



AAA Foundation's United States Road Assessment Program Expands

Program Aims to Focus Road Improvements and Enforcement on Highest Risk Road Segments

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety's United States Road Assessment Program (usRAP) announced plans to expand its pilot program into Illinois, Kentucky, New Mexico, and Utah. The usRAP program maps the relative risk of road segments based on available crash using a unique protocol first tested in Europe's EuroRAP program. These risk maps are then used by state and local road agencies to guide strategic investments in highway infrastructure and the allocation of enforcement resources, as well as benchmark progress over time. Designed to foster collaboration, usRAP is now active in eight states. The long-term plan envisions expanding the pilot into a fully operational program across the country, which will lead to fewer deaths and serious-injury crashes on our nation's road network.

"We are delighted to be collaborating with these state departments of transportation to enhance their road safety efforts," said Peter Kissinger, President and CEO of the AAA Foundation. "Working together we can make a difference and reduce the risks to the motoring public."

In the recently completed usRAP pilots in Florida and New Jersey, both state Departments of Transportation pilot tested usRAP to enhance ongoing safety management programs, which included confirming the location of high crash road segments and identifying road segments for comprehensive engineering studies. Those pilots also provided guidance for state police to better target enforcement strategies, as well as the enhancement of federally-required state reports to identify the five percent of public roads that have the most serious traffic safety needs.

Implementation of usRAP will reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on U.S. roads.



The usRAP program is very timely as recent Federal mandates have placed new emphasis on evidence-based safety management and transparency of the decision-making process on all public roads. “These tools will be invaluable for state, county, and local engineers across the country looking to maximize the safety benefits from their limited resources,” said Roger Wentz, President and CEO, American Traffic Safety Services Association. “We think that usRAP is such a valuable tool that we recommend it as the data standard for planning the effective use of Highway Safety Improvement Program funds.”

Pilot programs have already been completed Florida, Iowa, Michigan, and New Jersey. Similar mapping already exists throughout much of Europe and Australia.

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usRAP is a program of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety and is affiliated with iRAP, the International Road Assessment Program, along with EuroRAP, the European Road Assessment Program, and AusRAP, the Australian Road Assessment Program.

Established in 1947 by AAA, the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety is an independent, publicly funded, 501(c)(3) charitable research and educational organization. The AAA Foundation’s mission is to prevent traffic deaths and injuries by conducting research into their causes and by educating the public about strategies to prevent crashes and reduce injuries when they do occur. The usRAP Phase I and Phase II reports are available online at www.usRAP.us.