

Regional Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 20, 2026

Agenda Item #: 6 (Attachment D)

2026 Federal Safety Targets

Agenda item type: Action

Summary

Recommended 2026 federal safety targets. These targets are part of the federally required performance management program.

Background

Federal regulations require state departments of transportation and metropolitan planning organizations to set targets and report on progress towards achieving the targets for several performance areas in support of a performance-based approach to transportation planning and programming. These areas include safety, infrastructure condition (pavement and bridge), system performance, transit asset management, and transit safety. Federal guidance encourages targets to be realistic and achievable because they are short-term in nature.

For the safety performance measures described below, the region has the option of supporting the state's targets established by the Colorado Department of Transportation or establishing its own targets for the metropolitan planning organization area. As in previous years, DRCOG staff are proposing the region set its own safety targets.

DRCOG must set safety targets based on a 5-year rolling average and then report them to the Colorado Department of Transportation. The proposed 2026 targets are:

Safety Metric	Targets
Number of fatalities	309
Rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled	1.069
Number of serious injuries	2027
Rate of serious injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled	7.002
Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries	492

When the DRCOG Board adopted *Taking Action on Regional Vision Zero* in 2020, the region committed to a target of zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries. This Vision Zero target was reflect in the May 2024 amendment to Metro Vision that revised the performance target to 0 traffic fatalities by 2040. The proposed 2026 safety targets continue this practice.

Action by others

None



Previous discussion/action

[December 15, 2025](#) – Transportation Advisory Committee recommended adoption.

Recommendation

Move to recommend the Board of Directors adopt the 2026 safety targets for the metropolitan planning organization area.

Attachment

Staff presentation.

For more information

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