# Planning for Safety: How to Develop a Data-Driven Action Plan

NACTO Designing Cities Conference Denver 2023

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## Agenda

Introduction (10 minutes)

Albuquerque (10 minutes)

Detroit (10 minutes)

San Francisco (10 minutes)

Q&A (35 minutes)



#### **Panelists**



Valerie Hermanson (she/her/hers)
Public Works Strategic Program Manager
Department of Municipal Development
Albuquerque, NM



James Hannig, AICP (he/him/his)
Deputy Director, Complete Streets
Department of Public Works
Detroit, MI



Jennifer Wong (she/her/hers)
Quick Build Program Manager, Streets Division
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
San Francisco, CA



#### Moderator



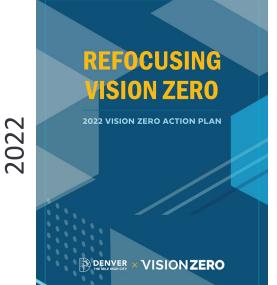
Lindsay Gips (she/her/hers)
Transportation & Mobility Intern
Department of Transportation and Infrastructure
City and County of Denver



#### Denver VZ Action Plans

DENVER VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN

VISION ZERO
DENVER



DENVER
TRANSPORTATION &
INFRASTRUCTURE

# What Does it Mean to be Data-Driven?





Why Use a Data-Driven Decision Making Approach?



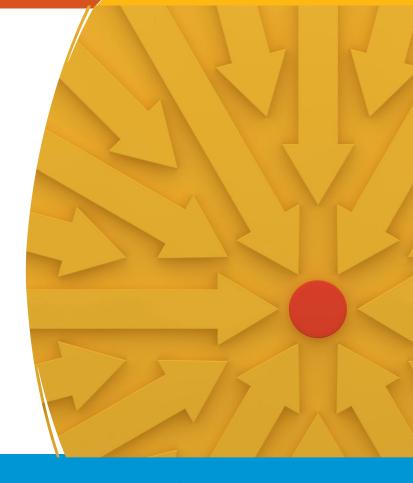


# Helps **define** our goals and make them **actionable**

What are we trying to solve?

What questions are we trying to answer?

What data do we collect and analyze that indicates this?





# Removes intuition and bias from influencing our actions

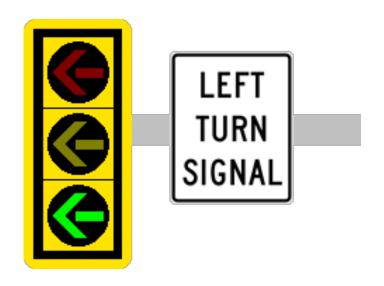
Use intuition to generate hypotheses but use data to support or refute the ideas





## Allows for **proactive** vs. reactive action

As we learn how to interpret data, we can take proactive measures to reach our goals





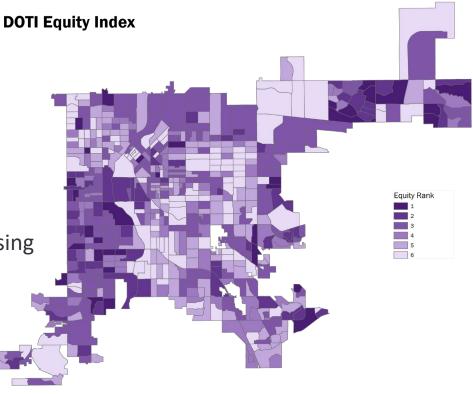
#### Denver Left Turn Signal Warrant Policy

Signalized Intersection Characteristics	Before	After
Crash Rate Threshold	13-26 over 3 years	3 over 3 years
85 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed	45mph	40mph
Opposing Lane Threshold	4	3



#### Creates consistency

Consistency in approach across all groups and departments to ensure everyone is using the same language, metrics, and data





#### Beware of analysis paralysis

Don't let data overwhelm you!



"Of course we'll make a decision ... once we have considered the 5243 factors."

Source: cartoonresource / Adobe Stock



#### In Summary...

A data-driven action plan creates defined, actionable, and measurable goals through a consistent approach. It removes intuition and bias from our decisions and allows us to take proactive measures to achieve safety goals.



How?





# CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN UPDATE

NACTO Designing Cities Conference Planning for Safety: How to Develop a Data-Driven Action Plan May 17, 2023

Valerie Hermanson, AICP
Public Works Strategic Program Manager
Department of Municipal Development
City of Albuquerque





- Population: 562,599
- 189 square miles
- 4,668 total surface lane miles
- 652 traffic signals
- 570 miles of on-street bike facilities and multi-use trails









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- Population: 562,599
- 189 square miles
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- 652 traffic signals
  - 570 miles of on-street Albuquerque metro ranked second most dangerous for pedestrians



New Mexico ranks #1 for pedestrian deaths

NM has highest pedestrian fatality rate in US





# Vision Zero Action Plan Overview

ONE ALBUQUE RQUE Albuquerque's

Albuquerque's Vision Zero Action Plan

 2019 Mayor Keller committed to working toward zero traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2040

 Completed Spring 2021. Department of Municipal Development (DMD) led Plan Creation with:

- 13 City Departments
- 5 local agencies
- 14 community partners
- Identified High Fatal & Injury Network (HFIN) & Vulnerable Communities Index
- 6 Themes with 63 total actions
  - Engineering + Roadway Design
  - Safe Speeds
  - Policy, Regulation + Practice

- Education + Encouragement
- Walking + Rolling
- Data + Transparency



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CONTACT oq.gov/visionzero



## **Action Plan Summary**

#### **Includes**

- ✓ High Fatal & Injury Network
- ✓ Five core Vision Zero principles:
  - ✓ Supporting mode shift
  - ✓ Designing safe streets
  - ✓ Slowing speeds
  - ✓ Promoting safety culture
  - ✓ Centering equity
- ✓ Action items on <u>safe design</u>, <u>safe speeds</u>, and <u>shift to active modes</u>

#### Missing

- Prioritization of action items and High Fatal and Injury Network (HFIN)
- Distinct themes / action items overlap
- Clear lead agencies/organizations responsible for implementing actions
- Focus on a targeted set of action items that will have the most impact at reducing/eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries

## Year-in-Review/Prioritization Strategy

- Working group (City, local agencies, community partners)
- 20 Staff interviews (DMD, Planning, Parks, Transit, Mayor's Office, Council, Police, NMDOT, MRMPO, Public Schools)
- What's working well?
- What's not working well?
- What are national best practices?
- How should we prioritize the plan?



