accident Prediction Model’ which includes highway-rail crashes and other variables to develop ranking of crossings in need of further review for safety improvements.

	Crossings without gates	Crossings without Gates on Amtrak Routes
Total in Virginia	2,659	384

# Creating an Action Plan

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- **Taskforce focused to develop action items from the two plans**
- **Partner with the private sector to support public outreach and new innovation**
- **Prioritize and provide resources to accomplish the priorities**
- **Assign a Program Manager to track accomplishments**