

A Community Perspective on Transportation Safety



Community : Friends or Foe ?

- Individuals (are they real or lunatics?)
- Opinion Leaders
- Activists groups – CHEKPEDS
- Community Boards (in NYC) – Chelsea and Hell’s Kitchen in Manhattan

- Community DNA
- Terrain specificity
- Community expertise

- The community provides critical data
- Satisfying community first gains trust



Data Driven Safety

- Quantified Goals for wholesale changes : Vision Zero
- Quality and Visibility
 - Timely: trends vs. reactive. statistical vs. actionable
 - Trusted: include collection method for community based data points
 - Community advisory committees, Walk thru, surveys
 - Transparent: press release and datasets
- Relevance
 - Consistent with community boundary
 - Connecting the DOTS – crashes, enforcement and traffic calming (CrashStats 2.0, NYPD Stats)
- Audits : Pre and Post Implementation



Which “E” comes first?

- Cost and low efficiency of Enforcement
- How to Educate transient users

Engineering delivers local, self enforcing,
sustainable, real and perceived safety



Data Driven Engineering for Safety

In NYC 47% of pedestrian fatalities and severe injuries occurred at signalized intersections, 57% of these crashes occurred while the pedestrian was crossing with the signal. Two way streets particularly dangerous

- Split Phase Signals could reduce KSI by 27%
 - Low cost
 - Proven compatible with high volume intersections
 - Proven results : 100% increase in crash reduction along bike lanes
 - Provides perceived and real safety
 - Can be installed as part of any new project or reactively based on crashes



Education : Retool the Pros

- **Rewire the Transportation Engineers**
 - What is an efficient road? A road that delivers users to their destination alive
 - Vulnerable user safety > vehicular flow
 - Community input = engineer input
 - Think ADA
 - Use a new intersection rating system including safety
 - Federal guidelines specific for city environment (80% of population)
- **Hire Behavioral Experts**
 - This is about the drivers, the bicyclists and the pedestrians sharing the public space



Enforcement: Alter & Automate

- Re prioritize focus for enforcement:
 - Protect vulnerable users
 - Change perception of vulnerable users and car drivers
 - Get enforcement personnel out of their cars
 - Use cameras extensively : red lights, speed, crash investigation



Illustrative Links

- Legislative Action for Better Information
 - <http://chekpeds.com/tag/information>
- Top 20 crash sites 2007 (DOT)
 - http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/top20pedcrashsites_2007.pdf
- Pedestrian Study Action Plan (DOT)
 - http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/nyc_ped_safety_study_action_plan.pdf
- Interactive CrashStats (Transportation Alternatives)
 - <http://crashstat.org>
- NYPD Crash Data by Precinct (NYPD)
 - http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/html/traffic_reports/motor_vehicle_accident_data.shtml
- NYPD Summons Data by Precincts (NYPD)
 - http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/html/traffic_reports/traffic_summons_reports.shtml