## **Priority Focus Areas**

#### **Thematic Goals**

- Prioritize
- Reframe

## Actions: What to focus on?

- Low cost
- High impact

#### **Spatial: Where to focus?**

- High Fatal & Injury Network (HFIN)
- VulnerableCommunities



## **Goals/Actions Prioritization**



### **Reclassification Thematic Goals**

#### **Original Categories**

Engineering + Design

**Safe Speeds** 

Walking + Rolling

Policy, Regulation +

**Practice** 

**Education +** 

**Encouragement** 

**Data + Transparency** 

63 actions

#### **New Categories**

Safe Multimodal Street Design

Prioritize the safety of all road users by designing for safe speeds and using Complete Streets design principles

**Shift to Active Modes** 

Promote opportunities for people to safely walk, ride a bicycle, use mobility devices, and take transit

**Culture of Safety** 

City leaders, planners and engineers, and road users set priorities and make decisions that improve roadway safety

**Data and Transparency** 

Improve the timeliness and quality of data for better decision-making and allocation of resources

32 actions



## Sample Prioritization

Example Actions

Retrofit HFIN principal arterials using low-cost/high-impact safety measures

Incorporate Vision
Zero principles
and traffic safety
best practices
into the Comp
Plan Update

Feasibility of Implementation

Required Resources

Level of Benefit

High

**Medium** 

High

High

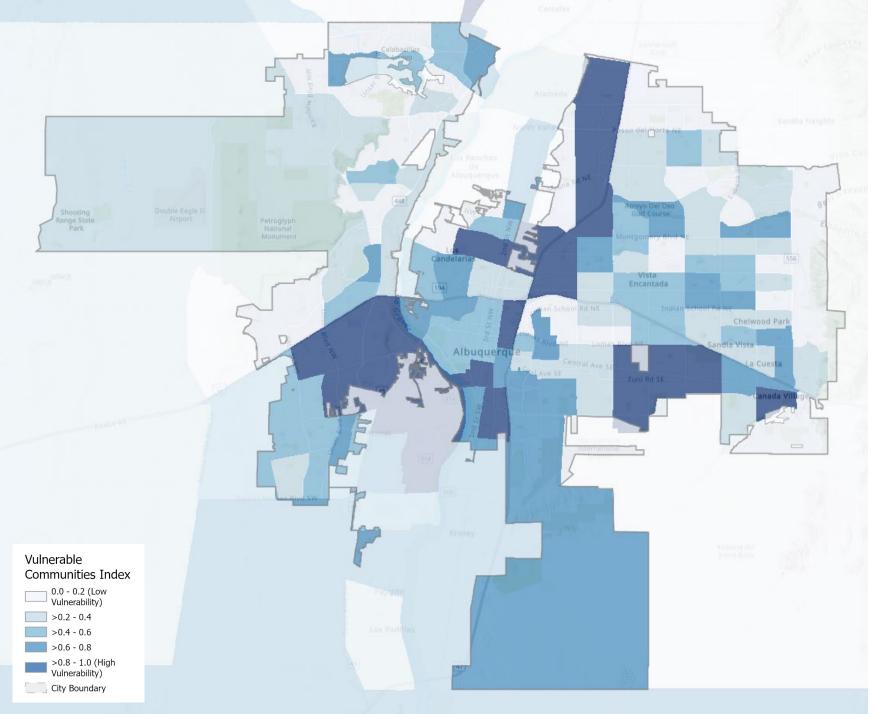
Low

Medium



## **Spatial Prioritization**





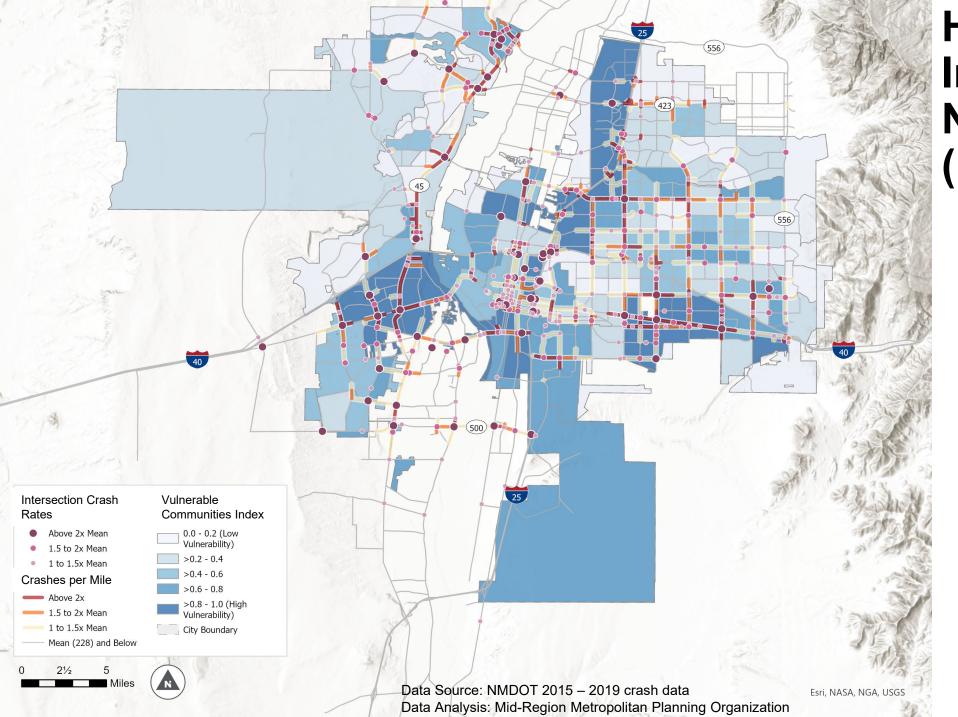
#### Vulnerable Communities Index

 Developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (2018)

