



Report of the Commissioner of Public Works

York Region Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan Annual Report

1. Recommendation

The Regional Clerk circulates this report to Clerks of local municipalities, York Regional Police, York Region school boards and Ontario Ministry of Transportation.

2. Purpose

York Region Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan (“Plan”) adopts a multi-pronged, context-specific approach, recognizing different safety tools are effective in different environments, including school zones, intersections, rural areas and active construction zones. This report highlights year two results of the multi-year Plan. The Safety Performance Report (Attachment 1) provides an overview of implementation progress and collision trends, and outlines the 2026 action plan.

Key Points:

- Actions taken in 2025 prevented an estimated 287 injuries compared to projections, reducing severe collisions by 10% Region-wide
- Provincial Road Safety Initiatives Fund provides an important opportunity to support implementation of new school zone safety measures to mitigate impacts of the automated speed enforcement ban
- Beyond school zone measures, 20 safety improvements were completed in 2025 and 25 are planned for 2026
- New Vision Zero Traveller Safety Map highlights severe collisions and targeted safety measures
- Developing an advanced, technology-enabled transportation program will strengthen future Regional safety and network performance

3. Background

York Region Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan aims to reduce the number of severe collisions by 10% within five years

York Region, with local municipalities and road safety partners, launched the [York Region Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan 2024-2028](#), approved by Council in [March 2024](#). The Plan adopts a Vision Zero approach, aiming to prevent serious injuries and fatalities, and sets a target to reduce severe collisions by 10% over five years. The Safety Performance Report (Attachment 1) provides an overview of implementation progress and collision trends in year two of the Plan.

Province launched Road Safety Initiatives Fund, providing municipalities funding for traffic-calming measures where automated speed enforcement was previously used

The Province enacted [Bill 56, Building a More Competitive Economy Act, 2025](#), which prohibited municipalities from operating automated speed enforcement (ASE) cameras as of November 14, 2025. To replace ASE programs, the Province created the [Road Safety Initiatives Fund \(RSIF\)](#) to support traffic-calming measures in former ASE locations with funded work to be completed by March 31, 2028.

While the Province strongly encourages physical traffic-calming tools such as speed humps, speed cushions and raised crosswalks, these measures are not suitable on most high-volume arterial roads due to operational and emergency response constraints. New school zone safety measures detailed in Attachment 1 were not part of the original strategy and currently have no dedicated funding. To close this gap, the Region and York Regional Police are developing a joint RSIF application for \$6.45 million, the maximum contribution available to York Region. Securing this funding is essential to delivering school safety measures and sustaining momentum in reducing speed-related collisions and improving driver behaviour in school zones.

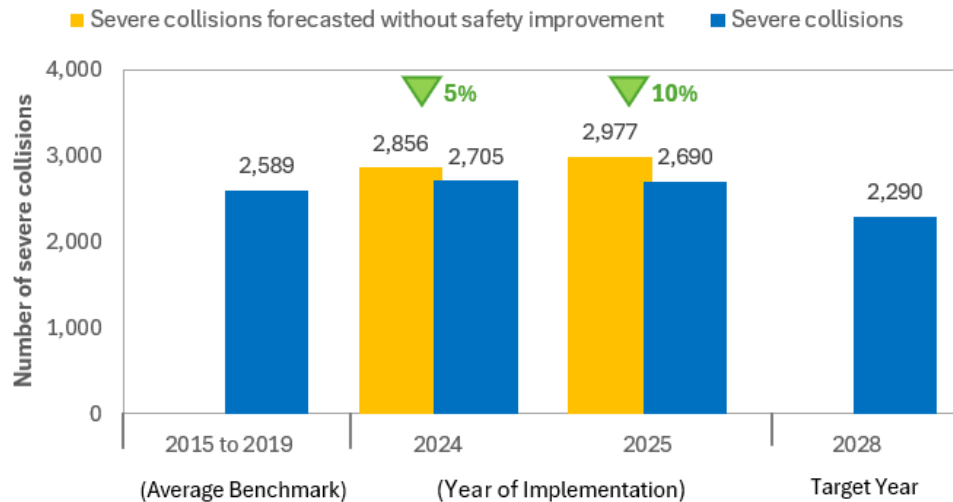
4. Analysis

York Region Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan actions prevented 287 injuries, reducing severe collisions by 10% Region-wide compared to forecasts

