

**Michigan Senior Mobility and Safety
Action Plan 2016-2018
Updated July 2016**



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<http://www.michigan.gov/gtsac>

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

This document has been prepared by the members of the Senior Mobility Work Group (SMWG). It is considered a living document, and is a compilation of activities and initiatives to address Safe Senior Mobility in the state of Michigan.

The Senior Mobility Work Group is part of a network of ad hoc committees comprised of local, state, federal and private partners, working in collaboration with the Governor’s Traffic Safety Advisory Commission (GTSAC) to identify traffic safety challenges and comprehensive solutions. The result of these efforts is the production of the State’s Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). While the strategies identified in the State’s SHSP have been approved by the GTSAC, the activities and initiatives identified in this Action Plan, as well as any opinions or conclusions expressed, are those of the individual SMWG member agencies and not necessarily those of the GTSAC.

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Introduction

Michigan has an extensive senior transportation network. Every county has some form of senior transportation service which includes public transit providers, specialized service agencies, or volunteer driver services, all focused on keeping Michigan's aging population mobile. There also are a number of very innovative programs across the state demonstrating daily that senior transportation can be successfully delivered.

In 2015, there were 1,390,210 older licensed drivers (age 65 and older) in Michigan, representing 19.4 percent of all licensed Michigan drivers. The number of older licensed drivers in Michigan has increased 29.39 percent in the past 10 years (2006 – 1,074,434 senior licensed drivers and 2015 – 1,390,210 senior licensed drivers) while the total number of Michigan drivers has decreased 1.11 percent (2005 – 7,217,208 total licensed drivers and 2015 – 7,158,316 total licensed drivers).

The focus of the Senior Mobility Action Plan is to **reduce the rate of senior driver fatalities and incapacitating injuries**. Because of the increase in the aging population, **reducing the number of crashes, fatalities, and incapacitating injuries is particularly challenging** for this group. The number of licensed drivers over 65 is expected to increase for the next two decades, which is why the rate of senior driver **fatalities and incapacitating injuries** will be measured.

The Senior Mobility Work Group (SMWG) proposes to increase viable mobility options and awareness for seniors, help older adults maintain mobility regardless of driving status, increase the scope and effectiveness of alternative transportation options available, assist in maintaining safe mobility for as long as possible, assist with planning for a day when driving may no longer be possible (driving retirement), and to increase seniors' knowledge of transportation options available.

Goals

Due to advances in medicine and lifestyle, as well as the demographics of the baby boomer phenomenon, the number of senior drivers and the miles traveled are expected to increase every year. Therefore, absent any intervention, the reasonable expectation is senior crashes, including severe crashes, will increase every year. Given that discussion, any crash reduction in this subgroup of driving population, even holding the line on crashes, would be an improved outcome over current expectations. Instead it is proposed to reduce the ratio of senior driver fatalities and serious injury crashes to number of senior licensed drivers.

Crash goals for Michigan by 2018:*

- Reduce the ratio of senior driver fatalities to number of senior licensed drivers from 0.013 in 2015 to 0.012 by 2018.
- Reduce the ratio of senior driver A injuries (incapacitating) to number of senior licensed drivers from .060 in 2015 to .049 by 2018.

*Ratios are calculated using 5 years of data.

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Senior Driver Crashes

Year	Senior Driver Crashes	KA Injuries Resulting from Senior Driver Crashes	Fatalities Resulting from Senior Driver Crashes	A Injuries Resulting from Senior Driver Crashes	# of Senior Licensed Drivers
2006	36,997	1,187	183	1,004	1,074,436
2007	37,820	1,223	195	1,028	1,108,958
2008	37,651	1,250	203	1,047	1,125,966
2009	37,486	1,177	175	1,002	1,169,999
2010	37,965	1,102	191	911	1,185,810
2011	38,555	1,050	177	873	1,212,019
2012	38,896	1,135	199	936	1,259,615
2013	41,762	1,094	236	858	1,307,266
2014	44,799	1,104	190	914	1,360,348
2015	45,864	1,017	182	835	1,390,210