#### **Vulnerability Indicators**

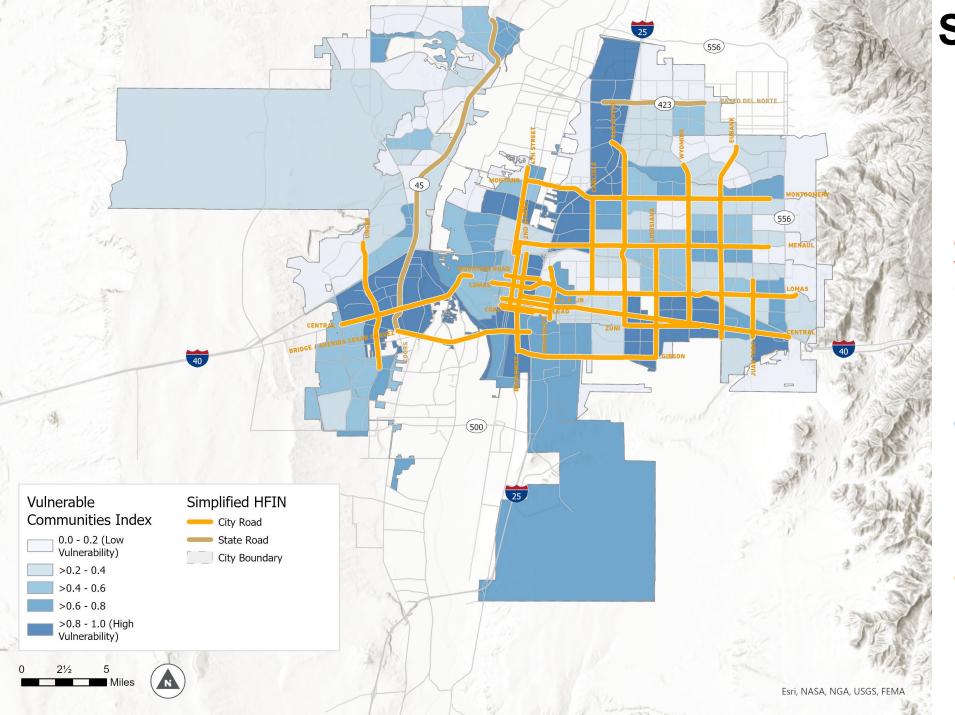
- Per capita income
- Population 65+
- Population 17 and under
- People with a disability
- Non-white population
- Limited English proficiency
- Multi-family (10+ units)
- Households with no vehicle





## High-Fatal + Injury Network (HFIN)





### **Simplified HFIN**

41% of fatalities occurred on these 24 corridors (2015-2019)

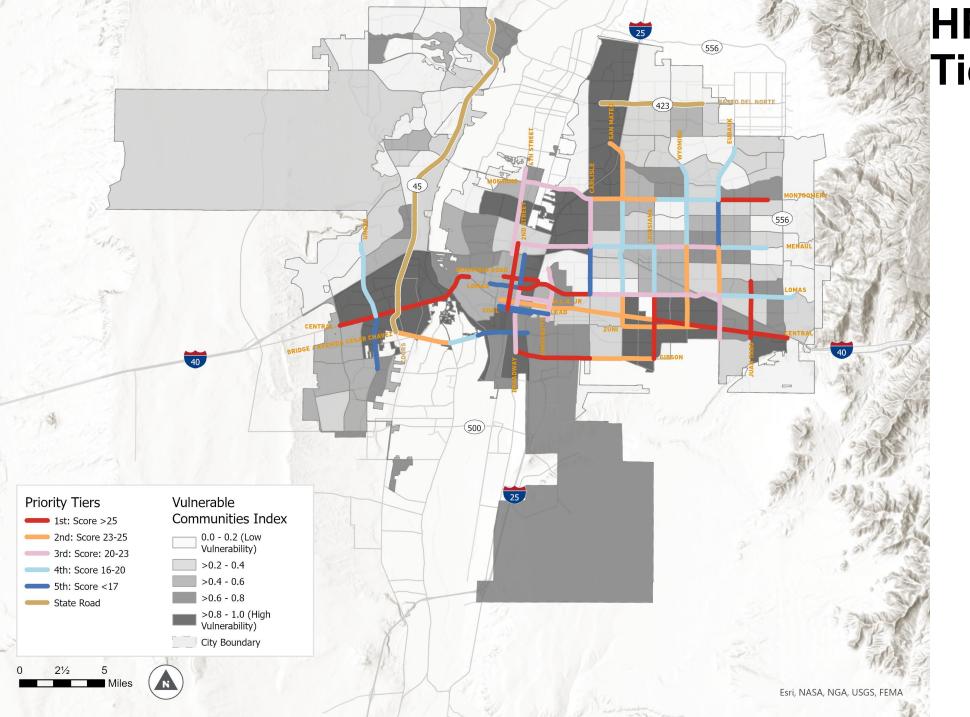
16%
of road miles in Albuquerque

90% are Principal Arterials



## **HFIN Prioritization Criteria**

Criterion	Summary		Scoring Metrics
Safety	As all corridors are already on the HFIN, corridors are further prioritized based on vulnerable road user fatalities	•	Presence of bicycle/pedestrian fatalities
Transportation Equity	Corridors located near or within communities more vulnerable to traffic violence	•	Vulnerable Communities Index scores
Access to Destinations	Corridors that provide access to important destinations	•	Proximity to major or minor destinations
Facility Needs	Prioritizes corridors that do not have adequate facilities for multiple modes of transportation	•	Presence or absence of appropriate bike facility Presence or absence of sidewalks, sidewalk gaps, and landscape buffers Spacing of pedestrian crossings Posted speed and presence/absence of medians Density of streetlights
Current Level of Use	Prioritizes corridors that see the most auto, transit, and pedestrian use	•	Average daily traffic Transit boardings
Land Use / Employment	Prioritizes corridors that provide access to employment opportunities and Comprehensive Plan Centers	•	Proximity to Comprehensive Plan Center Employment density within 0.5 mi of corridor  ALBUQUE  Municipal development