The latest collision data tells a clear story that the Region's safety strategy is working (Figure 1). Before implementing the Plan, Region averaged 2,589 severe collisions per year. During first year, collisions held steady at 2,705 and in second year dipped slightly to 2,690 while traffic continued to grow. Without the Plan, 2025 severe collisions were projected to climb to 2,977. Instead, 287 fewer severe collisions were observed, a meaningful reduction in harm on

Regional roads. These results show targeted investments deliver measurable, life- saving outcomes for communities.

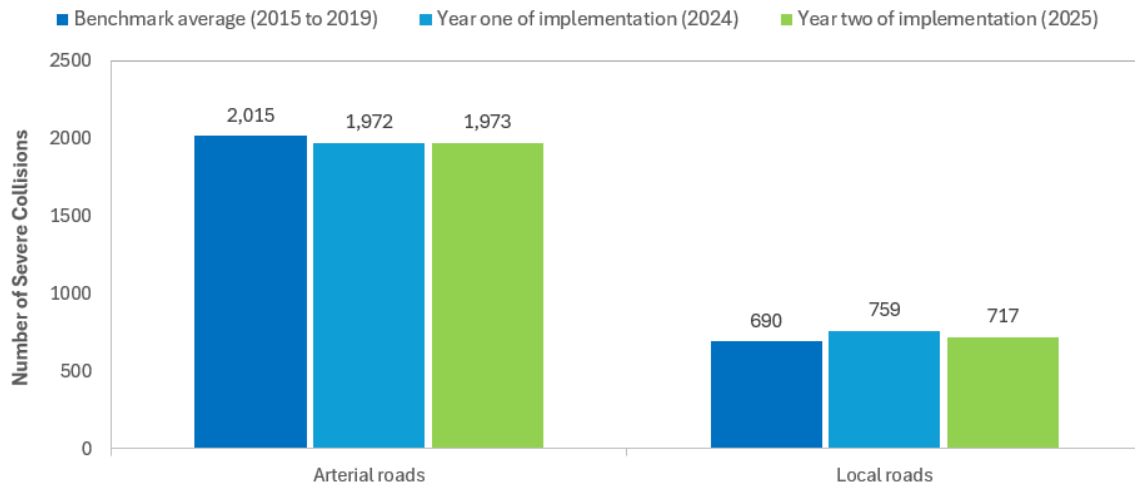
Figure 1
Average Annual Predicted and Observed Severe Collisions



Severe collisions on arterial roads reduced by 2% compared to benchmark

Looking at the data by road type (Figure 2), results reaffirm the Region’s safety strategy is delivering meaningful progress. On arterial roads where highest volumes and risks exist, severe collisions dropped by 2% in first year of the Plan and then held steady, showing sustained improvement. On local roads, a 10% rise was observed in the first year, but a strong 5% reduction the following year, demonstrating this approach, along with initiatives in local Vision Zero plans, is working.

Figure 2
Average Annual Collisions by Road Classification



Severe collisions involving vulnerable road users and at intersections continued to rise during the first two years of Plan implementation. This is a clear signal protecting people walking, cycling and using mobility devices remains one of the Region’s highest priorities. Strengthening intersection safety has the power to dramatically cut severe injuries among pedestrians and cyclists.

