

## Executive Summary

In Chemung County, NY, motor vehicle traffic injuries are the fourth leading cause of injury-related deaths. The county experienced 5 roadway fatalities in 2017. Between 2011 and 2015, which is the analysis period of this LRSP, there were 44 roadway fatalities in Chemung, with 21 of them occurring on county-owned roadways. The purpose of this local road safety plan (LRSP) is to serve as a guide and roadmap for Chemung County to improve roadway safety by reducing fatalities and serious injuries on their roadway network.

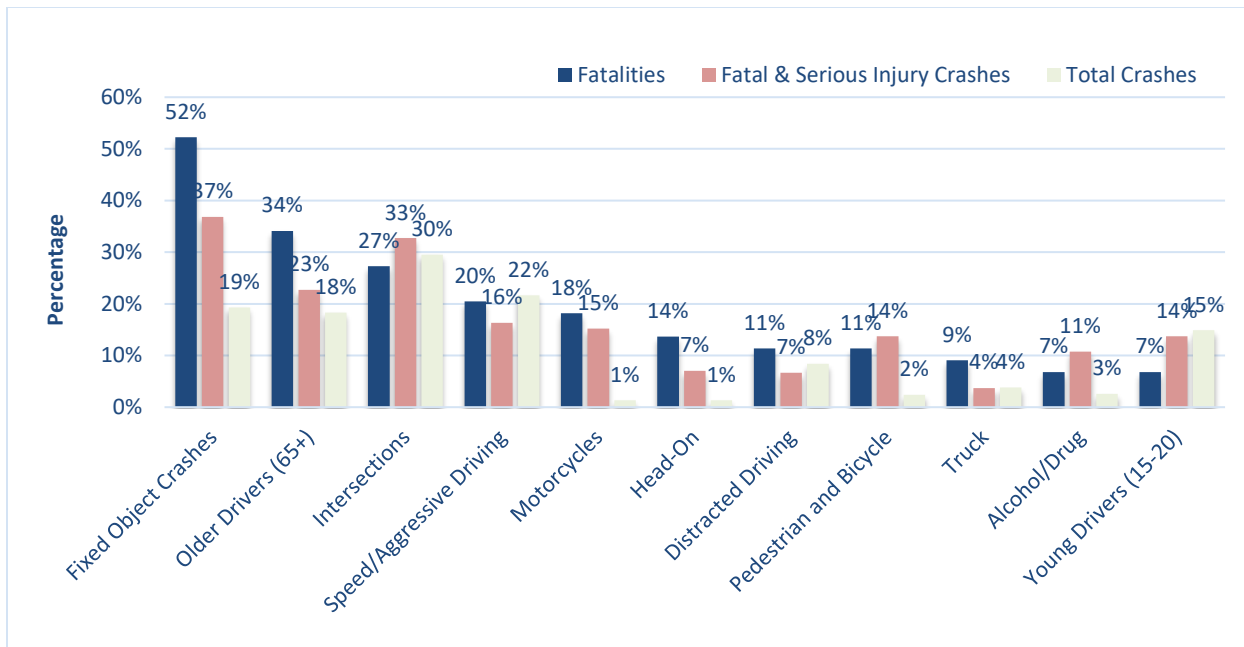
New York State's 2017 Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) commits to data-driven safety programs to reduce the 5-year moving averages for the number of fatalities and serious injuries by 2 percent annually during the 2017-2022 timeframe. This Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) will make it possible for Chemung County to support New York State's SHSP goals as a partner, by planning and implementing effective safety projects.

The development of Chemung County's LRSP involved engagement of various stakeholders and consisted of multiple steps. This process included a kickoff meeting followed by:

- A document review of County and State safety plans, programs, policy information, and activities.
- Data analysis to identify focus crash types.
- A workshop to select potential safety countermeasures.
- Development of a project list of locations that exhibit focus crash types and planned safety projects.
- Compiling these findings to complete the LRSP.

The crash data for the years 2011 through 2015 were analyzed for the LRSP development. Using the data analysis results, as presented in Figure 1, and keeping in mind New York State's SHSP emphasis areas, Chemung County selected the following as the five main emphasis areas:

- Lane departure crashes.
- Intersection safety.
- Pedestrian and bicycle safety.
- Speeding and aggressive driving.
- Age-related crashes.



**Figure 1. Crashes Occurring in Chemung County by Severity and by Type, 2011-2015.**

Using resources from the [FHWA's Office of Safety website](#), the [PEDBIKESAFE website](#), the [CMF Clearinghouse](#), and the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration \(NHTSA\)](#), stakeholders reviewed, discussed, and approved potential groups of countermeasures based on 1) selected emphasis areas, 2) factors contributing to crashes and crash types, and 3) site observations.

Data analysis, including crash history details and systemic prioritization,<sup>1</sup> coupled with proposed safety improvements at specific locations and an assessment of projected cumulative project costs, guided the selection of safety projects included in this plan. By vetting the data analysis and site review findings and by engaging in extensive discussion with stakeholders, the County finalized a list of safety improvement targets that includes 33 urban segments, 45 rural segments, 32 urban unsignalized intersections, and 11 urban signalized intersections.

Chemung County plans to budget approximately \$1,000,000 annually for prioritizing and addressing the improvements recommended in this plan over a 5 year period. In addition, the County may look for opportunities to incorporate recommended safety strategies into already planned projects such as regular maintenance projects or resurfacing projects.

Chemung County will establish and monitor performance measures to assess the effectiveness of the results as the plan is implemented. The County will engage and work together with partner agencies and safety stakeholders to move towards zero deaths. This partnership and collaboration is critical to achieving both New York State's SHSP and Chemung County's safety goals.

<sup>1</sup> A systemic approach to safety involves widely implemented improvements based on high-risk roadway features correlated with specific severe crash types. The proactive approach helps agencies broaden an agency's traffic safety efforts at relatively low cost and is effective in preventing crashes before they happen.

While the LRSP proposes a 5-year implementation plan, the plan is a living document and can be amended if additional information and funds become available. The LRSP will enhance and guide the future of transportation safety efforts in Chemung County, reducing roadway fatalities and injuries and leading to zero deaths.