DESIGNING CITIES OF DENVERSON #NACTO2023

When Numbers Talk: Using Data to Tell Stories and Make the Case

DESIGNING CITIES MORE DENVER



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District Department of Transportation In a sentence or phrase, what is your biggest storytelling or communications challenge?

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May 17, 2023

Nick Sifuentes Program Director, Sustainable Cities When Numbers Talk: Messaging Data to Your Audiences Congestion Pricing in NYC

The Summit Foundation

01 The Context: Congestion Pricing in NYC

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The Context: Congestion Pricing in NYC

After years of New York City subway delays and breakdowns, then-New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo announced the formation of the Fix NYC advisory panel.

The panel's findings included congestion pricing, which Gov. Cuomo then included in his 2019 state budget. That budget would need approval from the State Legislature.

Our task? Convince a majority of the 213-member New York State Legislature to support congestion pricing.

Congestion pricing was reasonably popular: 52%/39% in a January 2019 Siena Research Institute poll. But it was not popular among elected officials at the time.

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02 Know Your Audience

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Know Your Audience Who Matters and Why?

- Who Are Your Audiences?
- An audience is:
- A subset of the general public
- Necessary to motivate to help you achieve your goals
- Are receptive to your messages

Things to Consider When Thinking About Audiences:

- Who influences your audience? How do you reach them?
- Multiple audiences? Tailor your message!
- Go to where your audience is to both reach them and shape who is a part of your audience.

03 Values and Frames

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Values and Frames: The Theory of Mind Approach

- Theory of mind: others think differently than we do
- People don't view the world neutrally
- Frames are mental shortcuts that influence how we process data and complex issues
- We trigger frames through word choice, use of imagery, or speaker identity
- What do your audiences care about?

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04 The Data: District Analyses

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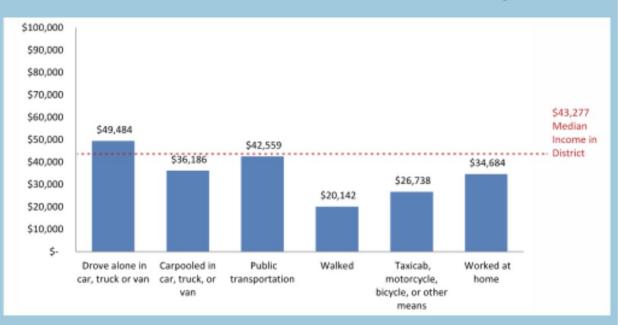
Tri-State Transportation Campaign's District Fact Sheets

Congestion Pricing District-Level Analysis Senate District 11 – Queens County Senator Tony Avella (D)

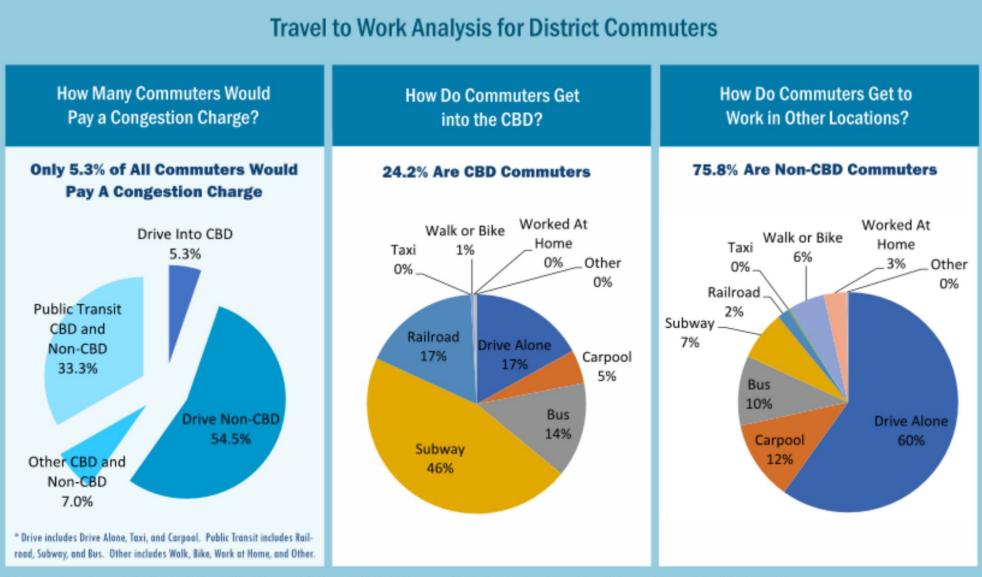
Impact on District Commuters

- Only 5.3% of district commuters would pay a congestion charge because they drive or take taxis into the central business district (CBD) of Manhattan below 60th Street.
- 33.3% of district commuters take public transit and would benefit from increased funding for transit.
- 24.2% of district workers commute into the CBD and 75.8% do not commute into the CBD.
- The district median income is \$43,277. Workers who drive alone have a higher median income than those who take public transit.

Median Income of Workers 16 Years and Older by Mode



Tri-State Transportation Campaign's District Fact Sheets



SF



Impact: Shifting the Narrative

Cities Look to New York to Lead the Way on Traffic Congestion

Andrew Cuomo is proposing fee on vehicles entering Manhattan's central business district to help fund faltering subway system

By Paul Berger Follow

March 27, 2018 5:30 am ET





MTA NYC TRANSPORTATION OPINION

Amid political bickering, a progressive solution to NYC's transit crisis waits in the wings

At its core, the current transit crisis is more regressive than any feebased plan to solve it

Between 2013 and 2017 the number of for-hire vehicles in Manhattan's central pusiness district more than doubled during the afternoon rush hour. PHOTO: DREW ANGERER/GETTY IMAGES

Congestion in the U.S.'s largest cities is only getting worse, and as municipal leaders search for solutions, the idea of charging vehicles to enter high-trafficked zones is gaining momentum.

The New York Times Data Shows City Drivers Won't Face the Brunt of Congestion Fees





A task force has suggested charging drivers who enter Manhattan from 60th Street south to the Battery \$11.52 during peak commuting hours, while trucks would pay \$25.34. Passengers in for-hire vehicles would face extra fees of between \$2 and \$5. Todd Heisler/The New York Times

By <u>Sarah Maslin Nir</u>

Jan. 30, 2018

After a New York State task force unveiled its report to impose a charge on drivers in Manhattan's most congested neighborhoods, one main line of attack came from lawmakers and others who say that it penalizes drivers who live far from subway and bus stops and already pay tolls that help finance a public transit system they rarely use.

