

## **Leadership Commitment**

Ensuring safe, accessible, and desirable transportation in the region is central to the mission of the Houma-Thibodaux Metropolitan Planning Organization (HTMPO). We strive to ensure that residents and workers in the Safety Action Plan region (Assumption, Lafourche, and Terrebonne Parishes) have access to a transportation system designed to accommodate all users safely, regardless of age and ability. We aim to achieve zero fatalities and serious injuries by the year 2040 by incorporating safety as an integral part of the entire transportation network.

As members of the HTMPO, my colleagues and I are focused on transportation safety within the region. From 2017 to 2021, the region experienced 191 fatal crashes and 107 serious injury crashes. Additionally, there were 66 fatal and suspected serious injury crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists. These incidents are tragedies for the victims, their families, and their friends, and they have profound, devastating impacts on our communities.

We recognize that fatal and serious injury crashes are preventable, and we commit to making transportation safer for residents and visitors within the region. The Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan is an important first step toward ending these avoidable deaths and injuries. This data-driven, comprehensive, and actionable approach aims to improve safety throughout the entire transportation network and achieve our long-term goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2040.

Safe travel is a right for everyone, regardless of where they live, their age, or their preferred mode of transportation. We cannot achieve this goal without the support and engagement of local partner agencies and their communities. Residents of the area can contribute to improving the safety of our roadways every day.

We prioritize safety through various aspects of our work, including planning, studies, and funding. Despite these efforts, roadway crashes are increasingly claiming lives. The trend, tragically, is moving in the wrong direction.

The Safety Action Plan will help our communities take a broader approach to safety within the transportation network. While our work does not end with this action plan, I am confident it will help us reduce the number of serious traffic incidents and lay a solid foundation for achieving zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries.

Thank you for your interest in safety within the HTMPO region. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or suggestions.

John Amedee  
MPO Chairman