

Slow Streets, Safe Links: Improving Urban and Suburban Arterials

Workshop Description: – Urban and Suburban Arterials are frequently called upon to provide high levels of access, serve the needs of multiple modes, and provide high levels of mobility and speed. These conflicting demands on the facility frequently result in safety challenges. These street-road hybrids (stroads) are a fundamental conflict of functions that result in many safety challenges, as evidenced by many cities’ high injury networks being comprised of these types of arterials.

This workshop builds upon the principles of the safe system approach and complete streets. It leverages managing speeds and conflicts to achieve a safe system which prioritizes safety, comfort, and connectivity for all users. Participants will learn to identify stroads and use a framework of “designing down” to achieve slow integrated streets for all modes and users, or “designing up” to allow higher speeds while providing separation between modes and to carefully manage conflicts that will occur. Choosing to design up or design down will enable practitioners to identify, prioritize, and implement projects that address their agency’s greatest safety challenges.

Who Should Attend? – All state and local government agency personnel who plan, design, and operate urban and suburban arterials and other traffic safety specialists. Those with an understanding of the safe system approach and are wondering “what’s next?”

Learning Objectives: By the completion of the workshop, participants will be able:

- Distinguish the difference between a street, a road, and a stroad.
- Understand the strategic goals, limitations, and issues within each.
- Communicate the value of a stroad remediation mindset to their peers, leaders, and subordinates.
- Recognize the roles that speed management and conflict management have in generating a safe system.
- Understand design frameworks of "designing up" or "designing down" to address stroad challenges in identifying, prioritizing, and implementing projects.

Duration: Typically one working day, with a total of 6 hours of instruction/contact time.

Agenda:

1. Introduction
2. What is a STROAD, and what do we do about it?
3. Speed management strategies

Lunch Break

4. Conflict management strategies
5. Case Studies and Exercise
6. Conclusion

Adjourn