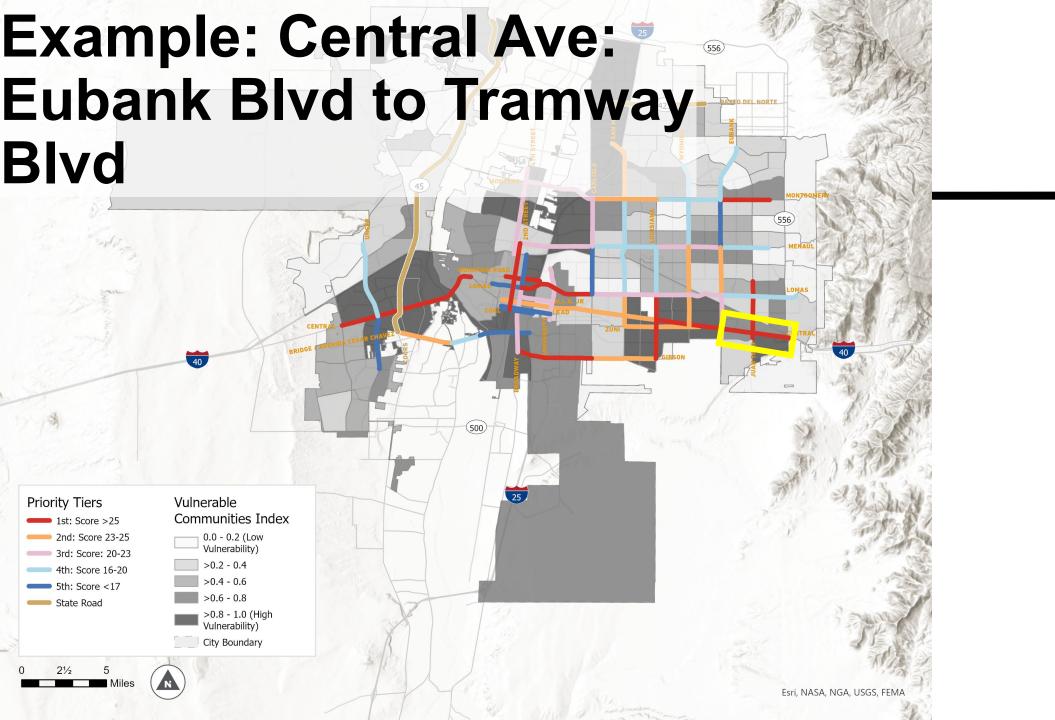
# HFIN Priority Tiers



## **HFIN Workshops/Tool Kit**

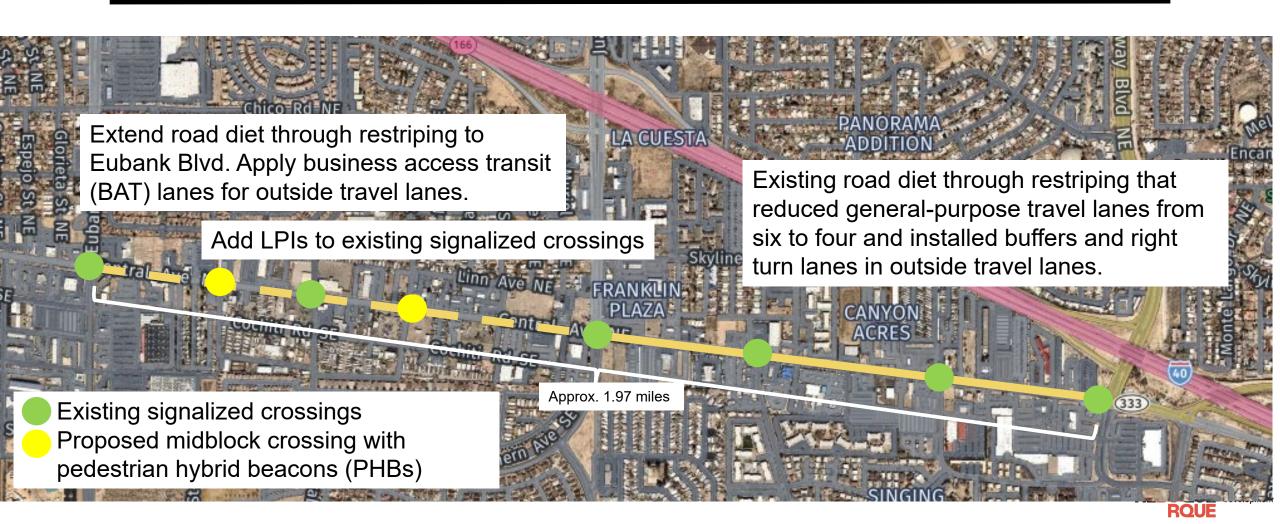
- Review conditions along 10 HFIN segments
- Differentiate between low-cost high-impact strategies and major road improvements
- Compile tool kit of strategies







# **Example: Central Ave: Eubank Blvd to Tramway Blvd**



## **Lessons Learned**

- Using data to prioritize and focus on strategies that will have the greatest impact in eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries.
- Create clear actions, identify who is responsible, and performance metrics to track progress
- Identify short to mid-term strategies and longer-term strategies
- Prioritization creates transparency and it's easier to communicate with the public and local elected officials.
- HFIN Workshops: Opportunity to influence existing/planned projects







# **Crash Course: Developing Detroit's Comprehensive Safety Action Plan**

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

**City of Detroit Department of Public Works** 

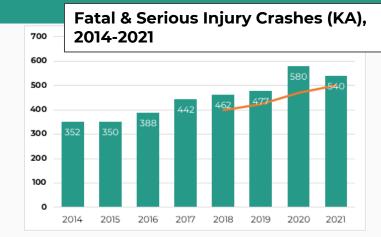
James Hannig, Deputy Director, Complete Streets

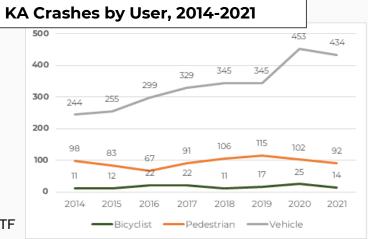


#### **Crash Trends in Detroit**



Detroit's per capita traffic death rate grew 88% between 2017 and 2020 while the median increase among major cities was 19%.





