The SS4A program was established as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). In total, $5 Billion was allocated to this program through FY 2026. USDOT has had remaining funding in 2023, meaning additional funding is available for counties and municipalities to take advantage of. The process we are going through is for a Safety Action Plan (SAP), which falls under the Planning and Demonstration Grant option, and allows your community to apply for Implementation Grant funding.

The Lowcountry COG is preparing a Safety Action Plan (SAP) and is in the process of receiving stakeholder and public input. The final plan will summarize data analysis, public input, countermeasures, and future projects. The SAP will cover Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, and Jasper counties, with unique projects and opportunities available for each. This document will provide municipalities and counties the opportunity to apply for Implementation funding. The timeline below summarizes the steps to finalize a SAP, and key dates in this process.

The Lowcountry SAP will position the region to apply for additional Planning and Implementation grant opportunities. As of February 2024, the SAP progress is entering its first phase of public meetings and key corridors are being identified for countermeasure selection. Stakeholder and public input are critical components of this process.

Find more information at the following link: https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A
Regional Safety Summit Review

Representatives from Beaufort County discussed opportunities and challenges in the County. Key takeaways from the Beaufort County conversation are highlighted below:

- **Multimodal facilities are key** with lighting and protected connections; complete streets should be embraced in new and existing infrastructure.

- **Technology and innovation in the Lowcountry** can provide the County with new initiatives, such as municipal toolkits, traffic calming programs, and systematic improvements.

- **Considering partnerships** should be prioritized, such as with law enforcement, SCDOT, and other peer communities for idea sharing and complementary projects.

- **Beaufort County is diverse**, with significant land use differences that impact the way the County views transportation development and innovation. *A one size fits all approach is not appropriate in the Lowcountry.*

Existing Data Review

Crash data was reviewed for the entire region as well as Beaufort County.

- **Over 43,000 crashes occurred in the Lowcountry between July 2017 and October 2023**, including more than 400 fatal crashes and 12,000 non-fatal injury crashes.

- Total crashes in the region increased in 2020, despite lower roadway volumes, and have steadily increased since 2021.

- **30% of crashes in Beaufort County result in injury or death.**
Regional Safety Summit Review

Representatives from Colleton County discussed opportunities and challenges in the County. Key takeaways from the Colleton County conversation are highlighted below:

- **Two-way to all-way stop conversions** have had success in the region, especially in locations with poor sight distance.

- **The City of Walterboro's pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure** is lacking, however there is a significant population of these non-motorized users. Lighting at intersections and along corridors is sparse. Jaywalking is observed on US highways due to commercial and residential locations being on opposite roadsides.

- **Considering beach traffic to Edisto Beach** should be prioritized, with routes such as SC 174 experiencing tourist traffic and frequent crashes.

- **Much of Colleton County is rural**, and many of the rural freeways have no shoulder with steep fill slopes, making run-off-road crashes especially dangerous.

Existing Data Review

Crash data was reviewed for the entire region as well as Colleton County.

- **Over 43,000 crashes occurred in the Lowcountry between July 2017 and October 2023**, including more than 400 fatal crashes and 12,000 non-fatal injury crashes.

- Total crashes in the region increased in 2020, despite lower roadway volumes, and have steadily increased since 2021.

- **32% of crashes in Colleton County result in injury or death.**

- **Colleton County ranks eighth in South Carolina for the highest pedestrian fatal/serious injury frequency (PBSAP).**
Regional Safety Summit Review

Representatives from Hampton County discussed opportunities and challenges in the County. Key takeaways from the Hampton County conversation are highlighted below:

- Certain roadways are particularly susceptible to run-off-road crashes, including Walterboro Highway and US 601. These roadways would benefit from improvements such as shoulders, retroreflective paint, and roadway condition upgrades.

- Many intersections with significant crash history have sight distance concerns.

- Truck traffic in Hampton County should be considered, especially along key freight corridors, including US 321 and US 278.

- Hampton County is rural, and many of the rural freeways have no shoulder with steep fill slopes, making run-off-road crashes especially dangerous.

Existing Data Review

Crash data was reviewed for the entire region as well as Hampton County.

- Over 43,000 crashes occurred in the Lowcountry between July 2017 and October 2023, including more than 400 fatal crashes and 12,000 non-fatal injury crashes.

- Total crashes in the region increased in 2020, despite lower roadway volumes, and have steadily increased since 2021.

- Hampton County has experienced 1/10 of all crashes compared to Beaufort County; however, Hampton County has experienced 1/3 of the fatal crashes compared to Beaufort County.
Regional Safety Summit Review

Representatives from Jasper County discussed opportunities and challenges in the County. Key takeaways from the Jasper County conversation are highlighted below:

- **Access management issues** are especially present in the County, with consistent angle crash history.

- **Growth in the County and the impact of I-95** are critical components to the crash history, with development pressures and an inconsistent vision between groups in the County.

- Key corridors include **SC 462, US 278, US 17, US 17A**, and Argent Boulevard, with significant crash history and development that has contributed to safety concerns.

- **Considering partnerships** should be prioritized, such as with law enforcement, SCDOT, and other peer communities for idea sharing and complementary projects.

- **Traffic calming in municipalities and neighborhoods** was discussed as an opportunity for low-cost safety improvements.

Existing Data Review

Crash data was reviewed for the entire region as well as Jasper County.

- **Over 43,000 crashes occurred in the Lowcountry between July 2017 and October 2023**, including more than 400 fatal crashes and 12,000 non-fatal injury crashes.

- Total crashes in the region increased in 2020, despite lower roadway volumes, and have steadily increased since 2021.

- **27% of crashes in Jasper County result in injury or death.**