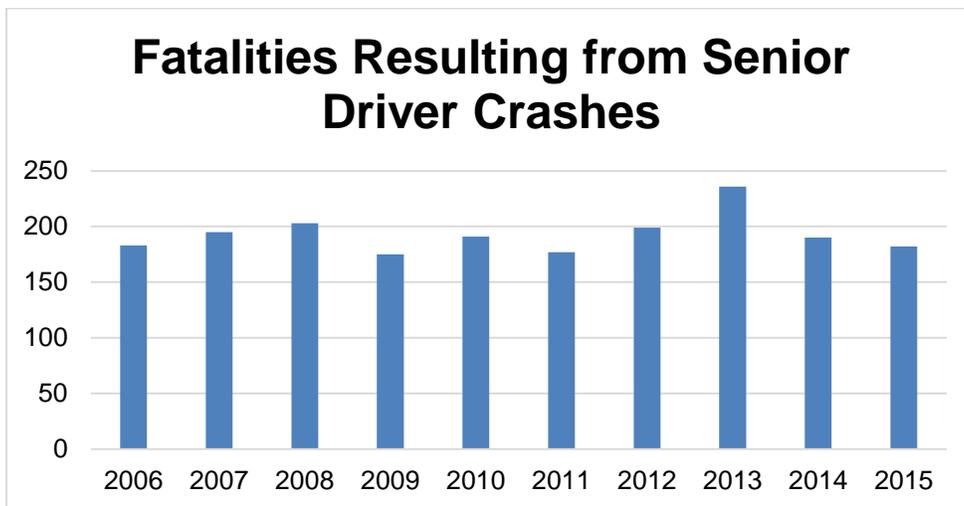
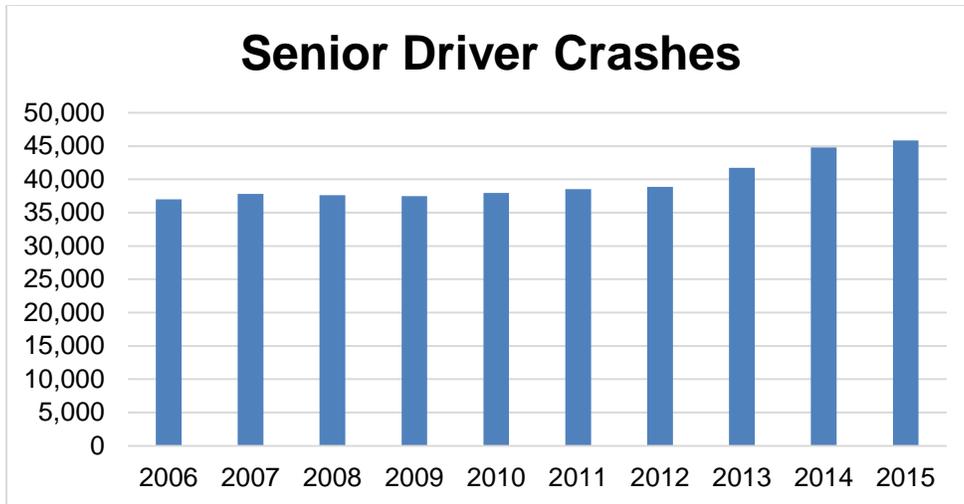
Senior Driver Fatalities and Serious Injuries

Year	Ratio of Senior Driver KA Crashes to Total KA Crashes	Ratio of Senior Driver Crashes to Total Crashes	Ratio of Licenced Senior Drivers to Total Licenced Drivers	Ratio of Senior Driver Crashes to # of Senior Licensed Drivers	Ratio of Senior-Involved KA Injuries to # of Senior Licensed Drivers	Ratio of Senior-Involved Fatalities to # of Senior Licensed Drivers	Ratio of Senior-Involved A Injuries to # of Senior Licensed Drivers
2006	0.133	0.117	0.148	0.034	0.110	0.017	0.093
2007	0.138	0.117	0.155	0.034	0.110	0.018	0.093
2008	0.155	0.119	0.159	0.033	0.111	0.018	0.093
2009	0.154	0.129	0.165	0.032	0.101	0.015	0.086
2010	0.154	0.135	0.168	0.032	0.093	0.016	0.077
2011	0.152	0.136	0.172	0.032	0.087	0.015	0.072
2012	0.169	0.142	0.178	0.031	0.090	0.016	0.074
2013	0.170	0.144	0.184	0.032	0.084	0.018	0.066
2014	0.180	0.150	0.191	0.033	0.081	0.014	0.067
2015	0.172	0.154	0.194	0.033	0.073	0.013	0.060