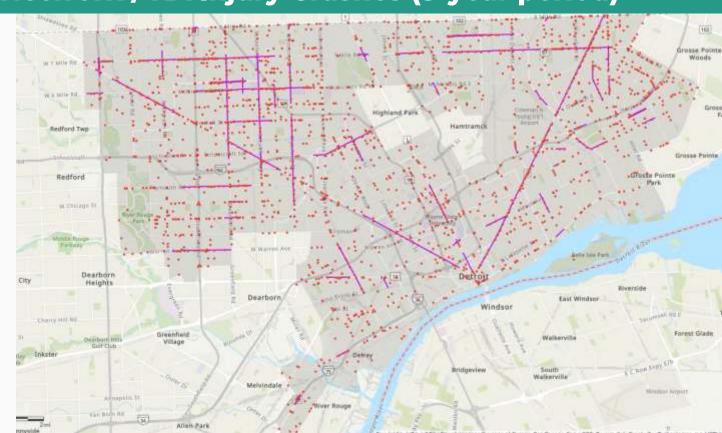
Source: MCTF

## High Injury Network / KA Injury Crashes (5-year period)

Between 2017 and 2021, 539 people were killed in traffic crashes in Detroit. Another 2,473 were seriously injured.

Fixed Object, Angle, and crashes involving Vulnerable Users (people walking and biking) make up 61% of severe crashes 2017-21

The HIN accounts for 3% of surface streets, but 34% of severe crashes





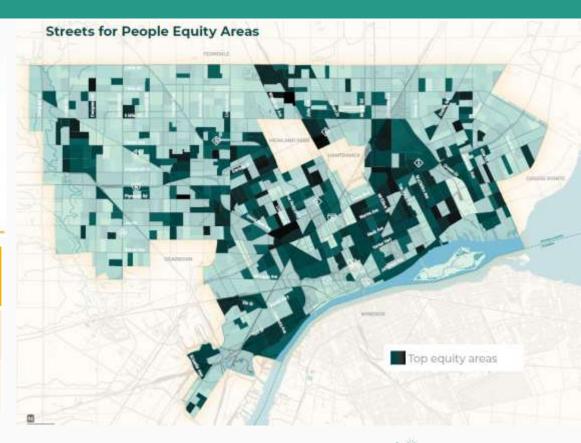
## **Equity Analysis**

#### Disparities in Traffic Crashes, 2017-2021

0	Detroit	SEMCOG Region	State of Michigan
Traffic Deaths per 10,000 Residents (2019 estimates)	1.61	0.66	0.88
KA Crashes per 10,000 Residents (2019 estimates)	8.99	4,39	5.78
Share Population Non- White, 2020	89%	36%	27%
Median Household Income (in 2020 dollars), 2016-2020	\$32,498	\$64,068	\$59,234

	% of Detroit by Population (2019)	% of Detroit Crashes
Not an HDC	43%	44%
HDC	<b>57</b> %	56%

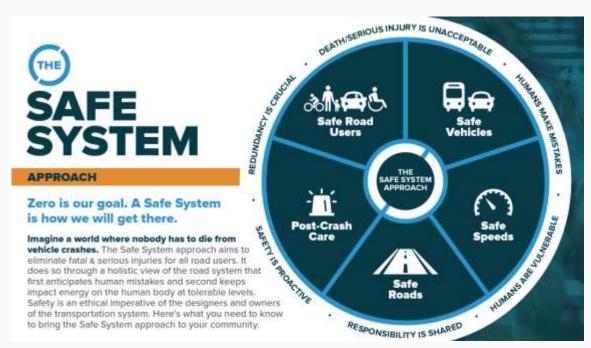
Source: MTCF; US DOT





# **Detroit's Traffic Safety Strategy**

- Builds upon existing traffic safety programs
- Incorporates the Safe System Approach
- Endorses regional Vision Zero target to eliminate fatal and serious injury crashes by 2050
- Incorporates Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) into overall transportation master plan, Streets for People (SFP)
- Leverages federal grant funding, especially Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)



Source: USDOT FHWA, Office of Safety Programs

SFP and CSAP are based on the Safe System approach to traffic safety



### **Timeline**

#### **Fall 2019**

Began SFP



#### 2020

- Community Engagement
- Existing conditions
- COVID-19



#### 2021

Planning continues (slowly)



#### September 2022

- Adopted SFP & CSAP
- Submitted SS4A grant



#### **Summer 2022**

- Developed CSAP
- Prepared SS4A grant application



#### Spring 2022

- SFP substantially complete
- SS4A NOFO



## **Community Priorities**

"What concerns, if any, do you have moving about Detroit safely"	Total Responses	Percent of Total	Self ID as Black	Percent
Speeding or Other Forms of Dangerous Driving	1,005	84%	554	86%
Damaged or Missing Sidewalks	560	47%	242	37%
People Walking in the Street	365	31%	194	30%
Inability to See Bicyclists	209	18%	86	13%
Vehicles Parked or Driving in Bike Lanes	365	31%	132	20%
Poor Road Quality	715	60%	366	57%
Wide Roads	161	13%	41	6%
Poor Lighting	607	51%	350	54%
Crime	642	54%	412	64%
Encounters with Police	200	17%	112	17%
None	9	1%	6	1%
"What improvements would you like to see?"	Total Responses	Percent of Total	Self ID as Black	Percent
Street improvements that balance the needs of all users	735	62%	362	56%
Reduced speeding and increased safety	939	79%	515	80%
Safer Connections to Schools	519	43%	241	37%
Safer Bike Routes	419	35%	153	24%
Better and More Convenient Public Transit	515	43%	224	35%
Increased Vibrancy	658	55%	314	49%
Improved Connections to Retail	516	43%	236	36%





Source: Streets for People

## **Detroit CSAP Strategies**

Build a culture of shared responsibility within City government

Create commercial streetscapes that promote safe speeds and

Create safe, complete networks for people walking and using

Ensure that nobody is left behind in a safe vehicles future.

