



Polk Countywide Vision Zero Action Plan

**Lives Matter.
Deaths and Serious Injuries
from Traffic Accidents are
Preventable in Polk County.**

Our Roads are Dangerous | In 2024, the Lakeland-Winter Haven Metropolitan Statistical Area was listed by Smart Growth America as one of the 25 most dangerous metro areas in the U.S. to be a pedestrian.

In response to the hazardous conditions present on Polk County's roadways, the Polk Transportation Planning Organization (Polk TPO) has initiated the development of an action plan to improve safety for the traveling public.

On average, 147 lives could be saved and 434 serious crashes avoided in Polk County each year.

FDOT Crash Data, 2019-2023

Vision Zero Action Plan | As the lead applicant of a 20-jurisdiction partnership, Polk County was awarded \$1 million under the Federal Highway Administration's Safe Streets and Roads for All program to complete this countywide safety plan. The plan will pinpoint the 20 most dangerous roadways and intersections in Polk County, as well as identify **proven safety countermeasures** to reduce crashes at these locations.

The Vision Zero Action Plan will engage and empower our communities to identify problems and identify solutions | The proposed plan places community engagement at the core of the effort. **Demonstration projects, community workshops, survey tools, social media, and online resources** will be leveraged to engage our communities—specifically, our historically disadvantaged and most vulnerable communities—and place them at the center of our planning process.



Timeline for Key Actions |

The Vision Zero Action Plan will be conducted over a two-year period beginning in January 2025.

The Initial phase of data collection and analysis will be followed by community engagement to identify both observed hazards and practical safety solutions. Once plans for safety countermeasures have been developed, these concepts will be demonstrated to the public.

The project will conclude with the adoption of the Vision Zero Action Plan across the partner jurisdictions, aligning safety priorities countywide.



Key Actions:

Project Kickoff

- **January 2025** Project Kickoff
- **March 2025** Plan Review Committee Coordination Starts
- **April 2025** Stakeholder Committee Coordination Starts

Community Outreach

- **April 2025** Public Engagement Starts
- **April 2025** First Social Media, Website, and Survey Engagements
- **August 2025** First Countywide Workshop
- **October 2025** First Corridor Workshop

Crash Analysis

- **July 2025** High Injury Network (HIN) Identified:
 - Roadway Network HIN
 - Bicycle and Pedestrian HIN

Safety Strategy and Project Selection

- **October 2025** Safety Countermeasures Identified for 20 Most Dangerous Roadways and Intersections:
 - Countywide List of Prioritized Safety Recommendations Developed
 - Identify Candidate Locations for Safety Demonstrations

Safety Demonstrations

- **January to April 2026** Quick Build “Tactical Urbanism” Demonstration Projects:
 - Local Stakeholder Engagement
 - Quick Build Demonstration Project Plan Development
 - Demonstration Projects at Two Locations

Plan Development and Adoption

- **September 2026** Vision Zero Action Plan Development and Finalization
- **October to December 2026** Leadership Adoption Resolutions