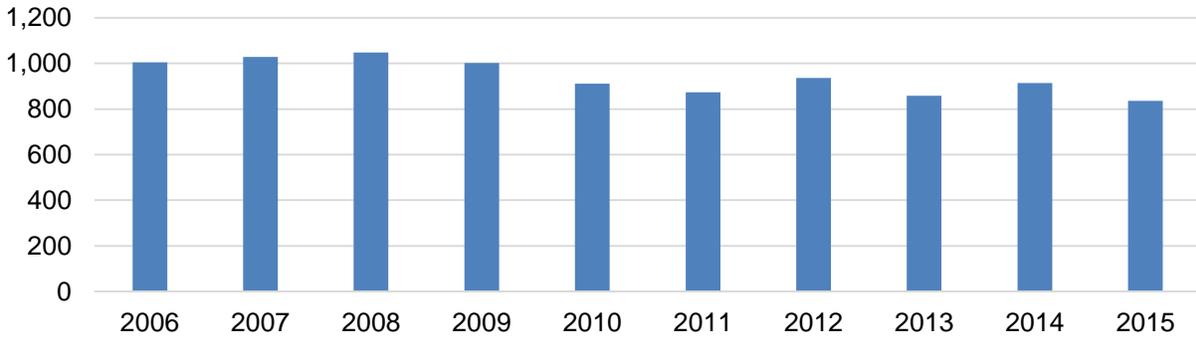
* "K" is a fatality; "A" injury is an incapacitating injury.

A senior crash is any crash involving a driver, pedestrian or cyclist age 65 or older.

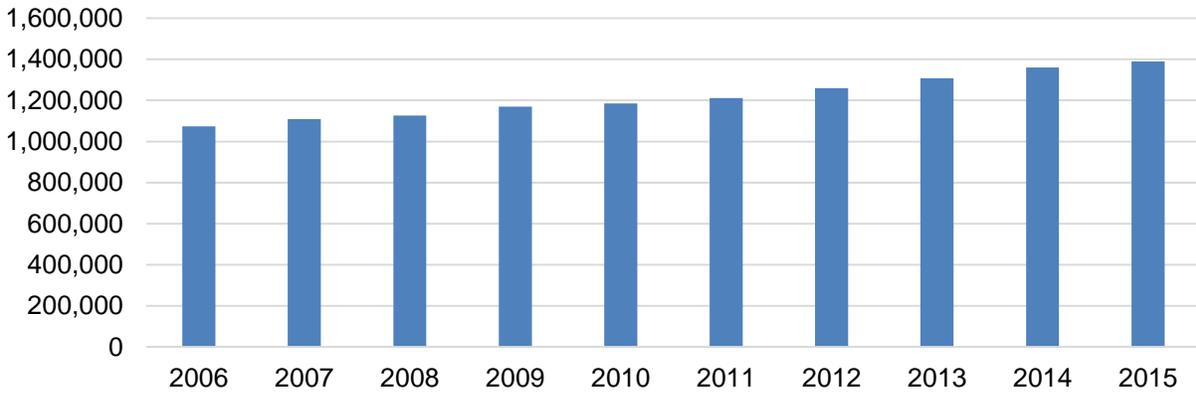
Source: University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI)



A Injuries Resulting from Senior Driver Crashes



Number of Senior Licensed Drivers



Strategies

Promote and sponsor research in Michigan on senior mobility issues

Objective #1

The agencies involved in the work group will routinely identify the need for research projects on senior mobility, which can be completed or funded by the agencies involved in older adult mobility in Michigan.

Short-Term (1-2 years) Activities:

Starting in FY 2016 MDOT will fund research on evaluating Michigan older adult crashes with the existing roadway features.

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact: Safety Programs

Investigate alternative transportation needs and issues, particularly gaps between services needed and services provided within Michigan.

Lead Agency: MDOT, Passenger Transportation

Contact: AAA-1B

Ongoing Activities:

The SMWG continues to seek out and identify current research opportunities within the State of Michigan and worldwide on senior mobility issues, and communicates them to other stakeholders.

Lead Agency: SMWG

Contact: All Participants

MDOT will continue to evaluate the need to fund research on senior mobility issues.

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact: Safety Programs

Plan for an aging mobility and transportation dependent population

Objective #2

Encourage agencies to consider the aging population when planning their communities. Also encourage agencies to take into account how transportation dependent their population is, and how that should be taken into account in the planning process.