Respond to fatal crashes with all due urgency

**Evaluate progress toward safety goals** 

Proactively target the streets and places where severe crashes may

Promote safe fleets through City procurement and other mechanisms

Improve the High Injury Network

safe crossings

assistive devices

occur

**Establish the Slow Streets Network** 

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Strategy	Safe Users	Safe Vehicles	Safe Speeds	Safe Streets	Post-Crash Care
Launch a citywide traffic safety campaign	X		x		
Reduce speeding throughout Detroit	X		X	X	

Х

X

Х

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X

X

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X

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# Project Prioritization Criteria

- For prioritizing all projects, specific emphasis on safety projects
- Aligns with Streets for People Values
  - Safety First
  - Economic Opportunity
  - Equity, Dignity,Transparency
  - Access for All
  - Public Health and Environment

Category	Criteria	Detail	Points
Safety Impact [25 total]	Project Located on the HIN	Intersection project on HIN or corridor project on HIN	12
[20 10 10.1]	Uses Detroit CSAP severe	3 or more countermeasures	5
	crash reduction countermeasures, including at least 1 speed reduction countermeasure	2 countermeasures	3
	Project improves safety around a school or a park	Within 1/8 mile (660')	5
	Increases safety and comfort for people walking, using assistive devices, or biking	Scope includes safer crossings, Slow Streets, bicycle facilities, and/or filling gaps in the sidewalk network	3
Equity	Project is located in an Equity	SFP Tier 1 and HDC	10
[15 total]	Area	SFP Tier 2 and HDC	8
[io total]		SFP Tier 1 only	7
		SFP Tier 2 only	5
	Project has prior community support	Documented through a neighborhood plan or community-identified high-risk location	5
Sustainability, Climate Change, & Economic Competitiveness [10 total]	Improvements support transit or transit access through safer crossings, enhanced transit amenities, or enhanced transit operations	Project located on a ConnectTen route, at a transfer intersection, or documented in a DDOT, SMART, or RTA plan	6
	Improvements increase tree canopy and/or decrease impermeable surfaces	Scope includes new trees or tree replacements, rain gardens, permeable pavements, or infiltration	4



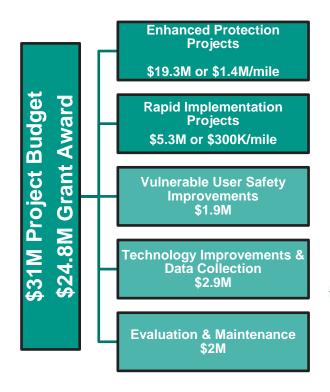
## **Project Prioritization Criteria**

- Identified potential scope of safety countermeasures for range of project types
- Currently developing guidance for designers to use in various project development phases

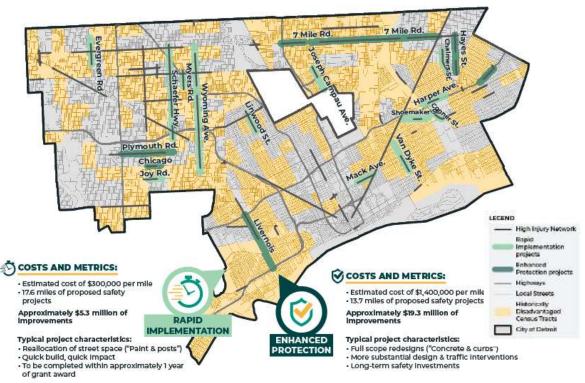
Project Type	Potential Scope
Enhanced Protection Projects	Streetscape, curb extensions, separated bike lanes, one-two way conversion, lighting
-	
Rapid Intervention Projects	Striping, crosswalk markings, paint and post treatments, signal retiming
Traffic Signals	Modernization, APS, updates, retiming, interconnects
_	
School and Park Safety Upgrades	Crosswalk markings, raised crosswalks, curb extensions
Enhanced Pedestrian Crossings	RRFBs, PHBs, refuge islands, crosswalk markings
Elifanced Pedestrian Crossings	RREDS, PHDS, leluge islatius, closswalk markings
Complex Intersections	Geometric changes, signal upgrades
High Speed Streets	Road diet, speed limit reduction, speed feedback signs
Slow Streets Network	Bicycle boulevards, raised crosswalks, traffic calming
Separated Bikeways	At-grade or sidewalk level, protected intersections
Safety Treatment Maintenance	Markings, signage, replacement costs
Fatality Spot Improvements	As determined by investigation team



#### Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant | Safe Streets for Detroit (SS4D)



<u>Goal</u>: Reduce fatal & serious injury crashes on High Injury Network (HIN) corridors under <u>City's jurisdiction</u>



#### **SS4D Sample Proven Safety Countermeasures by Sub-Project**



PROGRAM CATEGORY	SUB-PROJECT	TYPICAL COUNTERMEASURES	CRASH REDUCTION FACTOR (CRASH TYPE)	SAFE USERS	SAFE SPEEDS	SAFE STREETS
High Injury Network Interventions	Rapid Implementation Projects	Road Diet	39% (all)	X	X	X
		High visibility crosswalks	40% (pedestrians)	x		X
		Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPI)	19% (pedestrians)	X		X
		Add pedestrian crossing time	50% (ped)	X		X
	Enhanced Protection Projects	Curb Extensions/Bus Bulbs	32% (all)	X		X
		Bike Lanes	35% (all)	X		X
		Pedestrian Refuge Islands	31% (pedestrians)	X		X
		Road Diet	39% (all)	X	x	X
Systemic Safe	Neighborhood	Curb Extensions/Bus Bulbs	32% (all)	X		X
	Corridor	Pedestrian Refuge Islands	31% (pedestrians)	x		X
	Improvements	High visibility crosswalks	40% (pedestrians)	X		X
	Safety Improvements for Vulnerable Users	RRFBs	47% (pedestrians)	x		X
		Raised Crosswalks		X		X
		Intersection lighting	44% (pedestrians)	X		X
		High visibility crosswalks	40% (pedestrians)	X		X
	Signal Equipment Upgrades	Pedestrian Countdown Timers	9% (all), 70% (pedestrians)	X		X
		LED signal heads	28% (all)	X		X
		Protected Left Turn Phases	55% (all)	X		X