But on Tuesday a transportation research group is planning to release a report that seeks to challenge the weight of that argument. Using census data, the study by the Tri-State Transportation Campaign, which promotes a decreased reliance on vehicles, analyzed commuting patterns in every State Senate and

The Summit Foundation



summitfdn.org

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Safe for All: 2023 Update

Vision Zero's role in advancing racial equity in Austin

Created by Austin Vision Zero February 17, 2023

Executive summary

How we got here

What we found W

VISION/ZERO Seguro para Todos: actualización de 2023

☆ …

What we're Seguro para Todos: actualización de 2023

Papel de Visión Cero en la promoción de la equidad racial en Austin

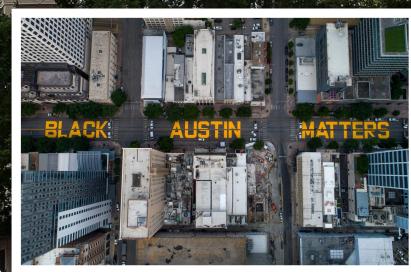
Creado por Austin Vision Zero February 16, 2023

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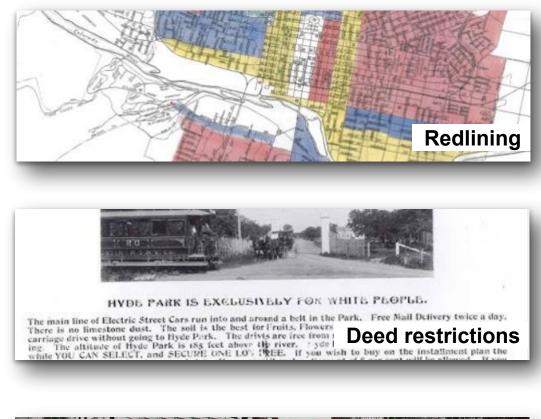
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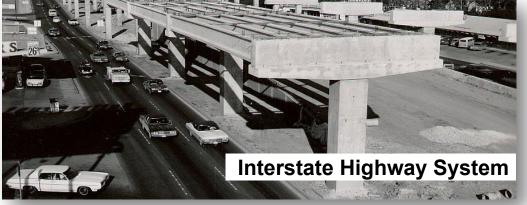
link: "Safe for All" storymap link: "Seguro para Todos"

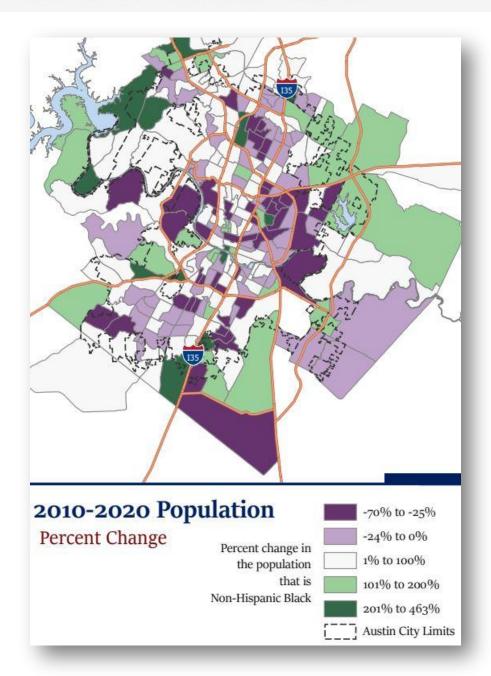


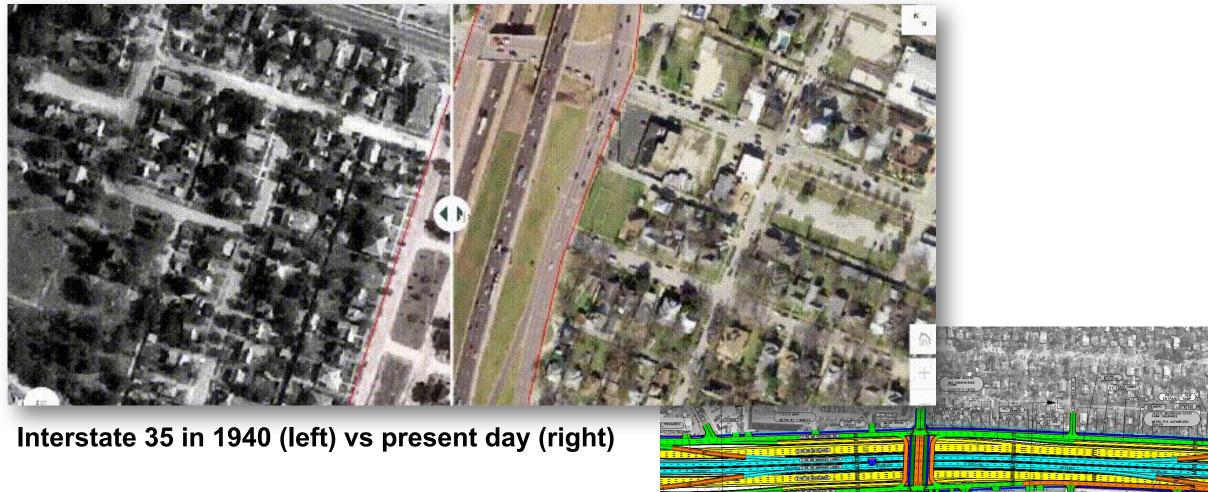






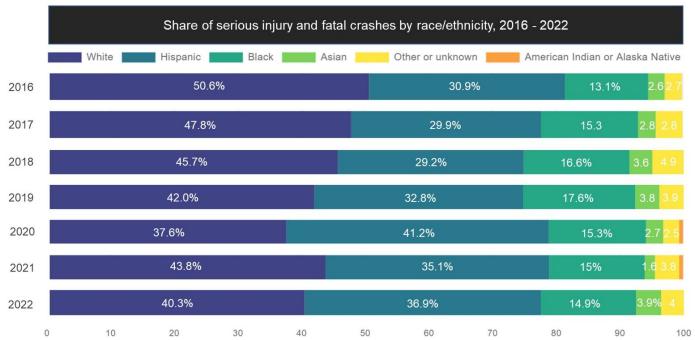


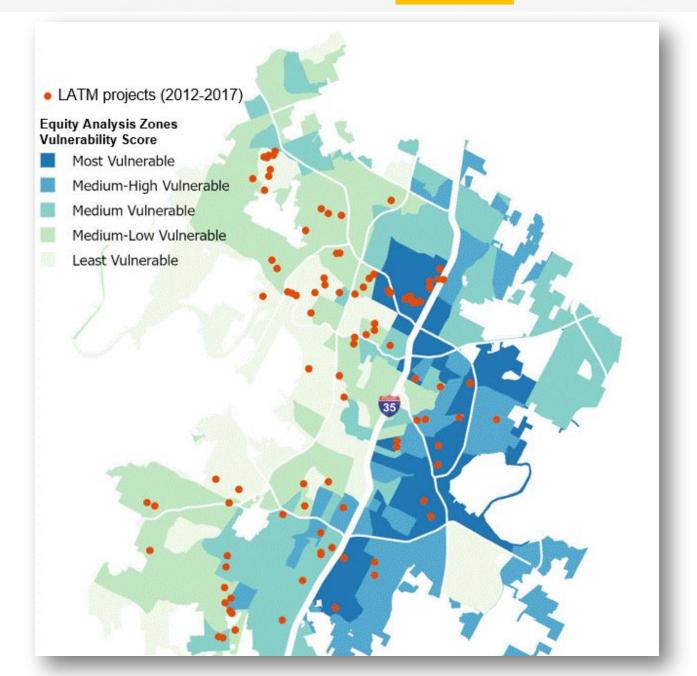




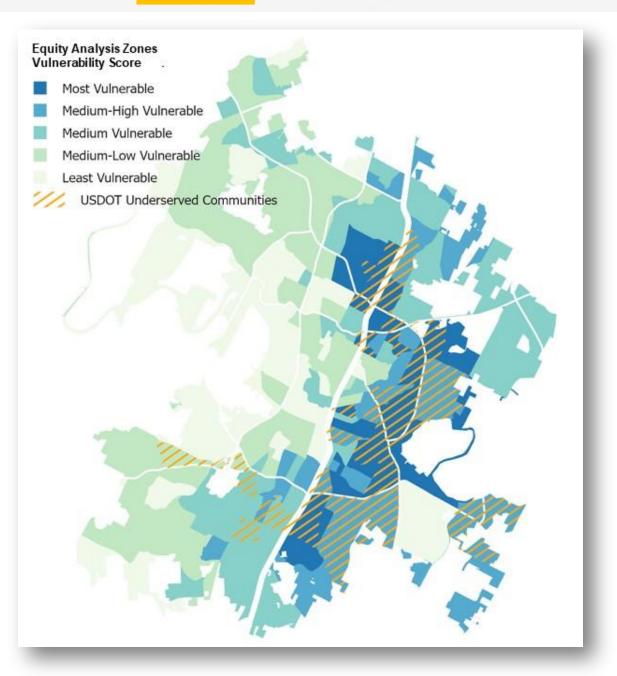


	Victim : population ratio by mode Serious injury and fatal crashes			
	Motor Vehicle	Motorcycle	Bicycle	Pedestrian
American India/Alaska Native	0.7	0.0	0.0	3.7
Asian	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2
Black or African American	2.5	1.1	1.2	2.6
Hispanic or Latino	1.2	0.5	0.6	0.9
Other	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
White	0.8	1.5	1.4	1.0
ican Indian or Alaska Native Note: cit sum to 1	raphic data: U.S. Census Bi lata: 2017-01-01 to 2022-06 ywide crash victim shares t 100% as crash records with nicity have been excluded fr	8-30 by race/thnicity do not n "Unknown"	Higher than population share 1:1 representation Lower than population share	









