

## Goal: Improve Rail Crossing Safety

### Objective 1.1: Reduce Hazards Based on Driver/Pedestrian Behavior

#### Strategies

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- Identify locations with the highest number of highway-rail grade crossing incidents and develop recommendations to solve challenges.
- Create a statewide list of grade crossing closure and separation needs.
- Develop and deploy statewide educational campaigns to improve awareness and knowledge of highway-rail grade crossing safety.
- Partner with law enforcement on safety blitzes in areas with a high number of highway-rail grade crossing incidents
- Analyze the effectiveness of fees and penalties to deter unsafe behaviors at highway-rail grade crossings

### Objective 1.2: Eliminate Humped Crossings

#### Strategies

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- Identify locations with humped crossings via desktop, field, and data reviews, and develop recommendations to solve challenges
- Prioritize humped crossing recommendations and initiatives for implementation
- Establish a process for reporting incidents of vehicles stalled on tracks and integrating those reports into the rail crossing inventory
- Develop guidance on how to recognize a humped crossing and work with railroad companies and impacted roadway jurisdictions to coordinate track maintenance and identify any crossings of concern.
- Provide all identified humped crossing locations with appropriate signage as part of compliance with new MUTCD standards
- Develop and deploy statewide educational campaigns to improve awareness and knowledge of the dangers of humped crossings targeting drivers of vehicle types most often impacted

### Objective 1.3: Mitigate Risks Associated with Traffic Queuing

#### Strategies

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- Reduce redundant crossings by closing five crossings a year and reducing net crossing openings to zero.
- Address preemption issues in FDOT standards and manuals.
- Reduce the number of vehicles stopping on the tracks or in the foul zone by implementing clearer signals, signage, and pavement markings at railroad crossings.
- Develop and deploy countermeasures to eliminate incorrect turns onto tracks.

## Objective 1.4: Reduce Blocked Crossings and Provide Rapid Notification

### Strategies

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- Identify areas with blocked crossing issues and work with railroads to resolve.
- Identify opportunities to leverage emerging technology to avoid traffic congestion.

## Goal: Enhance Trespass Prevention and Enforcement

### Objective 2.1: Reduce Hazards Based on Human Behavior

#### Strategies

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- Identify locations with the highest number of trespassing incidents (not at highway-rail crossings) and develop recommendations to solve challenges.
- Prioritize recommendations from trespassing pilot studies and initiatives for implementation.
- Perform research and/or studies to test the effectiveness of trespass prevention countermeasures.
- Develop and deploy statewide educational campaigns to improve awareness and knowledge of rail safety (not at highway-rail crossings).
- Develop and deploy statewide educational campaigns targeting rail-related suicide prevention.
- Develop and deploy training targeting rail-related suicide prevention and crisis counseling.
- Partner with law enforcement on safety blitzes in areas with a high number of trespassing incidents (not at highway-rail crossings)

## Goal: Develop and Implement New Rail Crossing Standards

### Objective 3.1: Establish New Standards Validated with Industry Knowledge

#### Strategies

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- Develop a statewide rail crossing manual to outline new standards that go above and beyond federal requirements to meet Florida's unique safety needs.
- Create a phased approach to implement new standards to confirm effectiveness of each countermeasure.

### Objective 3.2: Implement New Rail Crossing Standards

#### Strategies

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- Develop and deploy statewide educational campaigns to increase awareness of new standards and impacts on rail safety in Florida.
- Develop and deploy tools to facilitate diagnostic reviews and achieve consensus recommendations on upgrades needed at each crossing for compliance with new standards.
- Develop and deploy training needed to implement new rail crossing standards.

## **Goal: Promote Innovative Opportunities**

### **Objective 4.1: Champion Creative Solutions on State-Owned Corridors and Highways**

#### Strategies

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- Increase access to relevant rail safety data and trends to identify opportunities.
- Develop and deploy a process to capture innovative ideas to improve rail safety.
- Prioritize recommendations and continue to pilot new technologies and countermeasures to determine effectiveness.
- Consolidate best practices and lessons learned into a comprehensive resource guide.

## **Goal: Use Partnerships to Increase Effectiveness**

### **Objective 5.1: Empower All to Contribute to the Statewide Rail Safety Vision**

#### Strategies

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- Develop and deploy training targeting key partners such as law enforcement, first responders, and other safety and community leaders.
- Work with railroads to determine opportunities to share information for mutual benefit.
- Develop materials to highlight federal, state, and local funding sources for rail safety improvements.
- Develop and deploy a process to capture partner initiatives and ideas.

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#### Sample Performance Measures For Consideration

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Studies/analyses completed

Priorities established

Funding resources secured

Projects implemented

Decreased incidents associated with projects implemented

Number of impressions/outreach events conducted