

AGENDA ITEM FOR ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING () Discussion only
(X) Action

FROM (DEPT/ DIVISION): Board of County Commissioners

SUBJECT: SS4A Letter of Support

<p>Background: The Board of County Commissioners have an opportunity to sign a letter of support for the Safe Streets for All program.</p>	<p>Requested Action: Authorize the chair of the Board of County Commissioners to sign the letter of support on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.</p>
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ATTACHMENTS : Draft Letter

If payable/purchase/contract:

Amount:

Budgeted: Yes No

Duration (if contract):

Line Item:

To be notified of Meeting:

Needed at Meeting:

*****For Internal Use Only*****

Scheduled for meeting on: April 14, 2026

Action taken:

Follow-up:

[LETTERHEAD]

April X, 2026

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation &
Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation &
Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chairman
Committee on Environment & Public Works
U.S. Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment & Public Works
U.S. Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science, &
Transportation
U.S. Senate
254 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC, 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science, &
Transportation
U.S. Senate
254 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC, 20510

Dear Chairman Graves, Ranking Member Larsen, Chairman Capito, Ranking Member Whitehouse, Chairman Cruz, and Ranking Member Cantwell,

On behalf of municipalities across the United States that have directly benefited from the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program, we write to strongly urge the inclusion of the Safe Streets for All Reauthorization and Improvement Act (H.R. 5452) in the upcoming 2026 Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill. Specifically, we request that Congress reauthorize SS4A through Fiscal Year 2031 at a level of \$5 billion in order to sustain, expand, and fully realize the life-saving safety investments this program has made in our communities.

Roadway safety remains a public health emergency in the United States, which experienced more than 40,000 traffic fatalities in 2023. Pedestrian deaths alone reached a 40-year high in 2022, with 7,522 people struck and killed while walking. As municipal governments work to address these unnecessary deaths and deliver a safer surface transportation system for all users, the availability of federal resources to plan, design, and implement effective solutions remains essential. Notably, despite strong partnership with their state departments of transportation, many municipal governments rely on federal support to pursue these critical safety projects when the necessary resources are simply not available at the state or local level.

[LETTERHEAD]

The SS4A program, created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, has been a transformative tool for these communities as they pursue targeted solutions addressing roadway fatalities and serious injuries. Since its inception five years ago, SS4A has supported life-saving projects and implementation efforts in more than 1,600 communities across the U.S. These projects are focused on safer roads, intersections, and travel options for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users. Critically, the strength of this program lies in its ability to provide flexible support to local governments based on where they are in the planning, demonstration, or implementation process, enabling the deployment of locally-tailored, data-driven strategies that reflect on-the-ground safety needs and community input.

With SS4A's current authorization expiring in 2026, it is critical that Congress act now to provide predictable, multi-year funding for this program and ensure that participating communities can complete and scale the safety improvements they have initiated through the program. For municipalities that have previously received planning resources through SS4A, continued investment is necessary to fully implement their safety action plans, realize anticipated benefits for their communities, and ensure that previously allocated taxpayer resources do not go to waste.

Notably, the Safe Streets for All Reauthorization and Improvement Act takes the necessary step of shifting a greater share of SS4A resources toward implementation projects and lowering the required set-aside for planning grants from 40 percent to 20 percent. Prioritizing implementation funding will allow communities to move forward with shovel-ready safety infrastructure projects, such as improved roadways, crosswalks, protected bike lanes, traffic-calming measures, and roundabouts, ensuring that the benefits of previous planning awards under the SS4A program are fully realized.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue and for your commitment to ensuring every American has access to safe, reliable transportation. We stand ready to serve as a resource and to share local perspectives on how SS4A is saving lives in our communities.

Sincerely,

[SIGNATORIES NAMES/ LETTERHEADS]