Our next steps

The reforms presented in this report are just the beginning of our effort to better promote equity within our work. Achieving our equity goals will require sustained effort and commitment by the City, our public agency partners, and our community to implement systemic changes in transportation planning and engineering, law enforcement, and traffic safety culture. Transportation & Public Works will be working on the following items in the coming months:

- Further equity analysis on specific locations where we are considering safety investments or initiatives;
- Refine and implement changes to prioritization methodologies;
- Evaluate the impacts of our investments on communities of color;
- Participate in community conversations around systemic changes needed to promote equitable traffic enforcement.
- Continue to engage with TxDOT in ongoing conversations around the <u>I-35 Capital</u> <u>Express</u> project and support the <u>Our Future 35</u> initiative to ensure that the reconstruction of I-35 accounts for the impacts that the highway has had on communities of color and seeks to address community concerns about equity, safety and mobility.



Our Key Takeaways

Robert Anthony Ramirez "Chops" June 1, 1982 - September 13, 2012

- Think about internal audiences
- Data points are real people
- Storytelling to inspire bold action

In a sentence or phrase, what is your biggest storytelling or communications challenge?

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SOUTH

8th

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WEST

MIAMI

CORAL

Better Bus Network

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72nd

Coral Q 8

80th

79th

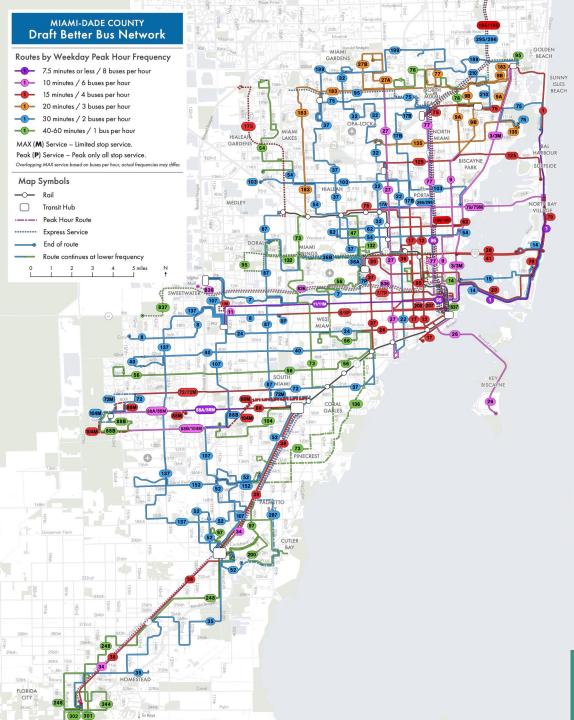
MEDLEY

40th Blue Grand Linda Morris Chief of Service Planning and Scheduling Hardee Miami Dade County, Department of Transportation and Public Works

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DOWNTOWN



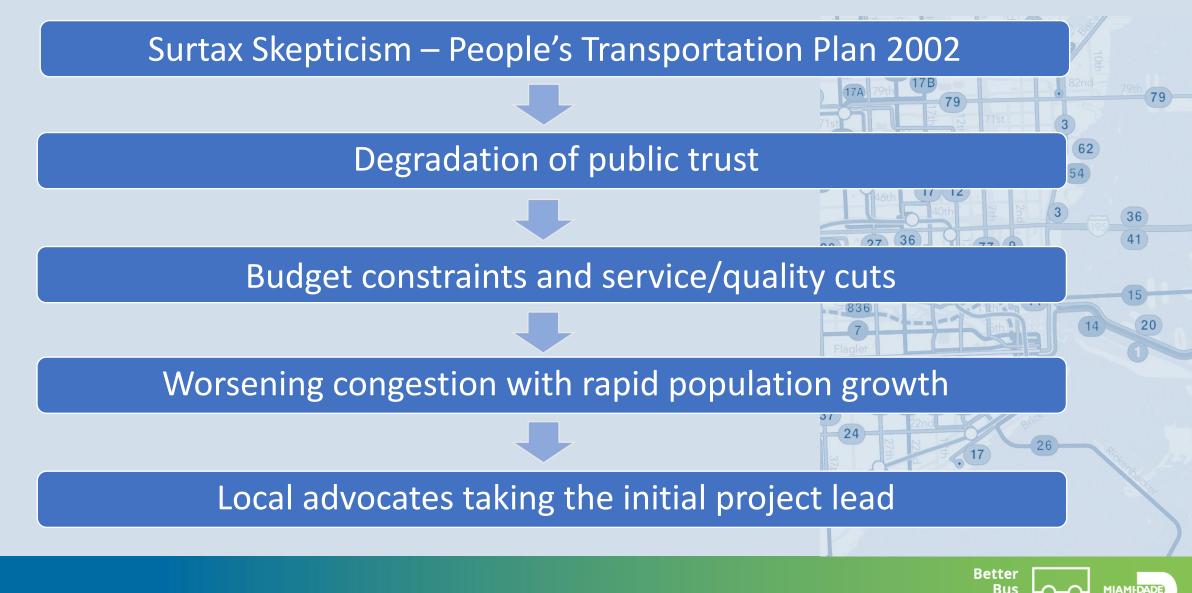


BETTER BUS NETWORK

- 2018 First community-led full network redesign
- No major changes since start of rail in 1986
- Re-imagined bus network
 - Increased access to frequent bus routes
 - Improved off-peak service
 - Faster journeys
- 2020 Developed a pre-COVID cost-neutral plan
- 2021 Approved a 9 per cent increase plan
 - (~\$27M annualized costs)



