



RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO
EL PASO COUNTY JUDGE

August 15, 2022

Eduardo Calvo, AICP
Executive Director
El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

Re: Application to the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant Program to Develop a Regional Comprehensive Action Plan for the El Paso MPO Planning Area

Dear Mr. Calvo:

El Paso County is pleased to support the El Paso MPO's efforts to apply for the FY 2022 SS4A Discretionary Grant Program to develop a comprehensive regional action plan for our communities. We offer our support to engage with you in the development of the plan and to help identify locations where improvements are needed, areas and groups that are underserved and over-represented in serious traffic crashes, countermeasures and programs to address issues, and review our policies and procedures to see if changes are needed to support traffic safety.

This study will allow the communities in our region for the first time to develop an action plan that includes a wide spectrum of infrastructure strategies and projects as well as behavioral and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on our roads and streets. Traffic deaths and injury have historically exacerbated inequality among members of our diverse community, and pedestrians make up more than a quarter of all traffic deaths. The resulting action plan will help our region to define strategies to systematically address the needs of all roadway users, including: pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit, private vehicles, and commercial vehicle operators, including those who live in underserved areas of the community.

This is an exciting opportunity that will allow public and private sector stakeholders from all the communities in our region to collaborate in: assessing the prevailing traffic safety conditions and historical trends of levels of crashes involving fatalities and serious injuries; identifying the locations where these crashes are most severe; identifying contributing factors and crash types; analyzing systemic and specific safety needs; and geospatially identifying higher risk locations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact please contact Norma Rivera Palacios, Public Works Executive Director at (915) 546-2015.

Sincerely,

Judge Ricardo A. Samaniego
El Paso County

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