Short-term (1-2 years) Activities:

Invite a Transportation Planner to join the SMWG.

Lead Agency: MDOT, SEMCOG (Southeast Michigan Council of Governments)

Contact: Office of Passenger Transportation/Plan Implementation Group

Ongoing Activities:

All agencies of the SMWG will identify applicable agencies and invite the agencies to be part of the work group to further enhance the housing and land use issues within Michigan.

Lead Agency: SMWG

Contact: All Participants

The SMWG will continue promoting the use of the following resources:

- [Michigan Traffic Crash Facts – Michigantrafficcrashfacts.org](http://Michigantrafficcrashfacts.org)
- [Safe Drivers Smart Options – Keys to Lifelong Mobility – Michigan.gov/agingdriver](http://Michigan.gov/agingdriver)
- [Michigan’s Guide for Aging Drivers and Their Families – Michigan.gov/agingdriver](http://Michigan.gov/agingdriver)

Lead Agency: SMWG

Contact: All Participants

Promote the Safe Drivers Smart Options strategy and establish brand recognition of the Safe Drivers Smart Options logo and website at Michigan.gov/agingdriver.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

The SMWG and partner agencies will continue to work on educating state and local governments on the importance of creating communities that are senior friendly.

Lead Agency: SMWG

Contact: All Participants

In 2014 the Aging Road User Interstate Collaboration Group was formed. Quarterly meetings are held where state traffic safety professionals share tips, materials and ideas related to older driver safety. MDOT, MDOS, and OHSP will continue to participate.

Lead Agency: MDOT, MDOS, OHSP

Contact: Safety Programs/Traffic Safety Division/Planning and Administration.

<p>Promote the design and operation of Michigan roadways with features that better accommodate the special needs of older drivers and pedestrians</p>
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Objective #3

Promote the design and operation of Michigan roadways with features that better accommodate the special needs of older drivers and pedestrians. Review any new processes for improving the design and operation of our roadways, and encourage all agencies to adopt those that are shown to be feasible in Michigan.

Short Term (1-2 years) Activities:

MDOT will adopt a policy to install back plates at east-west signal approaches and on all approaches at high-crash intersections, and will encourage similar action at local agencies.

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact: Safety Programs

Ongoing Activities:

MDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will continue to offer power point presentations to local and statewide audiences on engineering enhancements showing the benefits for the senior driver and pedestrian.

Lead Agency: MDOT and FHWA
Contact: Safety Programs

MDOT will continue to support actions by the GTSAC Traffic Safety Engineering Action Team to provide for easier navigation and safer operations at intersections through design and operational improvements.

Lead Agency: MDOT
Contact: Safety Programs

MDOT will continue to review and adopt what is replicable from the FHWA *Older Driver Highway Design Handbook*, and any other older driver best practices that are identified outside the Handbook. MDOT is reviewing the 2014 FHWA Handbook for Designing Roadway for the Aging Population to determine what should and can be adopted in Michigan.

Lead Agency: MDOT
Contact: Safety Programs

<p>Develop and/or enhance programs to identify older drivers at increased risk of crashes and take appropriate action</p>
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Objective #4

Enable older drivers to retain as much mobility through driving as is consistent with safety on the road for themselves, passengers, and other road users.

Short-term (1-2 years) Activities:

The Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP), along with partner agencies, will develop tip cards for law enforcement officers with information on medically at-risk drivers and step-by-step instructions to make referrals to the licensing authority.

Lead Agency: OHSP
Contact: Planning and Administration

OHSP, along with MSP, will seek to provide and coordinate Law Enforcement training pertaining to older drivers.

Lead Agency: OHSP, MSP
Contact: Planning and Administration/Traffic Services

Encourage Michigan law enforcement officers to use the Safe Drivers Smart Options website for educational opportunities.

Lead Agency: OHSP, MSP
Contact: Planning and Administration/ Traffic Services

OHSP will continue to coordinate one to two sessions at the Michigan Traffic Safety Summit on Older Driver Safety.