HISTORICAL CONTEXT



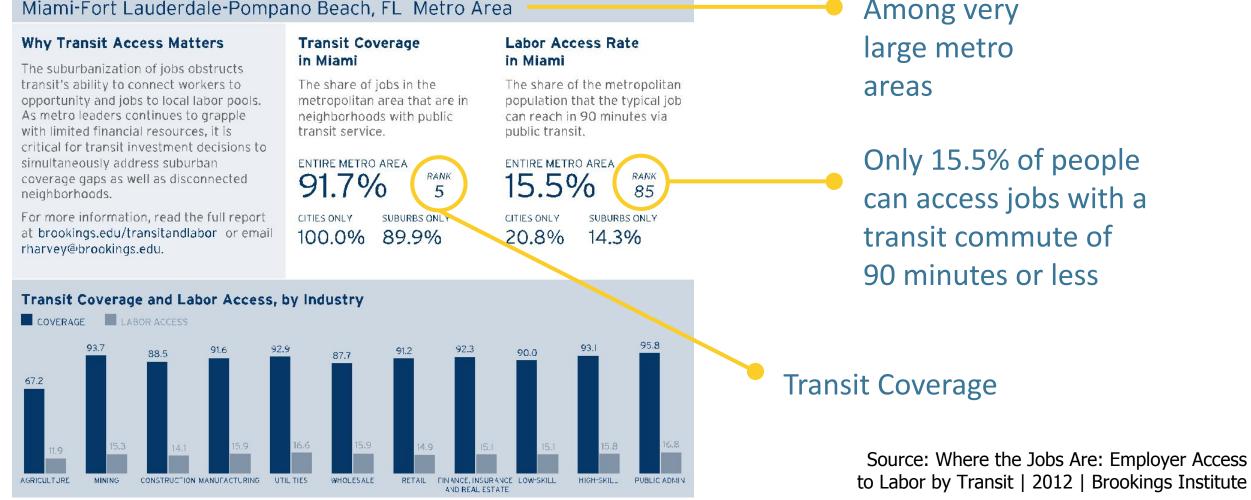
Networl

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Where the Jobs Are: Employer Access to Labor by Transit

B Metropolitan Policy Program

Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL Metro Area





WHY FOCUS ON BUS SERVICE?







AUDIENCE

13 County Commissioners – low transit knowledge

Strong Operator Union – high transit knowledge

Local Residents – transit knowledge specific to them



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WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

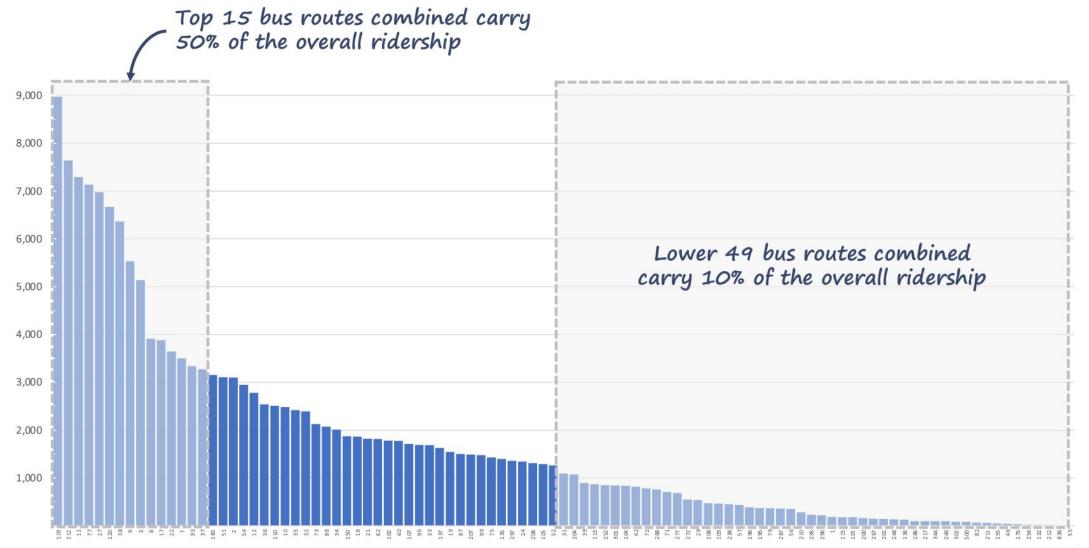
EXISTING NETWORK

From the 1980s
Confusing
Duplicative
Unreliable
Slow





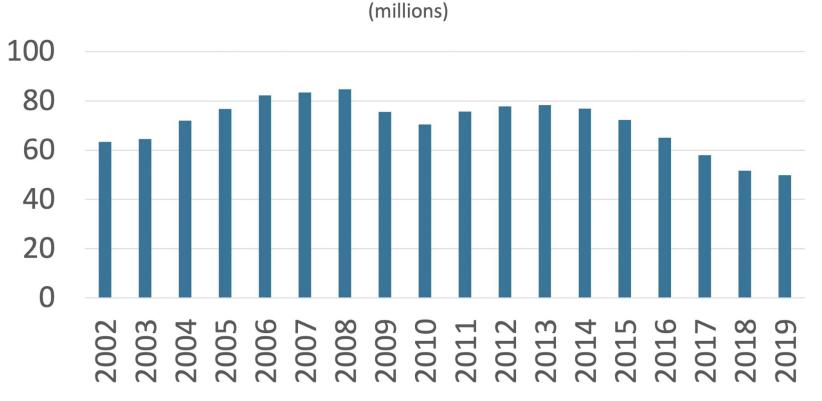
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?





WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

- No major changes since start of metrorail in 1986
- County's population grew nearly 75%



Ridership

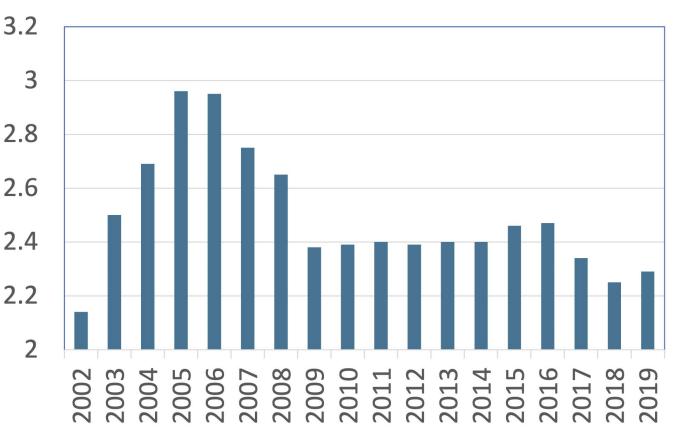


Better Bus Network

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

- Lowest level of service hours since 2002
- Better Bus Network brings us back to around 2015 levels

Annualized Revenue Hours (millions)



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Connects residents to more opportunities

> 30% more in 60 minutes transit and walk travel time

• Provides consistent high-frequent service

Major corridors 6am-10pm

• Creates a more efficient system

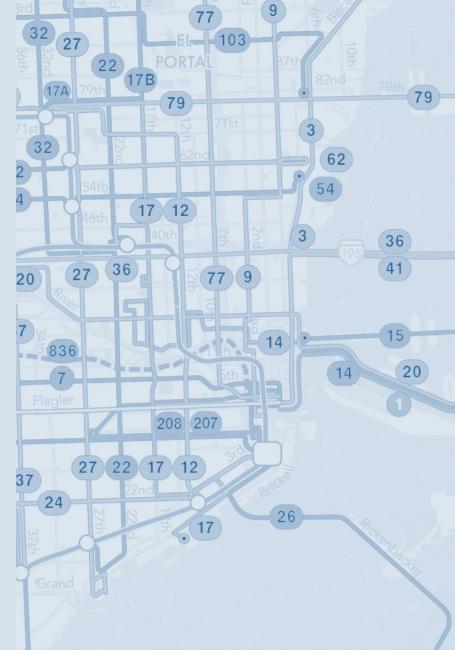
~10% of our service is duplication

• Provides greater access to high frequent routes

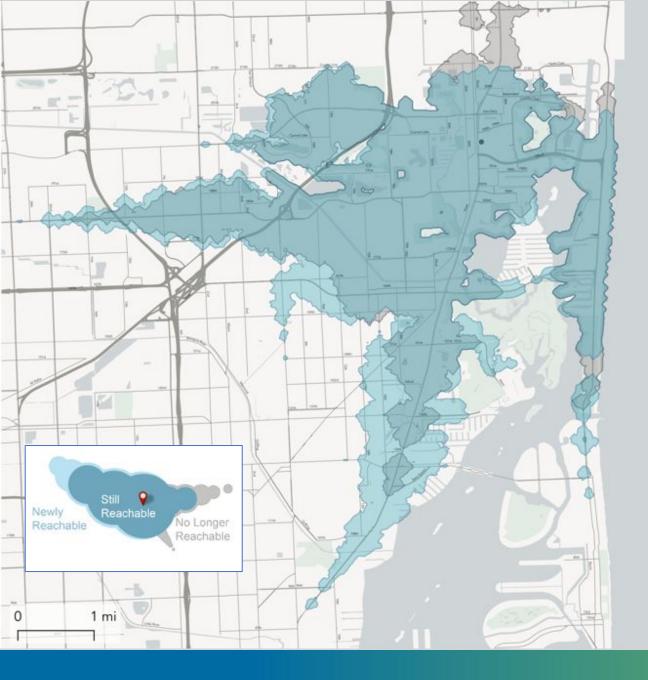
> 350,000 residents from 10% today to 23%