Source: CMF Clearinghouse

## **Let's connect!**

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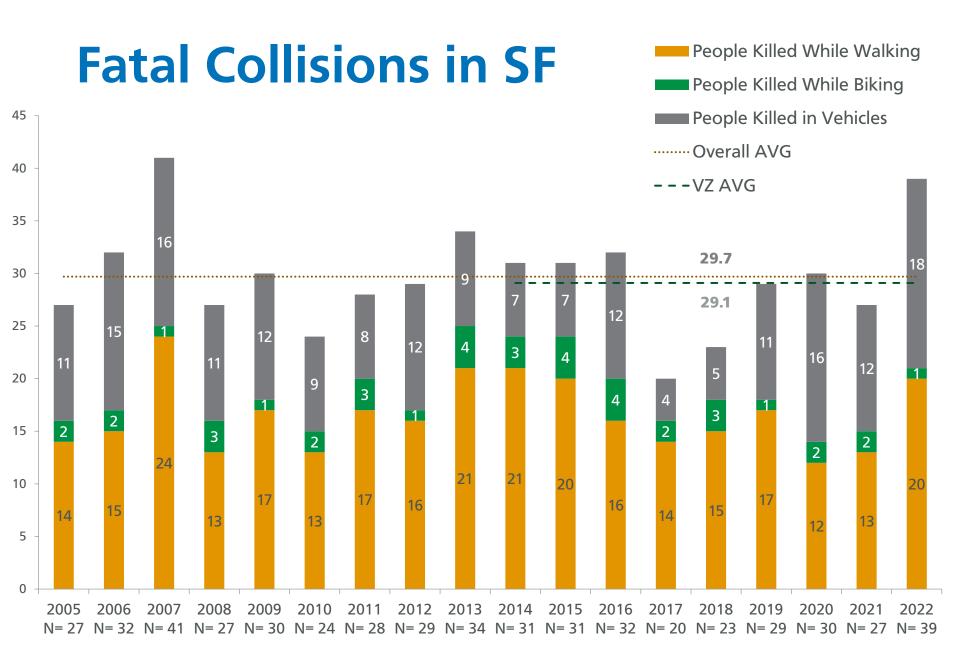






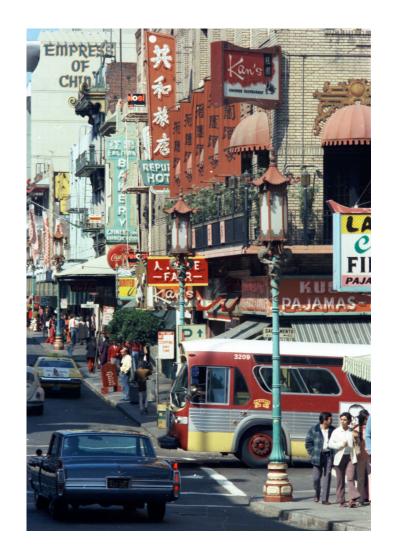
# Vision Zero Quick-Build Program

NACTO Designing Cities
May 17, 2023

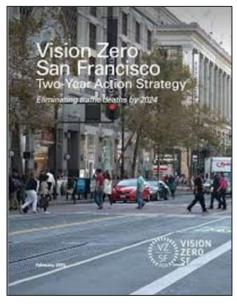


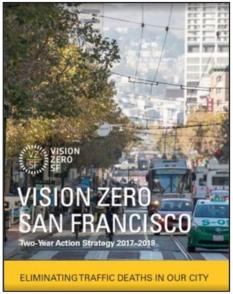
# San Francisco's Transit First Policy

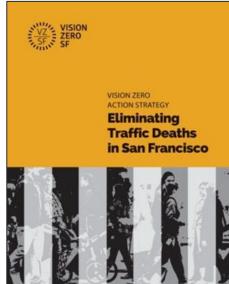
- Voter approved in 1973
- Decisions regarding the use of limited public street and sidewalk space shall encourage the use of public rights of way by pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit, and shall strive to reduce traffic and improve public health and safety.

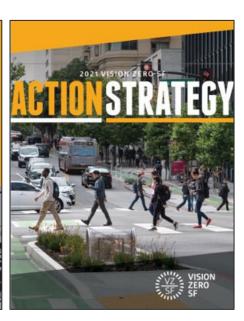


## **Vision Zero Action Strategy**









2015
What is Vision Zero?

2017
Defining a
Safe System Approach

2019
Advancing
Transformative
Policies

2021
Vision Zero Action
Strategy Update

## **2019 Vision Zero Action Strategy**



VISION ZERO
ACTION STRATEGY

Eliminating
Traffic Deaths
in San Francisco



Increase the total miles of high-impact sustainable travel lanes - transit-only lanes, protected bicycle facilities, and wider sidewalks...

