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PORT AUTHORITY WINS 2023 NATIONAL ROADWAY SAFETY AWARD FOR FAST AND INNOVATIVE USE OF CRASH DATA TO PRIORITIZE VEHICULAR SAFETY

Agency's Traffic Safety Improvement Program Among 12 Nationwide Transportation Projects Recognized for Effective and Efficient Use of Resources

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey today announced that it has been recognized with a 2023 National Roadway Safety Award from the Roadway Safety Foundation for its use of hyper timely crash data to prioritize traffic safety improvements on its roads, tunnels, bridges and other facilities. The national foundation honored the agency for its quick ability to spot and analyze short-term trends, collision patterns or clusters of crashes and then act on the data in order to address problematic areas, such as by installing signage, restriping traffic lanes or moving a merge point.

The agency won for its Traffic Safety Improvement Program's (TSIP) collision data collection and analyses from daily police crash reports, construction projects, roadway camera video, incident logs and traffic volumes. The data helped identify conditions that might have contributed to crashes, allowing the agency's traffic safety professionals to quickly develop and implement effective mitigation measures. Information from Port Authority police reports is added to its collision information database within the next day of a report being made, compared to weeks or months of traditional data collection times from other transportation agencies.

"The safety of our customers is paramount, and this award from the Roadway Safety Foundation recognizes the innovation and hard work of our staff every day to make sure everyone gets where they're going safely when they're driving through our facilities," said

Port Authority Chairman Kevin O'Toole. "With the help of 21st century tools, we strive to be faster, smarter and more efficient in all aspects of our operations."

"In this day and age, information is key to making better and smarter decisions," said **Port Authority Executive Director Rick Cotton**. "As our award-winning Traffic Safety Improvement Program shows, comprehensive data collection and the ability to act quickly on data-driven trends are invaluable when it comes to protecting the traveling public."

Since the agency launched its Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) in 2000, crashes on the Port Authority's roadways dropped 46 percent, including a 48 percent decrease at its six vehicular crossings, a 43 percent decrease at the roadways within the agency's major airports and a drop of 28 percent at the Port of New York and New Jersey, which is the U.S. East Coast's biggest and busiest container port.

The Port Authority was one of this year's 10 National Roadway Safety Award winners and two honorable mentions that were chosen for innovative, proactive, data-driven, collaborative and cost-effective approaches to better protect pedestrians, cyclists and motorists across the country. Other winners this year include projects by the state transportation departments of California, North Carolina, Florida, Texas, Delaware and Minnesota, as well as the Illinois Tollway.

The National Roadway Safety Awards, which are sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration and the nonprofit Roadway Safety Foundation, have been presented biannually since 1999. Projects are evaluated on effectiveness, innovation and efficient use of resources.

This year's judges included Lori Diaz, The American Traffic Safety Services Foundation; Jennifer Hall, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; Adam Kirk, Kentucky Transportation Center; Stephen Read, Virginia Department of Transportation; Brian Roberts, Transportation Research Board; and Terecia Wilson, Clemson University. Details on each of the winners and for more information on the national awards program is available at https://www.roadwaysafety.org/awards.

About the Roadway Safety Foundation

The Roadway Safety Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational organization. Its mission is to reduce the frequency and severity of motor vehicle crashes, injuries and fatalities by improving roadway systems and their environment.

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The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is a bi-state agency that builds, operates, and maintains many of the most important transportation and trade infrastructure assets in the country. For over a century, the agency's network of major airports; critical bridges, tunnels and bus terminals; a commuter rail line; and the busiest seaport on the East Coast has been among the most vital in the country – transporting hundreds of millions of people and moving essential goods into and out of the region. The Port Authority also owns and

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manages the 16-acre World Trade Center campus, which today welcomes tens of thousands of office workers and millions of annual visitors. The agency's historic \$37 billion 10-year capital plan includes unprecedented transformation of the region's three major airports – LaGuardia, Newark Liberty and JFK – as well as an array of other new and upgraded assets, including the \$2 billion renovation of the 90-year-old George Washington Bridge. The Port Authority's annual budget of \$8 billion includes no tax revenue from either the states of New York or New Jersey or from the City of New York. The agency raises the necessary funds for the improvement, construction or acquisition of its facilities primarily on its own credit. For more information, visit www.panynj.gov or check out the Now Arriving blog.