Provincial Road Safety Initiatives Fund provides an important opportunity to support implementation of new school zone safety measures

The Region remains committed to protecting vulnerable road users, especially children, in school zones. A new suite of targeted school safety measures has been developed to help mitigate impacts of ASE loss, including:

- **Oversized school-zone speed limit signs** installed to increase driver awareness and **flashing beacons** to highlight school-zones
- **Fixed digital speed-display boards** providing real-time speed feedback
- **New pedestrian and traffic signal installations** to improve safe crossings
- **Accessibility upgrades** including new accessible pedestrian signals
- **Targeted roadside enforcement** by York Regional Police during school arrival/dismissal times

Beyond school zone measures, 20 safety improvements were completed in 2025 and 25 are planned for 2026

These safety improvements cover a wide range of countermeasures on arterial roads. Table 1 highlights completed and planned safety improvements and number of locations by focus area. A full list of completed and planned safety improvements is provided in Attachment 1.

Table 1
2025 Completed and 2026 Planned Safety Improvements by Focus Area

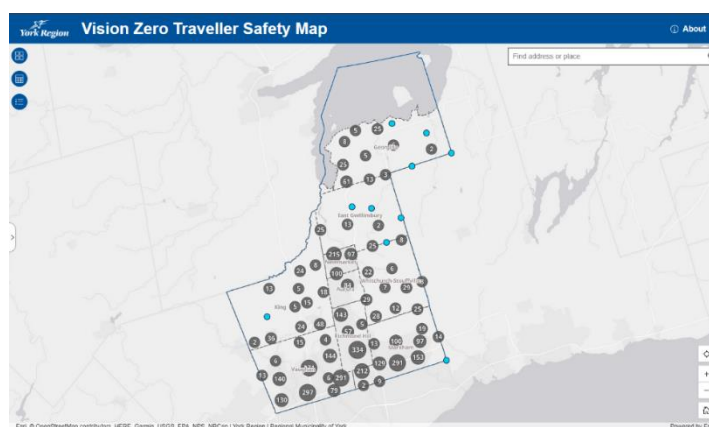
Safety Improvements by Focus Area	2025 Completed Locations	2026 Planned Locations
Vulnerable Road User Safety		
Active school travel program	8	6
Active transportation facilities (multi-use path/cycling facilities/sidewalks/crossrides, bike signal)	12	19
Intersection roadside protection	-	2
New Community Safety Zones	-	23
New Senior Safety Zones and extended walking times	-	11
Pedestrian crossovers (PXOs)	-	8
Pedestrian head start (leading pedestrian interval)	-	2
Pedestrian-level illumination	1	5
Right turn on red restriction	-	3
Rural community gateway treatments	7	-
Tightening curb radius	1	19
Intersection Safety Enhancements		
Added left turn lane	-	1
New all-way stop control	1	2

Safety Improvements by Focus Area	2025 Completed Locations	2026 Planned Locations
Enhanced pavement markings (dragon's teeth, SLOW DOWN, Do Not Block, etc.)	40	31
Fully protected left turn signal phases	4	3
Intersection accessibility upgrades	13	16
Illumination improvement at intersection or railway crossing	-	4
Left turn shadow lane	-	5
New traffic and pedestrian signals	15	12
Overhead flashing beacons	6	4
Railway crossing reviews	4	-
Roundabout feasibility studies	10	-
Roundabout construction	-	1
Strategic turn restrictions/diversions	7	2
Automated Enforcement		
Fixed automated speed enforcement cameras installations	19	program discontinued
New red light cameras installations	15	-
Road Safety Improvements		
Construction Zone safety enhancements (temporary speed limit reductions, temporary turn prohibitions and piloting orange pavement markings)	-	1
High friction pavement installations	340 lane/km	370 lane/km
New guide rail installations	5 km	7 km
Safety campaigns	15	17
Targeted enforcement	various	various

New Vision Zero map highlights severe collisions and targeted safety measures

A new Vision Zero Traveller Safety Map (Figure 3) is being developed for public use, providing a transparent view of where severe collisions occurred and where targeted measures have been implemented. The tool allows users to query collision data by type, location, road user involved, road user age and time frame, supporting evidence-based decision-making and greater community awareness. Map will be available on York Region's webpage once finalized.

