Think Safety Act Safely

Ottawa Road Safety Action Plan 3.0

2020 Implementation Plan
Think Safety, Act Safely

There was an average of 149 collisions resulting in fatal or serious injuries, involving all road users, annually on Ottawa roads from 2013-2017. One fatality or serious injury is one too many. We all have a role to play in reducing loss of life and life-altering injuries due to collisions on our roads.

About the Action Plan 3.0

The 2020-2024 Ottawa Road Safety Action Plan is an integrated, comprehensive and proactive strategy for making our roads safer for all users—and for continuing to advance toward zero fatal and serious injury collisions. The Action Plan:

- builds on the successes of Ottawa’s first and second road safety action plans, which have delivered some of the best collision reduction results in the country, including a 14% reduction since the last Action Plan was implemented
- incorporates input and guidance from residents, community stakeholders, road safety advocates and experts
- integrates proven road safety best practices and innovative new measures that include engineering, enforcement and education

The action plan addresses these key road safety focus areas for our city.
20% Reduction

**Theme**
Think Safety, Act Safely.

**Vision**
A comprehensive and proactive strategy for making Ottawa roads safe for all users.

**Goal**
A reduction in the average annual rate of fatal and major injury collisions of **20% by 2024**.

**Investment**
In 2019, The City of Ottawa invested $25 million in programs related to road safety. In 2020, that investment will increase to $31.5 million, which includes a one-time $4 million enhancement to implement measures identified in the updated Road Safety Action Plan. It is anticipated to increase even more significantly in 2021 and beyond, when additional revenue from new automated enforcement measures (speed cameras, red light cameras, school bus cameras, automated license plate recognition) will be directly invested in the Road Safety Action Plan.
The additional $4 million available for road safety during 2020 will be used to enhance existing programs and to introduce new strategies and tactics to make our roads safer. These measures—which integrate education, enforcement and engineering—will together address the road safety focus areas: vulnerable road users, intersections, rural roads and high-risk drivers. While enforcement is the responsibility of Ottawa Police Service, valuable contributions to road safety are also made by Ottawa Fire Services, Ottawa Paramedic Service and Ottawa Public Health.
Making Roads Safer for Vulnerable Users

Pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists are the most vulnerable users of our roads. These are some of the actions that will be undertaken to address their safety in 2020.

- **Enhanced, high visibility crosswalk markings** will be added at 10 high priority locations.
- **Pedestrian countdown timers** and AODA compliant pedestrian push buttons will be installed at all new intersections and when existing intersections are upgraded.
- **The Adult Crossing Guard Program** will be expanded by 10 new locations.
- **The Walking School Bus program** will be expanded with a hybrid paid/volunteer model.
- **Education and outreach** on new and existing pedestrian infrastructure will be expanded.
- **The Be Safe Be Seen initiative** will be expanded to 24 events per year.
- **Enhanced, high visibility crosswalk markings** will be added at 10 high priority locations.
- **Additional no right turn on red restrictions** will be added at priority locations.
- **More advanced pedestrian walk signals** will be added at locations downtown and near schools.
- **New mid-block pedestrian signals** will be installed at two locations.
- **Geometric modifications** will be made at one high risk intersection and new low-cost safety measures will be implemented at additional locations.
In addition to these highlights, engagement initiatives, and communications campaigns will be funded.

**Cycling safety enhancements** will be made to 10 locations, including signs, signals, pavement markings, bike lanes, bike boxes and cross rides.

**Red Reverts** eliminated at signals where multi-use pathways and cross-rides are present.

**New cycling safety technologies** like curb products and cycling detection feedback will be assessed and piloted.

**A review of high-volume cycling/vehicle interaction locations** will be completed to guide future designs; a detailed design will be developed for one location.

**Expansion of the cycling network** will continue.

**A comprehensive motorcycle fatal and serious injury collision study** will identify trends and measures to improve safety.

**Motorcycle safety training** will be expanded to 300 participants.

**The number of cycling safety courses available to the public** will be increased.

**Take It to the Track** events will be expanded to engage high risk motorcyclists.

**A broad range of enforcement measures** delivered principally by Ottawa Police Service will continue.
Reducing Collisions at Intersections

Almost half of all fatal and serious injury collisions in Ottawa each year happen at intersections. The following are some of the actions that will be undertaken in 2020 to address safety at intersections.

- **Fully protected left turn arrows** will be added at 12 locations.
- **Signal timings** at more than 200 intersections will be reviewed and updated.
- **Detailed designs** will be developed for 2 locations meeting signal warrants (roundabouts and protected intersections considered during design).
- **Upgrades to two at-grade rail crossings** will be completed to ensure the city meets the 2021 deadline to comply with Transport Canada Grade Crossing Regulations.
- **The complete streets policy** will continue for new roadways and reconstruction projects.
- **New and emerging safety devices** for intersections will be piloted, tested and evaluated.
- **New network screening process** will be introduced to identify locations requiring safety improvements.
- **Roundabouts** will continue to be added on new roadways, reconstruction and roadway modifications.
- **A broad range of enforcement measures** delivered principally by Ottawa Police Service will continue.
Making Rural Roads Safer

More fatal injury collisions happen on Ottawa’s rural roads than anywhere else in the city. The following are some of the actions that will be undertaken to make rural roads safer.

- **Safety edges** will be added on roadways where technically feasible.

- **Rural stop locations** along one corridor per year will be equipped with oversized stop signs, stop ahead signs, and flashing LED beacons as required.

- Functional designs will be developed for 12 “skewed” rural intersections.

- An improved process for identifying road shoulder maintenance priorities will be introduced.

- A broad range of enforcement measures delivered principally by Ottawa Police Service will continue.
**Addressing High-Risk Drivers**

Aggressive, distracted and impaired driving was a contributing factor in approximately 450 fatal and serious collisions per year between 2013 and 2017. The following are some of the actions that will be undertaken to reduce the harms caused by high-risk drivers.

- **More red light running cameras** will be installed at high collision intersections.
- **Traffic calming measures** will be enhanced in school areas.
- **Automated speed enforcement** pilot locations will be assessed.
- **Gateway speed limit areas** with signage to establish 40 km/h or 30 km/h limit areas will continue to be implemented within neighbourhoods.
- A broad range of **enforcement measures** delivered principally by Ottawa Police Service including RIDE programs and others will continue.
- A broad range of **communications and education programs** targeting high-risk driving behaviours including cannabis and stunt driving will be undertaken.
Creating a Culture of Road Safety

During 2020, Safer Roads Ottawa will undertake an overall road safety communications program targeting all road users and encouraging them to Think Safety and Act Safely.

City of Ottawa policies—and those planning, designing and constructing our road network—are likewise critical to road safety. The city, its suppliers, developers and builders are all encouraged to Think Safety, Act Safely when proposing policies and integrating new construction projects and developments.

City of Ottawa plans and programs that impact road safety.

- Transportation Master Plan
- Building Better and Smarter Suburbs
- Ottawa Pedestrian Plan
- 30 Km/h Speed Limit Policy
- Ottawa Cycling Plan Update
- Traffic Calming Design Guidelines
- Complete Streets Implementation Framework
- Safer Roads Ottawa Plan
- Arterial Road Corridor Design Guidelines
- Road Safety Audits

Read the entire Road Safety Action Plan Report at ottawa.ca/road-safety