



HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority
Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies
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AGENDA ITEM 6a
TAC Meeting
October 1, 2026

DATE: September 24, 2026
TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
FROM: Stephen Luther, Senior Regional Planner
SUBJECT: **Vision Zero Action Plan Administrative Draft**

STAFF REPORT

Contents:

- Staff Summary
- Administrative Draft of Vision Zero Action Plan
- Appendices A – E
- Policy Action Extract
- Public Works / Agency Action Extract

Discussion Item:

1. Introduce the item as a discussion item;
2. Allow staff to present the item;
3. Receive public comment;
4. Discuss, provide comments, and/or direct staff as applicable.

Staff Summary:

The Vision Zero Action Plan has been in development for the past 14 months. TAC members have participated in various elements of the planning by advising as stakeholders and implementing the pop-up demonstrations. With the demonstration projects complete and both quantitative and qualitative data received, the SmithGroup is proceeding to complete a draft and then final plan.

The SmithGroup has provided the attached Administrative Draft of the Vision Zero Action Plan. This document lays the groundwork for integrating the various elements completed to date. The appendices include the GHD Injury Collision Data Analysis and Prioritized List of Safety Projects, as well as preliminary public outreach results. A member of the SmithGroup will present current findings and next steps for the project.

Members of the TAC had reviewed the initial draft policies at the July 21, 2026 Project Task Force and Agency Meeting. Following the PTF meeting, staff followed up requesting comments on the policy language and general direction. Consultants encouraged HCAOG to hear from local agencies on questions like those in the July 24th email: “What are challenge points for your work on road safety? What's working well and what can be improved? Are there interagency processes that need improving? Are there telecommunications needs to improve emergency response times in rural areas? Targets for setting speed limits on local roads? What can help our expert consultants better understand our unique local circumstances?”

The policy section below is extracted from the administrative draft. Attachments to this staff report include a consolidated policy action table and a table that lists the policy actions in which Public Works/Local Agencies are listed as the Lead implementing agency or a partner.

Several important actions require buy-in from local jurisdictions. Questions to guide the TAC discussion are:

- What are your thoughts on how to obtain staff capacity (through HCAOG) to be able to update the High Injury Network every year, in addition to other work tasks called for in this plan?
- Is there a benefit to a standalone Vision Zero Interagency Working Group? Given that there would be a crossover in membership with the TAC, what should the role of the TAC be in steering continued traffic fatality response?
- What would an annual check-in process look like? Would this be a useful process to annually share out and review local safety projects at the TAC?
- How could this plan and HCAOG support jurisdictions with data collection? Would a program where HCAOG supported speed studies and AADT data collection on local roads with the provision of pneumatic tubes and field technician support be utilized?
- What are the benefits and drawbacks of a ranking system of local projects to prioritize those with a higher demonstrated safety benefit?

Staff is working on answers to all of the questions above and is seeking TAC thoughts and recommendations. Additional opportunities for the TAC to guide these topics will be available in future meetings. To guide this month's discuss, staff asks the TAC to evaluate the following extracted from the draft plan:

“POLICY 1.2 LOCAL JURISDICTION COORDINATION

Establish a formal, ongoing coordination framework between HCAOG and all member jurisdictions, as well as Tribal members and the Humboldt Transit Authority to ensure that each agency's individual safety priorities, funding parameters, and capital programming cycles are reflected in the regional Vision Zero effort, and that HCAOG's planning and funding support is accessible and responsive to jurisdictions of all sizes.

ACTION	LEAD & PARTNERS	TARGET TIMEFRAME
Establish a Vision Zero Interagency Working Group under HCAOG with standing representation from each member jurisdiction, meeting at minimum quarterly.	LEAD: HCAOG Partners: City Public Works Depts. (Eureka, Arcata, Fortuna, Rio Dell, Blue Lake, Ferndale, Trinidad), Humboldt County Public Works, Humboldt County Planning, Caltrans District 1	Year 1 (Establish structure)
Develop a standardized annual check-in process between HCAOG and each member jurisdiction to document current	LEAD: HCAOG Partners: All Member Jurisdictions	Years 1–2 (Annual / Ongoing)

safety priorities, capital project schedules, and funding availability.		
Provide targeted technical assistance to smaller cities and rural unincorporated communities without in-house traffic engineering staff. Assist the larger jurisdictions as well if needed.	LEAD: HCAOG Partners: Caltrans District 1 (Local Assistance), OTS, Smaller City Public Works Depts.	Years 1–3 (Ongoing)
Prepare a template Resolution outlining a commitment to Vision Zero and a reprioritization of the jurisdictions’ “philosophy” regarding mobility systems. Facilitate the passing of the Resolution in each jurisdiction.	...	...
Develop and maintain a countywide safety project pipeline, ranking Vision Zero-aligned projects by jurisdiction, priority, and funding status.	LEAD: HCAOG Partners: All Member Jurisdictions, Caltrans District 1	Years 1–2 (Establish); Ongoing update
Establish a shared crash data agreement and access protocol so all member jurisdictions work from a common data foundation.	LEAD: HCAOG Partners: CHP, OTS, Member Jurisdictions, Caltrans District 1	Years 1–3 (Near-term)
Require that all locally-initiated safety projects receiving HCAOG-programmed funding demonstrate alignment with regional Vision Zero priorities.	LEAD: HCAOG Partners: All Member Jurisdictions (project sponsors)	Years 1–2 (Policy / Process)
Coordinate local capital improvement program (CIP) annual updates with HCAOG’s RTIP update cycle to identify upcoming projects as Vision Zero improvement opportunities.	LEAD: HCAOG Partners: City/County Public Works Depts.	Years 1–2 (Ongoing / Annual)
Establish a protocol for cross-jurisdictional safety projects, including lead agency designation and shared cost and maintenance agreements.	LEAD: HCAOG Partners: Relevant Member Jurisdictions (case-by-case), Caltrans District 1 (if state route involved)	Years 1–3 (Framework in Year 1; apply as needed)
Report annually to the HCAOG Board of Directors on Vision Zero progress across all member jurisdictions.	LEAD: HCAOG Partners: All Member Jurisdictions, OTS, Caltrans District 1	Year 2 onward (Annual)

The TAC is being asked to receive the presentation from SmithGroup, discuss the policy questions, and provide direction to staff on changes to include in the public review draft of the Vision Zero Action Plan.