County of Orange
Local Road Safety Plan

OC Public Works

Frequently Asked Questions

1 What is a Local Road Safety Plan?

A Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) provides a framework for identifying, evaluating, and prioritizing roadway safety improvements on local roads. The LRSP development process results in a prioritized list of issues, risks, actions, and improvements that can be used to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on local roads.

2 Where is the study area?

The study area encompasses County maintained roadways within Unincorporated Orange County. Unincorporated Orange County includes areas that are not governed by a local municipality (a city or town).

Roadways owned and maintained by the State of California such as interstate freeways and state routes are not considered local roadways. However, State Route 74 (SR-74) was included as part of the study area, since many local roadways intersect SR-74 in unincorporated areas.

3 Why is this study needed?

The study is an opportunity for the County of Orange to work with community members and stakeholders to develop a framework for identifying, evaluating, and prioritizing roadway safety improvements on local roads. This will be the first comprehensive safety action plan for the County of Orange and builds on the County's prior roadway safety efforts. The completed LRSP will serve as a resource for the County when it applies for future safety infrastructure funding.

This study aims to analyze current trends, address safety concerns, and guide investments in order to create safer and more equitable roads for all travel modes.

4 What is the schedule for this study?

The project is anticipated to conclude in Spring of 2026. Project milestones are depicted below.

- Data Collection and Analysis (Fall 2024 - Winter 2024/2025)
- Public Workshops and Safety Task Force Meetings (Winter 2024/2025 – Summer 2025)
- Identification of Safety Project (Spring 2025 – Fall 2025)
- Project Prioritization and Funding Strategies (Fall 2025 – Winter 2025/2026)
- Final Plan Presented to Board of Supervisors (Winter 2025/2026 – Spring 2026)

5 How will the County prioritize projects once the study is complete?

Project prioritization will be based on a variety of factors including crash severity, risk factors, and community feedback. The process will use a weighted system that prioritizes collision risk factors that contribute to fatal and severe injury collisions, which often involve vulnerable roadway users such as pedestrians and bicyclists. An equity evaluation will be conducted to ensure that underserved communities receive the necessary investments, aligning with the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant requirements.

6 What types of strategies will be considered in this study?

The study will consider a variety of strategies to address both infrastructure and behavioral concerns. Some safety strategies may be applied at singular locations while others may be applied systemically across the entire local roadway network.

Engineering solutions that address infrastructure concerns will be sourced from the Caltrans Local Roadway Safety Manual (LRSM), which are advantageous for use in applying for state grant funding. Possible strategies that will be considered include (not in order of importance):

- Reducing unsafe vehicular speeds through traffic calming and roadway design improvements.
- Adding safer crossings, sidewalks, and bike lanes for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Improving roadway visibility and signage.
- Reducing conflict points between roadway users and the severity of those conflicts at intersections.
- Improving emergency vehicle response times through traffic signal enhancements.

These improvements aim to prevent crashes, reduce harm when crashes occur, and create safer streets for all.

Behavioral strategies aim to influence or change unsafe driving behavior. Education and awareness-raising campaigns are common approaches used to encourage behavioral change, but rarely work in isolation. Targeted enforcement and changes in policy (such as developing programs to decrease the frequency of unsafe behavior) will also be considered.

7 How will the plan address the specific needs of my neighborhood?

Community outreach events are planned for each of the Unincorporated Areas. The project aims to engage local residents to identify specific challenges and risks. The resulting safety strategies will be the result of data-driven analyses along with community input to customize safety improvements for each neighborhood's unique needs.

8 How will emergency services be involved in the planning process?

Emergency services like the Orange County Fire Authority, the Orange County Sheriff, and California Highway Patrol are key stakeholders in the plan. They will provide input on crash response times and roadway design improvements to enhance safety. Collaboration with these agencies ensures that the plan supports faster and more effective emergency response.

9 What steps are being taken to involve non-English speaking communities?

Outreach materials will be translated into Spanish and Vietnamese, and bilingual staff will attend the planned community events. Virtual workshops will include interpretation services to ensure meaningful participation from non-English-speaking residents.

10 How can I get involved with this study?

Members of the public are encouraged to participate through the following activities:

- Attend virtual workshops or community events throughout 2025.
- Provide input through surveys, available online and at outreach events.
- Follow updates on the project website at www.OCLRSP.com and the County's social media
- platforms.

Your feedback is vital to creating a plan that reflects the needs of your community!

Contact Us

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To learn more about the project and share your thoughts, please visit us at ***www.OCLRSP.com***

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