• Creates more equitable service

Greater accessibility gains in minority and low-income areas







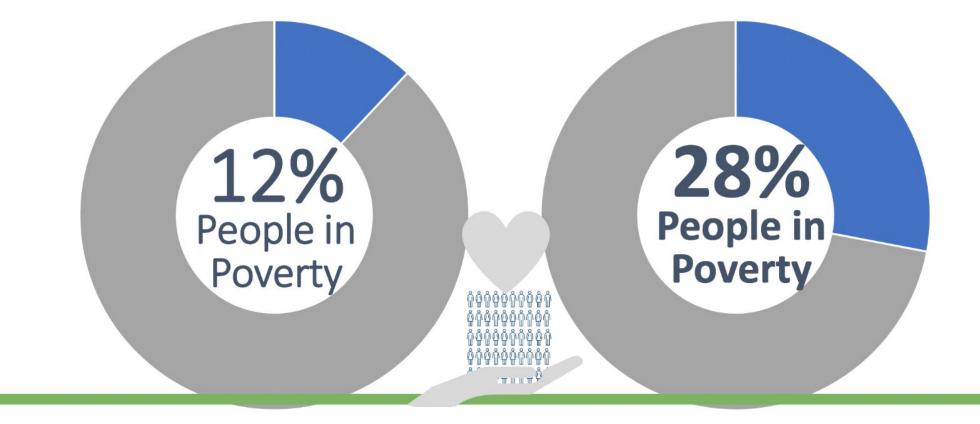
ACCESSIBILITY

How far can I travel in45 minutes fromAventura Mall at noon?

Reaching:15% more jobs20% more residents



WHO HAS ACCESS TO HIGH FREQUENT SERVICE?







49 out of every 50 will have same or better transit service



KEY TAKEAWAYS

• Clearly identify the problem/story hook

• Mea Culpas are healing, and deflecting

• Consider your audience's knowledge/interest levels

• Transparency builds trust





Linda Morris – linda.morris@miamidade.gov

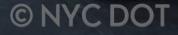


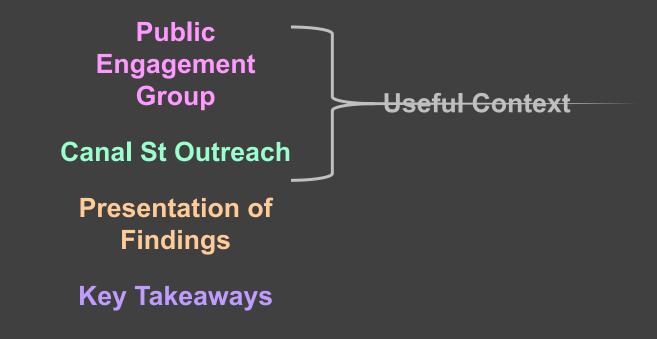
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Elevating Stories Though Date

Jenesis Gallego, NYC DOT





Public Engagement Group

Canal St Outreach

Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

NYC DOT Street Ambassadors (in action)







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Canal St Outreach

Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

Presenting Findings in an Outreach Summary

Things to Note

Intended Audience

- Primarily for Project Manager/Planning Unit
- Prepped for use in Community Board Presentations

Deliverable Goals

 Tell the community's story in a way that is useful for the PMs, Planners, and Decision Makers, but maintains the humanity of the data.

Our Unit's focus is to move forward the voice of the public.

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Canal St Outreach

Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

Canal St Visioning Project Public Engagement

Background

 The Pedestrian Unit collaborated with the Steet Ambassadors to collect feedback from the members of the community about their experience on Canal St.

What We Knew

- Canal St handles high volumes of pedestrian traffic on narrow sidewalks especially throughout the Chinatown area, a popular New York City destination.
- Large vehicle lanes that use up most of the street space in this area.
- Vehicles use Canal St to reach both the Manhattan Bridge and Holland Tunnel. Trucks travel both through Canal St, as well as to destinations along the corridor to unload goods to many local merchants.





Public Engagement Group

Canal St Outreach

Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

Public Engagement

Our Process

Between March and August, we collected feedback and engaged the public through multiple avenues.

- Print Advertisements
 - Cards
 - Flyers
 - In English, Spanish, Simplified Chinese
- Social Media (Weekly)
 - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
 - Over 100k impressions total over 8 weeks
- Collaboration with Chinatown BID
- In Person Deployments
 - Merchants
 - Pedestrians



Public Engagement Group

Canal St Outreach

Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

A Full Story Summary

Project Overview

Background

- · The Pedestrian Unit identified Canal St as a priority area in need of sidewalk and safety improvements but wanted to see what members of the community identified as issues and challenges.
- · Canal St handles high volumes of pedestrian traffic on narrow sidewalks especially throughout the Chinatown area, which is a popular New York City destination
- Canal St has large vehicle lanes that use up the majority of the street space in this area.
- · Vehicles use this street to reach both the Manhattan Bridge and Holland Tunnel. · Trucks travel both through Canal St. as well as to destinations along the corridor to unload goods to many local merchants.



nyc.gov/dot

Outreach Overview

Purpose

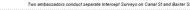
· To understand what pedestrian and safety improvements the community would like to see.

Outcomes

- · Project Managers will be able to identify intersections that are traffic safety concerns to the community
- · Project Managers will be able to identify pedestrian needs and concerns.
- · Project Managers will understand how pedestrians get around, including if they use mobility devices.

Process

- · The Street Ambassadors facilitated a Merchant Survey with businesses along the corridor.
- · Pop-up outreach stations were set-up at sites along the project corridor.
- · Boards were set-up to show survey participants visuals of examples of safety improvements.
- · Palm cards were distributed with the survey link available in English, Chinese and Spanish
- · The Street Ambassadors coordinated with the Chinatown BID to further circulate the survey
- within the community



Social Media Coverage

DOT's Social Media Strategy

- · In coordination with DOT's Press Office, we distributed the survey along with some language to encourage viewers to participate.
- · The survey was featured on both the agency's Twitter and Facebook accounts

Facebook Impressions

DOT's Press Office posted on Facebook on an almost weekly basis. Listed impressions are the number of times content entered a person's screen.

Below are the total impressions for each posting.