Figure 3
Vision Zero Traveller Safety Map



Developing an advanced, technology-enabled transportation system to strengthen future Regional safety and network performance

To support safer, more efficient and predictable travel across the Region, staff are developing a comprehensive technology-enabled transportation system to improve Regional safety, congestion management and operational reliability. Key initiatives include regulatory digital signs to enhance driver compliance, adaptive signal coordination on congested corridors, expanded variable message signs for real-time traveller information and video analytics to identify near miss incidents. System resilience will be strengthened through uninterrupted power supply units at critical intersections. A pilot will evaluate two-way information sharing between vehicles and traffic signals. Subject to approved resourcing and funding through the multi-year budget process, as well as potential external funding opportunities, these advancements are proposed for delivery in the next term of Council. They will be reflected in future annual updates to the Plan.

Plan supports Regional Council's vision for strong, caring and safe communities

Traveller Safety is a focus area identified in the Region's [Transportation Master Plan](#), a long-term blueprint for the transportation network. The Transportation Master Plan takes direction

from York Region's Vision and Strategic Plan, outlining Council's commitment to strong, caring and safe communities and reflecting the Region's strategic priorities.

5. Financial Considerations

While this report has no direct fiscal impact, ongoing implementation of the York Region Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan requires sustained investment. The approved 2026 budget includes operating and capital funding for various safety initiatives, such as pavement markings, signage and safety audits, and capital improvements, including intersections, signals, medians and pedestrian crossings.

The ASE ban has eliminated a key revenue stream previously reinvested into road safety. In response, the Province introduced a Road Safety Initiatives Fund to help municipalities shift from ASE to alternative safety measures. The Region and York Regional Police are developing a \$6.45 million application to accelerate new safety initiatives in school zones to maintain momentum towards Vision Zero.

6. Local Impact

York Region Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan reflects a coordinated, forward-looking commitment to road safety, engaging and collaborating with all nine municipalities, police, schools and community partners. Several municipalities have already established road safety strategies or are actively developing their own Vision Zero plans, which advance the Region's broader road safety objectives. The Region remains committed to working collaboratively with municipalities to support implementation of local initiatives, ensuring alignment, maximizing impact and strengthening delivery across the transportation network.

The Region will also continue collaborating with municipalities and school boards to improve traffic safety by guiding school locations away from major arterial roads, limiting direct access to these corridors and updating development guidelines to prioritize public safety in future planning.

7. Conclusion

York Region's Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan continues to deliver measurable results, reducing severe collisions and preventing hundreds of injuries across the network. With 20 safety improvements completed in 2025 and more than 25 planned for 2026 at more than 200 locations, the Region is demonstrating continued leadership in advancing a safer, more resilient transportation system.

The Region and York Regional Police are developing a \$6.45 million joint Road Safety Initiatives Fund application to accelerate new safety initiatives in school zones to maintain momentum towards achieving Vision Zero. To strengthen transparency and evidence-based

decision- making, the Region is launching a new Vision Zero Traveller Safety Map, highlighting severe collision locations and the safety actions taken. Further advancements include the development of a modern, technology- enabled transportation program that enhances long- term safety and network performance.

For more information on this report, please contact Joseph Petrunaro, Director Roads, Traffic and Fleet at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75220. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Recommended by:



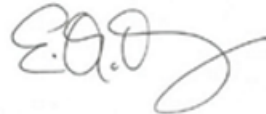
Kyle Catney

General Manager, Operations and Services



Laura McDowell, P.Eng.

Commissioner of Public Works



Approved for Submission:

Erin Mahoney

Chief Administrative Officer

April 22, 2026
17024295

Attachment 1 – Safety Performance Report (17146478)