

Regional Safety Program



San Antonio • Bexar County
MPO
 Metropolitan Planning Organization
www.sametroplan.org

Efforts to reduce the frequency and severity of crashes have long been underway. The SA-BC MPO's Regional Transportation Safety Committee, our partner organizations, and local governments are engaged in numerous activities to address impaired driving, distracted and aggressive driving, bicycle and pedestrian safety, motorcycle safety and dangerous locations in our region. Several initiatives have been implemented ranging from major law enforcement and public education campaigns to deployment of technological innovations.

Transportation safety will not be solved this year or next, and will require continued collaboration with planning, engineering, and advocacy groups who deal with transportation planning and implementation on a daily basis. Most importantly, it will involve a change in behavior in how the general public chooses to interact and respect each other on the region's roads.



825 South Saint Mary's
 San Antonio, Texas 78205
 Phone: 210-227-8651
 Fax: 210-227-9321
sabcmpo@sametroplan.org
www.sametroplan.org

"We Plan to Keep You Moving... Safely!"

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Eight focus areas, also known as "contributing factors for crashes", were identified by the Regional Safety Committee:

- Distracted Driving
- Road Rage
- Speeding
- Impaired Driving
- Bicyclists
- Pedestrians
- Motorcyclists
- Cell Phone Use While Driving

These eight areas currently represent 76% of all crashes in our region and serve as the Committee's initial focus for analysis.

To gain additional input for the Regional Safety Program, there is an online **Transportation Safety Survey**. While this survey is not statistically valid, it does provide insight into citizen's areas of concern and perceptions about crashes and other safety issues at specific locations throughout the region. The survey can be found and taken anytime on our website at www.sametroplan.org.



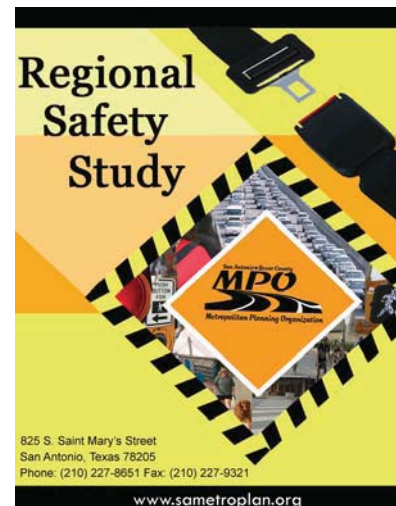
SA-BC MPO Safety Program

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are created by federal law to provide a comprehensive, cooperative and continuous transportation planning process between the various governmental jurisdictions. This process brings our metro area over \$200 million annually in state and federal transportation funding for roadway, transit, rideshare, bicycle and pedestrian projects. Keeping safety at the forefront of planning efforts is federal law, requiring an active and explicit consideration of safety in the MPO transportation planning process. The San Antonio – Bexar County MPO (SA-BC MPO), through its Regional Safety Program, takes a proactive approach to identifying safety concerns in the San Antonio region, communicating those concerns to our transportation partners, and sharing transportation safety information with the community.

Mission

The mission of the Regional Safety Program is to identify transportation safety needs through a comprehensive regional transportation safety planning process. The SA-BC MPO's multi-agency Regional Safety Committee meets periodically to review the community's planning and data needs as well as deciding how to meet those needs. Their adopted goals include:

- Identifying transportation safety problem areas and solutions for the short and long term.
- Fostering collaboration between different public agencies that have a vested interest in transportation safety.
- Creating and maintaining an online safety application to provide stakeholders with data using the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Crash Records Information System (CRIS) and other available crash information.
- Conducting outreach to both gather and provide information related to transportation safety issues.



Overview

Safety is an important factor in transportation planning at the federal, state and local levels. There is a need for regional coordination and the SA-BC MPO has initiated the first comprehensive safety analysis for our region. The Regional Safety Program represents a significant step forward in transportation safety planning in that it uses the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Crash Records Information System (CRIS) database. The program also represents a new collaborative planning effort among transportation and public safety agencies in the metropolitan area. It provides an on-going and coordinated effort to house transportation safety data and serves as a resource to SA-BC MPO partner agencies to help identify transportation and traffic safety issues in our region.