- Friday 7/8 at 4:15PM: 4,973
- Thursday 7/14 at 2:47PM: 2,836
- Friday 7/22 at 3:30PM: 1,586 Monday 7/25 at 11:34AM: 2,406
- Thursday 8/4 at 3:09PM: 4,551
- Thursday 8/11 at 12:02PM: 2.072
- Thursday 8/18 at 12:40PM: 2,657 Tuesday 8/30 at 1:06PM: 4,985

nyc.gov/dot



Data Source: Land Use for New York City Planning Community Profile for Manhattan Districts 1, 2 and 3

Notable Organizations

Chinatown BID & Chinatown Partnership 217 Park Row, 2nd Floor - Suite 9 New York NY 10038

United Healthcare 161 Canal St New York, NY 10013

Setting the Stage



BOT NYCL

Do you live, w

Fill out the 0

Most relevant * I DO live in Manhattan and 100 percent agree protected scycle lane nee flexiposts. CHO 9 3 Replies View 16 more commen

Land Use

In Manhattan Community District 3,

Canal St and the surrounding area

house many mixed use residential and commercial buildings, many

public institutions and government buildings as well as some park space.

In Manhattan Community District 2,

residential and commercial spaces

In Manhattan Community District 1. Canal St has a high concentration of public facilities, institutions

Canal St also has mixed use

with a high concentration of

commercial and office space

commercial and office spaces.

Corridor Overview

nyc.gov/dot

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nyc.gov/dot

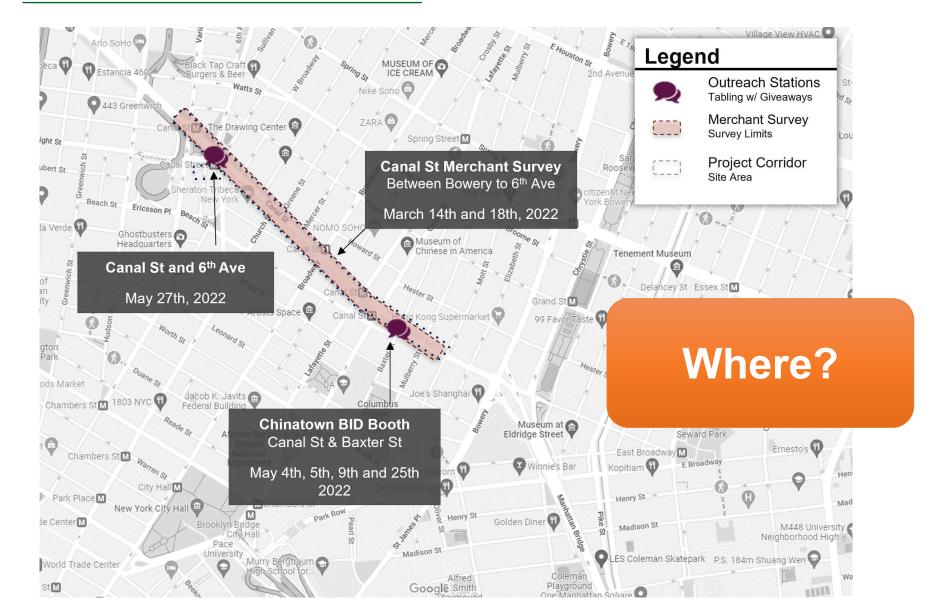
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Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

Deployment Sites



Public Engagement Group

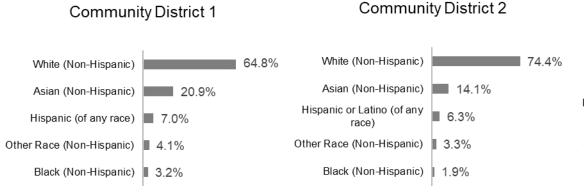
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Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

Demographics: Manhattan Community Districts 1, 2, and 3

Race & Hispanic Origin



Quick Facts

	Community District 1	Community District 2	Community District 3
Foreign Born	28.1%	21.5%	34.5%
Have Limited English Proficiency	9.6%	6.1%	28.1%
Under 18	16.7%	9.4%	11.4%
Age 65 & Older	9.5%	16.5%	17.9%
Are Rent Burdened (spend 35% or more of their income on rent)	28.4%	33.4%	38.4%
Mean Commute Time	26.1 min	24.9 min	31.3 min

Who?

Community District 3

White (Non-Hispanic)34%Asian (Non-Hispanic)31%Hispanic/Latino (of any race)24%Black (Non-Hispanic)8%Two or More (Non-Hispanic)3%Other Race (Non-Hispanic)1%

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Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

Intercept Survey Participation

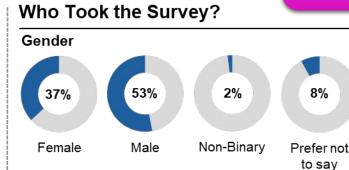
By the Numbers

In Spring 2022, NYC DOT launched a comprehensive in-person transportation survey along Canal St, Manhattan to understand the transportation experiences from users traveling around the corridor.

NYC DOT conducted its community survey on March 14th and 18th, and May 4th, 5th, 25th, and 27th.

 480 people participated in the survey; in addition to on-the-ground QR flyers posted on Canal St, the survey was available digitally via NYC DOT's social media campaign.





Race/Ethnicity

Asian	(175)	36	\$%
White	(144)	309	%
Prefer not to say	(63)	13%	
Other race, ethnicity, or origin	(33)	7 %	
Black	(29)	6%	
Hispanic	(29)	6%	
Middle Eastern	(7)	1%	

Participant Age

18 - 24	(28)	6%
25 - 34	(121)	25%
35 - 44	(107)	22%
45 - 54	(73)	15%
55 - 64	(54)	11%
65 - 74	(46)	10%
75 or older	(21)	4%

Use of Photos



A Street Ambassador conducts a survey with a senior citizen.



A Street Ambassador surveying a shopper on Canal St.

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Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

Baseline Data: Trip Purpose

How do people get around in the neighborhood?

Most respondents reported walking as their preferred mode of transportation for accessing their selected activities on Canal St, while fewer participants indicated driving alone as their typical mode of transportation.

Brief

Highlights

Respondents reported using public transit often for work (20%), visiting friends and family (23%), and going to restaurants/bars/social venues (38%), emphasizing its importance for commuting, socializing, and accessing goods and services.

Trip Purpose & Travel Choice: Canal Street Area, Manhattan

Which of these methods of transportation do you use most often when traveling in and around this neighborhood? (*n*=480)

		方 Walk	Subway	Bike	Bike Share	Bus	Drive Alone	Car Pool	FHV/ Taxi	Electric Scooter
	Shopping/Errands	67%	40%	15%	16%	9%	4%	7%	4%	1%
\otimes	Dining	46%	31%	10%	13%	7%	3%	7%	5%	0%
	Parks/Recreation	26%	14%	7%	9%	5%	1%	2%	1%	0%
	Visiting Friends/Family	24%	18%	5%	7%	5%	3%	5%	2%	0%
	Community Services	7%	3%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	0%
	Work	20%	16%	5%	5%	4%	3%	4%	1%	1%
	Medical Visit	21%	9%	1%	1%	3%	2%	3%	2%	0%
~	Religious Services	3%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	Illustrating	
1	Child Pick Up/Drop Off	3%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	Big Picture	
	School	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	Use	
Ŕ	Senior Center	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

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Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

Baseline Data: Pedestrian Experience

Traffic safety concerns and barriers affecting pedestrians who frequently walk along Canal St

- >> When asked to identify and assess safety issues that would negatively impact the overall experience for pedestrians, more than half of respondents say they experience varying levels of traffic safety issues and barriers when walking on Canal St, including:
 - Narrow/crowded sidewalks (55%)
 - Vehicles failing to yield to pedestrians (53%)
 - Vehicular speeding (50%)



*Ranking of pedestrian traffic safety issues, barriers or obstructions

Rate each of the following conditions from 1 (not a barrier) to 5 (absolute barrier) that can make walking difficult or unpleasant for you on your trips in this neighborhood (n=141)



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Presentation of Findings

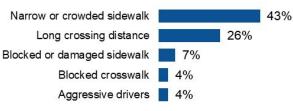
Key Takeaways

Reported Pedestrian Pain Points/Concerns

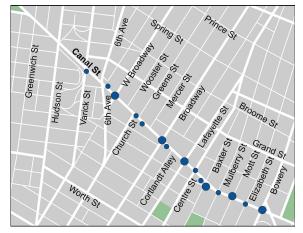
Pedestrian Experience

- 43% of participants reported experiencing narrow or crowded sidewalk issues; many identified points between Broadway and Bowery on Canal St.
- Over a quarter of reported pedestrian concerns noted long crossing distances.

