



HM-4 SAFETY PILOT PROGRAM FACTS

DIVISION OF SAFETY PROGRAMS & DIVISION OF MAINTENANCE

JANUARY 2023

INTRODUCTION

The Highway Maintenance Safety (HM-4 Safety) Pilot Program is a two-year, \$21,575,000 per year program to fund safety projects delivered through the enhanced HM-4 Program. This pilot program only funds the capital costs. The district provides the support cost. This is one of the first, ready-to-implement, steps toward Caltrans' renewed focus on traffic safety; and a move towards more quickly reducing roadway fatalities and serious injuries to zero by the year 2050.

BACKGROUND

Highway maintenance projects are generally short-lead, quick turnaround projects that can be initiated and completed within the same fiscal year with no or limited right of way or environmental permitting delays. This means that cost-effective, effective traffic safety enhancements can be quickly implemented and provide faster benefits.

Previous safety pilot programs have been implemented successfully resulting in a reduction in deaths and serious injuries for wrong-way drivers and pedestrians. Through these safety pilot programs, we have built an understanding of the safety benefits of the proposed strategies and developed updated standard specifications and standard plans. This has provided the foundation needed to advance these countermeasures using the HM-4 Safety Program.

PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE HM-4 SAFETY PILOT PROGRAM

The HM-4 Safety Pilot Program delivers safety enhancements for Wrong-Way Driver Prevention, Pedestrian Safety, and Curve Warnings Sign Packages.

The following safety enhancements are currently included in the HM-4 Safety Pilot Program:

1. Wrong-Way Driver Prevention Enhancements
 - Apply enhanced pavement markers for wrong way details to exit ramps per Standard Plans and CA-MUTCD.
 - Upgrade or install Do Not Enter - Wrong Way Sign Package to the current standard as needed.
2. Pedestrian Safety Enhancements
 - Re-stripe or add crosswalks with higher visibility pavement markings at signalized, stop-controlled, uncontrolled intersections, midblock crosswalks, slip ramps, and roundabouts.
 - Upgrade or install pedestrian warning signs as needed.



3. Curve Warning Sign Packages

- Install or upgrade to FHWA mandated curve warning sign packages on highway curves.

PROJECT SUMMARY TO DATE

Table 1 provides a summary of the HM-4 Safety Pilot Program Performance as of January 2023

Table 1. HM-4 Safety Pilot Program Performance (as of January 2023)

Safety Enhancement	2 Year Pilot Program Target	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Exceeded Target By	Countermeasures Strategy Effectiveness
Wrong-Way Driver Prevention Enhancement	878 Locations	588 Locations	425 Locations	135 Locations	40-60%
Department Cost	\$ 21,950,000	\$ 12,505,000	\$ 9,445,000		
Pedestrian Safety Enhancement	1000 Locations	335 Locations	1116 Locations	451 Locations	20-40%
Department Cost	\$ 7,500,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 6,900,000		
Curve Warning Sign Packages	1370 Locations	1588 Locations	403 Locations	621 Locations	39%
Department Cost	\$ 13,700,000	\$ 8,470,000	\$ 5,230,000		

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The HQ Division of Safety Programs and the HQ Division of Maintenance are working closely with District Safety and Maintenance to develop and implement the HM-4 Safety Pilot Program. Headquarters safety and maintenance program coordinators provide support to identify needs, coordinate with districts on workplan development, track projects status and completion.