Lead Agency: OHSP
Contact: Planning and Administration

Develop recommendations on how the *Driver Fitness Medical Guidelines* developed by NHTSA should be used in assessing drivers.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Continue to administer the Safe Drivers Smart Options website.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Explore the development of a capability for law enforcement to submit an electronic *Request for Driver Evaluation* (OC-88) and make recommendations as to its online location and promotion of its use.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Develop educational resources tailored for law enforcement, medical professionals, and family and friends about how to refer at-risk older drivers to the Department of State for driver reexamination and the assessment process that is used. Consider posting these new resources to the Safe Drivers Smart Options web site.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Seek opportunities for providing older driver safety training to medical professionals.

Lead Agency: SMWG

Contact: All Participants

Develop and implement a senior mobility message for the MDOS Motor Vehicle Network, to air in SOS branch offices in December 2016. This will be in conjunction with Older Driver Safety Awareness Week, which is December 5-9, 2016.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Explore the need to identify in-vehicle advanced technologies shown to increase driver safety, such as forward collision warning and blind spot warning, and increase driver awareness of them.

Lead Agency: SMWG

Contact: All Participants

Ongoing Activities:

At driver's license renewal, Michigan drivers are screened and may be required to have their physician and/or optometrist submit a report to the department for further evaluation and may be required to appear for a driver reexamination.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

The *Request for Driver Evaluation* referral program provides a process for medical professionals, law enforcement, family members and friends, and concerned citizens to make referrals to the MDOS of drivers whom they believe may be unsafe to drive. Information and forms are located on the MDOS Web site at Michigan.gov/sos. The MDOS presents information about the *Request for Driver Evaluation* process to law enforcement agencies, medical professionals, and other groups upon request.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Drivers may be programmatically identified and required to appear for a driver reexamination administered by the MDOS if (regardless of age):

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- Involved in three or more crashes resulting in injury or property damage during the last two years.
- Involved in a fatal crash.

- Twelve or more points on his or her driver record within two years.
- Convicted of violating the terms, restrictions or conditions of the driver's license.

Lead Agency: MDOS
Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Individuals may return their driver's license to a Secretary of State (SOS) office and obtain a state identification card. This identification card is free for those who are legally blind, age 65 or older, or have lost their privilege to drive due to a physical or mental disability.

Lead Agency: MDOS
Contact: Traffic Safety Division

The Michigan State Police Community Service Troopers and the Michigan Department of State Traffic Safety Programs Section each have presentations for aging drivers with a focus on lifelong mobility. Presentations are available for use in community outreach and education such as senior centers and senior fairs.

Lead Agency: MSP, MDOS
Contact: Grants and Community Services/Traffic Safety Division

Support the *Michigan's Guide for Aging Drivers and Their Families* publication including recommending revisions, exploring additional distribution points, and obtaining funding for re-print, etc. Copies may be ordered either individually or in bulk, at no cost, through the Michigan Department of State.

Lead: MDOS, MDOT, OHSP
Contact: Safety Programs/Traffic Safety Division/Planning and Administration

Continue to attend events, meetings, conferences, etc. and present and/or distribute information related to aging driver issues and programs.

Lead Agency: All
Contact: SMWG

Encourage senior-friendly transportation options

Objective #5

Assist drivers and families or caregivers in making decisions that make use of safe transportation options and help sustain the individual's self-determination, dignity, and quality of life.

Short-Term (1-2 years) Activities:

Continue to support and facilitate CarFit events in Michigan. Explore opportunities to expand to Northern Lower and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Lead Agency: Michigan Trauma Coalition (MTC), AARP, OHSP
Contact: Beaumont Injury Prevent/Assoc. Director and Driver Safety Coord./Planning and Admin

Support the Older Driver Education and Safe Mobility Planning Project ending September 30, 2016. The MDOS is leading the effort to coordinate the development of an executive steering committee, an administrative/operational support structure, and other activities that are needed to sustain the Safe Driver Smart Options strategy.

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Lead Agency: MDOS
Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Promote transportation options, including transit, for non-emergency medical transportation. Partner with DHHS, transit agencies and associations, and mobility managers to ensure citizens have accessible transportation available.

Lead Agencies: MDHHS, MDOT
Contact: Medical Services Administration, Passenger Transportation

Ongoing Activities:

AARP will continue to provide the AARP Smart Driver Safety Course.

Lead Agency: AARP
Contact: Driver Safety Coordinator

AARPs "We Need to Talk" program will continue to be promoted and utilized.