Percentage of Reported Problem Intersections



Blocked or damaged sidewalk

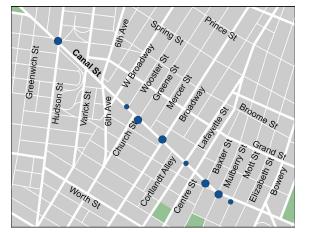




Long crossing distance



Blocked crosswalk



Aggressive drivers



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Canal St Outreach

Presentation of Findings

Key Takeaways

What We Do



 We tell the story of our data – Who, what, where, when, and why

2. Humanize the data – Photos, Quotes

~

3. Create minimal, colorful, and accessible visuals



4. We provide brief notes on the data presented in the visuals – ideally in accessible language

In a sentence or phrase, what is your biggest storytelling or communications challenge?

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When Numbers Talk: Using Data to Tell Stories and Make the Case

Amanda Stout, AICP Deputy Chief Project Delivery Officer District Department of Transportation (DDOT) NACTO 2023



Our Mission

The District Department of Transportation's mission is to equitably deliver a safe, sustainable and reliable multimodal transportation network for all residents and visitors of the District of Columbia.

The District of Columbia has a Vision Zero goal



District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser launched Vision Zero in 2015 to inspire and transform DC's roadway safety efforts, and set our sights on a goal of zero fatalities or serious injuries on our streets. Since then, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has shifted to designing streets that are safe for everyone, working closely with community members to identify problems and build solutions.

ZEREETS FOR WASHINGTON, DC 20

October 2022





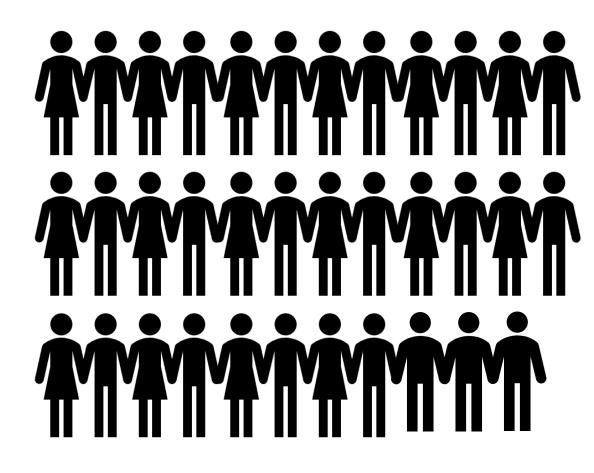


https://visionzero.dc.gov

...and it is challenging.

In 2022:

- 35 people died in or from crashes
 - 19 people were pedestrians
 - 3 people were killed while they were biking
 - 2/3 cyclists killed by right turning large trucks on green
- 307 people suffered major injuries including:
 - 146 People driving
 - 40 people inside the vehicle
 - 86 people walking
 - 23 people biking





How can data help us achieve our safety goals?

- Big goal = make our streets safer for all
- Show our progress and better tell our story
 - to internal DDOT teams
 - \circ to residents
 - to the Mayor's Office and Council
 - \circ to the media
- Effectively advocate for more funding for our transportation infrastructure projects
 - Competing against other local funding priorities
 - Opportunity of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation (BIL)

DDOT Paving Plan

View the map on your mobile device 🛛 😭 🎔 🔗

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An interactive map of DDOT's paving work for Washingtonians to track our progress as we enhance the safety of the roadway and improve the ride comfort of the road surface.

Overview Sidewalks Alleys Markings **Roads Paving Progress** Roads Select a ward: Select an ANC: Select a plan: Roads Tool tip: Click a road segment in the map for details AL ANCS Al Wards Paving Plan 2023 1.12.5835.571111 Road Segments Currently Under 24 Q Construction Mt Rainier Click to zoom into the road segment. **Completed Miles** KENILWORTH AVE NE from to Ramo-36001012 Work Type: Crack Seal Status: Under Construction Ward 7, ANC 7D/7F Substantially Completed Miles 15TH ST NW from Q ST NW to CORCORAN STNW Washington Arlington Work Type: Pavement Resurface/Restoration +2 km Status: Under Construction **Under Construction Miles** Ward 2, ANC 2B/2F 2 mi 15TH ST NW 77 M NCPPC, VITA, Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, EPA, NPS | DC GIS | Office of Planning | DDOT | Esri, HERE, NPS Powered by Esri from P ST NW to CHURCH ST NW Map Legend **Planned Miles** Work Type: Pavement

https://ddot.dc.gov/page/pavedc-frequently-asked-questions

How is DDOT using dashboards to communicate progress on our safety projects?

- Iterative approach worked on by several teams across the agency
- Using dashboards to provide transparent, trackable, and up-to-date information

Three examples:

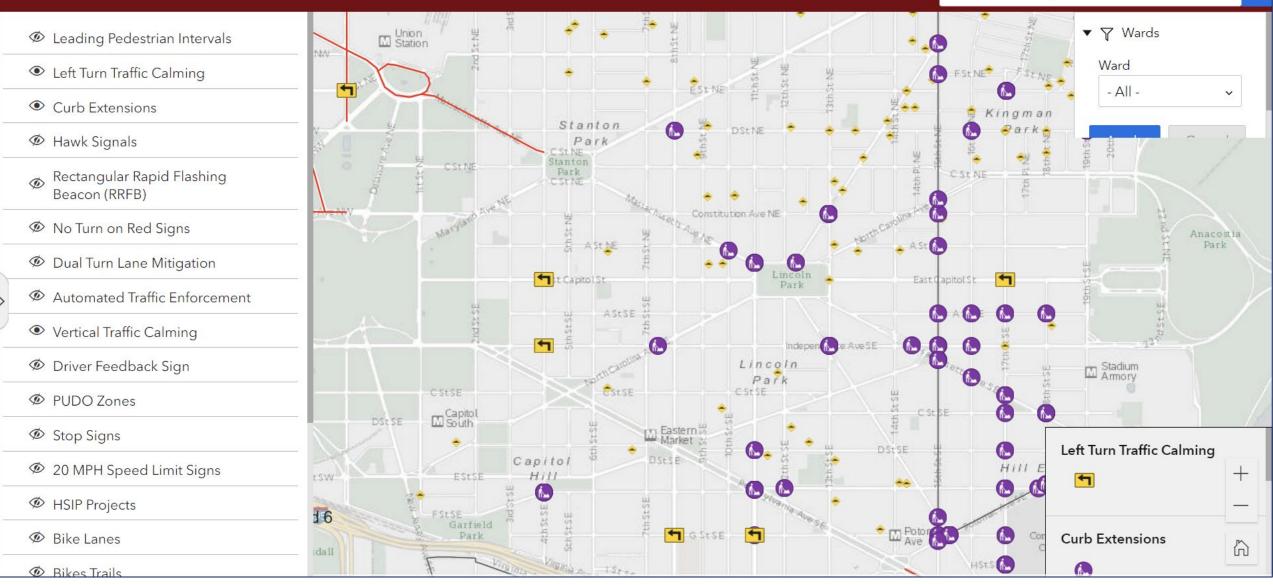
- 1. Safety Intervention Dashboard
- 2. Annual Safety Improvement Program (ASAP)
- 3. Traffic Safety Input (TSI) Program 2.0



