

City Council Agenda Item Memo

From: Charlie Richter, City Engineer

Council Meeting: June 9, 2026

Subject: Resolution 26-039: Adoption of Brookings Area Safety Plan and 2050 Brookings Vision Zero Safety Goal Commitment

Presenter: Charlie Richter, City Engineer
Thomas Cook, HDR Inc.

Summary and Recommended Action:

The Study Advisory Group, Public Works Department, and the City's consultant, HDR, Inc., have worked over the past two years to update the Brookings Area Transportation Plan (BATP). As an appendix to the BATP, the City and partner agencies developed the Brookings Area Safety Action Plan (SAP) following federal guidelines for the Safe Streets and Roads for All program.

To be eligible for federal grants, the City is required to adopt a Safety Action Plan and commit towards a long-term goal of eliminating fatalities and serious injuries by 2050. Staff recommends approval.

Item Details:

In 2024, the City received a SDDOT grant to update the BATP. As part of that effort, the City, working with HDR, Inc. and partner agencies, developed the SAP in accordance with federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program requirements.

Over the two-year planning process:

- A Study Advisory Group consisting of representatives from the City of Brookings, Brookings County, Brookings Municipal Utilities, the City of Aurora, the South Dakota Department of Transportation, South Dakota State University, and community members met regularly to guide plan development.
- Two public open houses and stakeholder meetings were held to share findings and gather public input.
- Public feedback influenced the final plan, including the addition of an analysis of the intersection of 6th Street and Western Avenue.
- Comprehensive analyses were completed, including:
 - Crash history and trends
 - Traffic forecasts and roadway operations
 - Intersection performance evaluations
 - Special event transportation assessments

The plan addresses the safety needs of all roadway users, including:

- Pedestrians
- Bicyclists
- Personal conveyance device users
- Transit riders
- Motorists

The SAP identifies existing safety concerns, establishes community safety goals, prioritizes improvement projects and strategies, and positions the City and its partners to pursue future safety-related funding opportunities

Legal Consideration:

None.

Strategic Plan Consideration:

- Fiscal Responsibility – The City of Brookings will responsibly manage resources through transparency, efficiency, equity, and exceptional customer service.
- Safe, Inclusive, Connected Community – The City of Brookings will create an environment for inclusive programs, gathering places, and events where the community can safely live, work and come together to participate in opportunities for learning, recreation and enjoyment.
- Service and Innovation Excellence – The City of Brookings will provide an accessible environment committed to ongoing innovation and outstanding service through listening and engagement.
- Sustainability – The City of Brookings will meet environmental, community and economic desires and needs without compromising future generations' quality of life by strategically planning, implementing and maintaining infrastructure and facilities.

Financial Consideration:

The cost for the Brookings Area Transportation Plan was \$225,056.88 which included the development of the Brookings Area Safety Plan. The grant covered \$180,045.50 (80% of the total cost) and the City was responsible for \$45,011.38 (20% of the total cost) for both plans. The City's portion was paid for through the City's CIP.

Supporting Documentation:

Resolution

Presentation