KITTERY AREA COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (KACTS) Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant Program - KACTS Safety Action Plan



is how we get there.

What is the KACTS Safety Action Plan?

The purpose of the Safety Action Plan is to improve roadway safety by significantly reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries through the development and implementation of plans that focus on the needs of all users: pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, public transportation users, micro-mobility users, and commercial vehicle operators. The project will identify strategies to improve safety outcomes in

communities across the KACTS region: Berwick, South Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, York, Ogunquit, Wells, Kennebunk, and Kennebunkport.

The Safety Plan will develop the tools to help strengthen the region's approach to roadway safety and save lives. It will also include a list of short-, mid-, and long-term projects that will be eligible for implementation and supplemental planning funds through the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Safe Streets for All (SS4A) and other federal grant programs. The project team will work to hear the needs of residents, business owners, and daily commuters to understand their experiences and concerns.

What is Vision Zero?

The Safety Action Plan will implement Vision Zero in the KACTS communities. The goal of Vision Zero is to eliminate roadway fatalities and serious injuries by transforming how the system is designed, operated, and managed. Vision Zero recognizes that roadway users will make mistakes. Rather than trying to perfect user behavior, this shift in approach seeks to create a system that integrates multiple, redundant layers of safeguards so that unavoidable human errors are accommodated to avoid life-altering consequences (serious injuries and fatalities). Vision Zero is based on a shared responsibility between system designers and users to change the safety culture on our roadways and has generated significant reductions in roadway tragedies across the globe. By collaborating with community



members and leveraging new data-driven analytic methods, the project team will work to uncover the root causes of crashes, identify the areas of highest risk, and develop a prioritized investment plan and policy strategies that will create a safer transportation system for all users.

How did we get here?

The Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant Program, established under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), allocated \$5 billion to be distributed towards enhancing roadway safety outcomes over a five-year period (2022 to 2026). This funding supports the KACTS Safety Action Plan – one of multiple such efforts being undertaken throughout the State of Maine and across the United States.

Major aspects of this project include:

- Developing a data-driven understanding of existing conditions
- Site-specific (reactive) and systemic (proactive) analysis of crashes



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- Undertaking meaningful public engagement that attempts to reach and welcome a diverse range of stakeholders, with an emphasis on equity and outreach in communities traditionally underserved
- Merging our technical analysis with the shared experiences of community members to create a Vision Zero approach that includes a prioritized list of recommended projects, along with overarching policies and strategies designed to significantly reduce roadway tragedies throughout the region

Project Timeline



We want to hear from you!

The community is a vital partner in this process, and we want to hear about your lived experience of traveling in the KACTS region. Please submit comments and questions via the project email at:

Project email: KACTSSafetyActionPlan@smpdc.org

Project Manager: Dean Williams Sr. Transportation / Land Use Planner <u>dwilliams@smpdc.org</u> OR (207) 571-7065

SMPDC is committed to a public process that is open to all. Materials generated to support the outreach process are available upon request in translated formats. When meetings are held, they will be accessible to people with disabilities. MaineDOT/SMPDC provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g. interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact Dean Williams at <u>dwilliams@smpdc.org</u> or (207) 571-7065.

Additional accommodations to allow full participation in these meetings can be requested by contacting the Project Manager listed above. Please see the Accessibility/Accommodation document on our Public Involvement Background Information Page for more information regarding requesting accommodations.

Requests should be made as soon as possible and prior to the hearing, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days prior to the hearing.