DDOT Safety Intervention Dashboard

Find address or place

Q



https://visionzero.dc.gov/pages/engineering



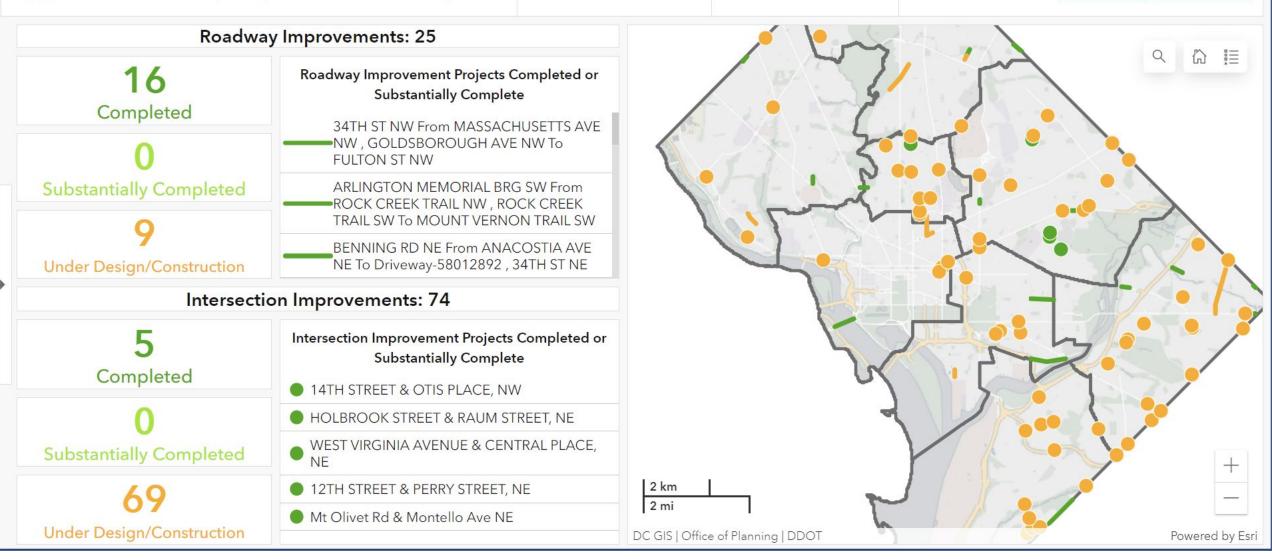
d. Annual Safety Improvement Program

Select a Ward

Select a Year

High Injury Network

Intersections

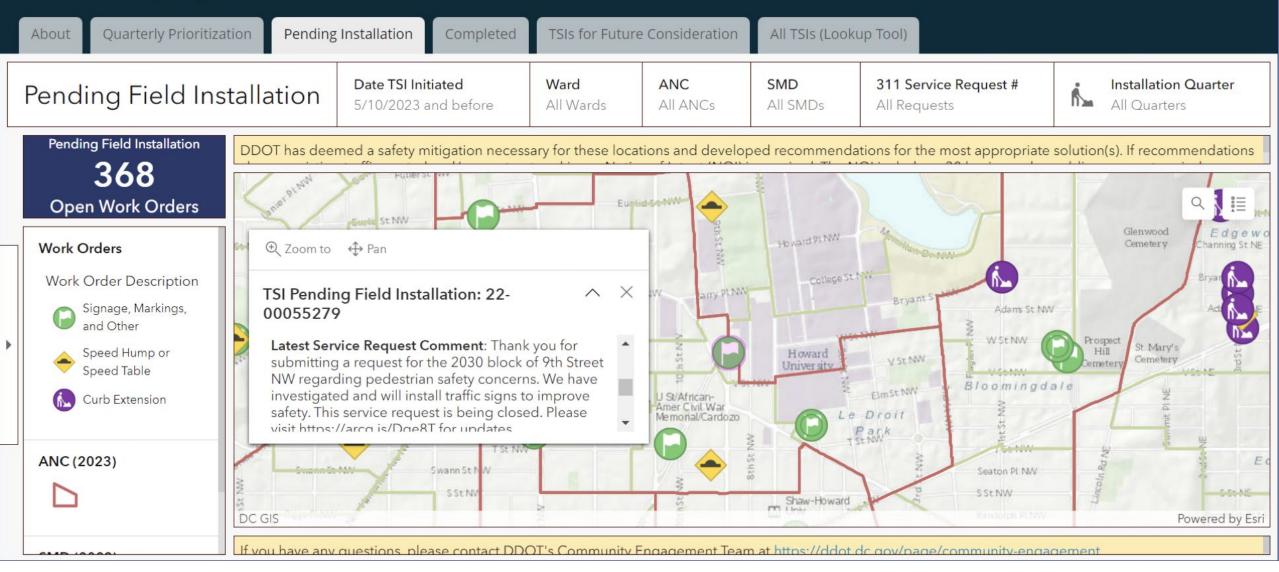


https://visionzero.dc.gov/pages/engineering



Traffic Safety Input

Submit a TSI (311) 📑 💆 🔗



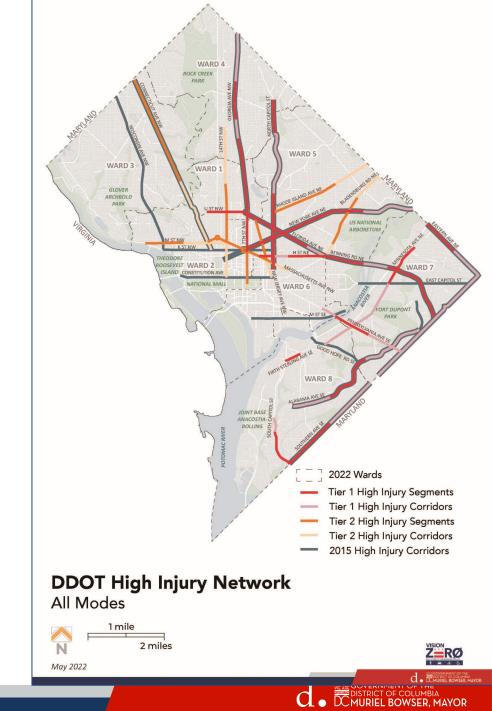
https://ddot.dc.gov/featured-content/traffic-safety-input-tsi-dashboard



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Next Steps and Challenges

- DDOT has identified a High-Injury Network (HIN) comprised of 29 corridors.
- How to communicate progress on bigger, long-term capital projects in a comprehensive and coordinated fashion (not just individual project websites)
- How can we more effectively use dashboards and data to communicate both internally and externally how we are planning, prioritizing, funding, and implementing safety projects?
- Challenge and opportunity presented by
 new BIL funding



Strategies and Considerations

Different programs and projects require different methods of presenting information.

- Past-looking vs. future-looking (What we have accomplished/built vs. a plan for future work)
- Reactive projects vs. proactive projects (The importance of "closing out" requests)
- More nimble and tactical projects (show results faster) vs. progress on longer-term capital infrastructure projects



Thank you!

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Vision Zero website: <u>https://visionzero.dc.gov/</u>

Traffic Safety Input (TSI) program: https://ddot.dc.gov/featured-content/traffic-safety-inve stigation-tsi-dashboard

District Department of Transportation

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In a sentence or phrase, what is your biggest storytelling or communications challenge?

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When Numbers Talk: Using Data to Tell Stories and Make the Case