Lead Agency: AARP
Contact: Driver Safety Coordinator

Continue to identify resources available to help older drivers maintain, limit, or retire from driving, and develop recommendations on how to promote them.

Lead Agency: SMWG
Contact: All Participants

Promote the Area Agency on Aging 1-B (AAA1-B) "Myride2 Mobility Management Service".

Lead Agency: AAA1-B
Contact: Mobility Manager

The MDOS provides information to drivers whose driver's license is suspended or revoked regarding local resources and contact information for alternative transportation options. A listing of Alternative Transportation Services/Transit Authorities by County is maintained and available at Michigan.gov/sos.

Lead Agency: MDOS
Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Provide recommendations related to senior mobility and safety legislation

Objective #6

Make recommendations for improved legislation as it relates to senior mobility and safety.

Short-term (1-2 years) Activities:

AAA1-B's mobility management service, Myride2, continues to provide transportation options and older driver information, the Regional Elder Mobility-Alliance (REMA brings together aging and disability advocates to promote public transit, and the new Regional Transit Authority.

Lead Agency: MDOT and AAA1-B
Contact: Office of Passenger Transportation/Mobility Manager

Support efforts to grow Regional Transit Authority in Southeast Michigan. MDOT/Office of Passenger Transportation assists RTA and the RTA Citizen's Advisory Council activities.

Lead Agency: MDOT and AAA1-B
Contact: Office of Passenger Transportation/Mobility Manager

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Myride2 service continues to grow in southeast Michigan. Support efforts to ensure support is available throughout the region and continue to support mobility management services.

Lead Agency: MDOT and AAA1-B

Contact: Office of Passenger Transportation/Mobility Manager

Continue supporting *Complete Streets* Legislation. MDOT/Office of Passenger Transportation continues to support and provide guidance on *Complete Streets*.

Lead Agency: MDOT and AARP

Contact: Office of Passenger Transportation/Mobility Manager

DOES THIS STAY IN THE PLAN – LISA?

Continue to develop partnerships with the medical community regarding physician reporting of drivers needing evaluation.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Explore opportunities for regional transportation throughout Michigan.

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact: Office of Passenger Transportation

<p>Improve communication and coordination among partners at the state, regional and local levels to enhance senior mobility</p>
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Objective #7

Improve communication among partners and among seniors at all levels to enhance mobility for all citizens of Michigan, especially seniors.

Short-Term (5+ years) Activities:

The Michigan Aging and Adult Services Agency will serve as a conduit between the aging network and statewide efforts to enhance senior mobility by sharing resources and information, relevant data, publicizing related events, and providing input on policies, practices and proposed legislation affecting senior mobility.

Lead Agency: MAAS

Contact: Aging and Adult Services

Ongoing Activities:

The Regional Elder Mobility Alliance (REMA) will continue to meet and support public engagement in transit planning in southeast Michigan. REMA will assist “*A Coalition for Transit*” and the RTA as needed to make sure seniors and people with disabilities needs are taken into account in the Master Plan. REMA will also continue to advocate for regional coordinated transportation in Southeast Michigan.

Lead Agency: AAA-1B

Contact: Mobility Manager

Acronyms

AAA	American Automobile Association
AAA1-B	Area Agency on Aging 1-B
AARP	American Association of Retired Persons
AMA	American Medical Association
AOTA	American Occupational Therapy Association
CME	Continuing Medical Education
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
GTSAC	Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission
MAAS	Michigan Aging and Adult Services
MCOLES	Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards
MDCH	Michigan Department of Community Health
MDOS	Michigan Department of State
MDOT	Michigan Department of Transportation
MSP	Michigan State Police
MTA	Michigan Trauma Coalition
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
OHSP	Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning
SOS	Secretary of State
SEMCOG	Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
SHSP	Strategic Highway Safety Plan
SMWG	Senior Mobility Work Group
UMTRI	University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute

Acknowledgements

The Senior Mobility and Safety Action Team is comprised of members from the following organizations:

AAA Michigan

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)

Area Agency on Aging 1-B

Beaumont Hospital

Central Michigan University DEER Center

Department of Health and Human Services

Elder Law of Michigan

Federal Highway Administration

Mason County Sheriff's Office

Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning

Michigan Department of State

Michigan Department of Transportation

Michigan State Police

Michigan Aging and Adult Services

Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

Traffic Improvement Association of Michigan

University of Michigan Transportation Research Center