Reduce delivery timelines through quick-build projects - work done entirely by city crews- ...

visionzerosf.org/about/action-strategy/

# **Mayoral Direction & Support**

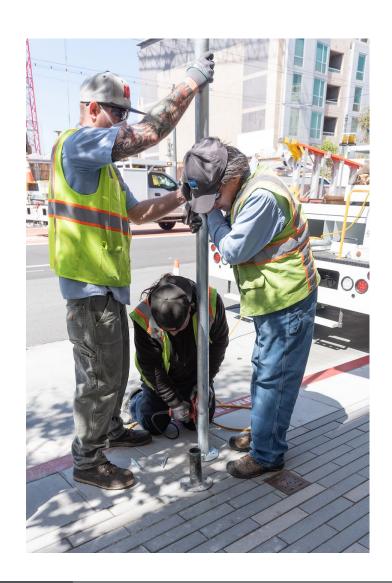
"the SFMTA will develop a policy that requires SFMTA staff to move forward with quick, near-term safety enhancements on high injury corridors, including paint, safety posts, and temporary sidewalk extensions"

March 6, 2019

"We need to make bicycling a safer, more viable choice for our residents, and this starts with expanding our network of protected bike lanes and keeping our current bike lanes clear. That's why I am directing the SFMTA to double our production of protected bike lanes over the next two years and increase enforcement of violations related to blocking bike lanes."

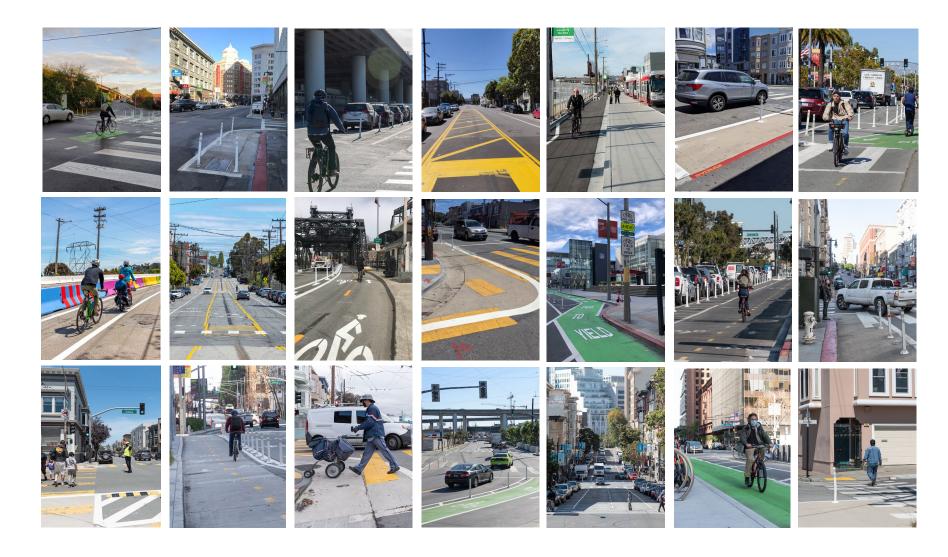
May 9, 2019 (Bike to Work Day)

# **Quick-Build Program**



- Traffic safety improvements that are
  - Easy to implement
  - Lower cost
  - Adjustable/reversible
- Design, construct, and evaluate more nimbly and iteratively

# **Quick-Build Projects**



# **Project Results**

20% improvement of bus on-time performance along 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets

Bicycle use increased by 29% along Golden Gate

Volume of vehicles traveling on Jones and Hyde decreased by 24%

SFMTA.com/SafeStreetsEvaluation

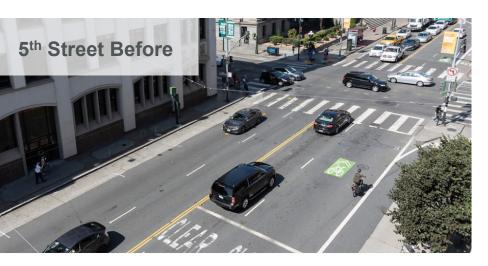




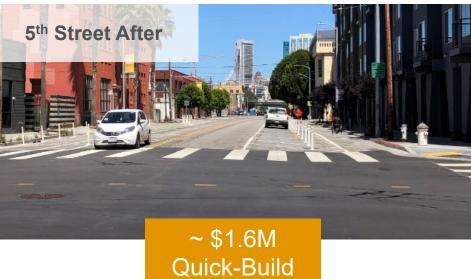
# **Project Results**

#### INVENTORY TOOLBOX RESULTS **ROAD LANE** Collisions decreased by 18% 7TH STREET REDUCTIONS 8TH STREET 85th percentile speeds FOLSOM STREETSCAPE decreased by 3% **GOLDEN GATE AVENUE** Bicycle volumes increased up to 75% LEAVENWORTH STREET **SEPARATED BIKEWAYS** TURK STREET Vehicle-bike interactions at bike signals CENTRAL EMBARCADERO decreased by 93% VALENCIA STREET Vehicles blocking the bike lane **6TH STREET** BICYCLE decreased by 90% **SIGNALS** SAFER TAYLOR STREET INDIANA STREET Pedestrian-vehicle close calls decreased by 38% CALIFORNIA STREET PAGE STREET Vehicle travel time increased an **PEDESTRIAN** FELL STREET average of 50 seconds for 7.3 miles of **UPGRADES** road lane reductions POLK STREET SECOND STREET Left turn vehicle speeds MASONIC AVENUE decreased by 17% **LEFT TURN** LEFT-TURN SAFETY TRAFFIC SAFETY

## **QUICK-BUILDS VS STREETSCAPE PROJECTS**









Streetscape

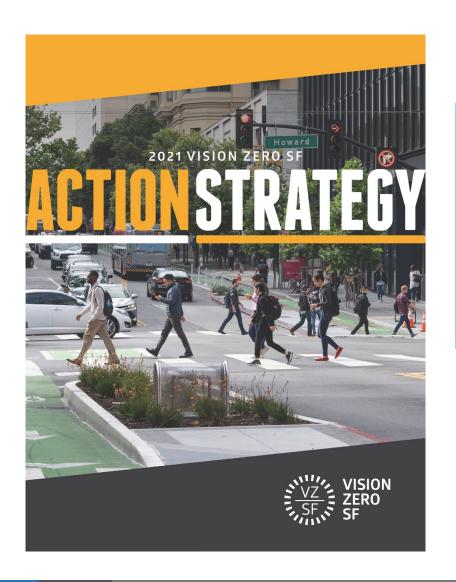
# **Program Successes**

Iterative design process using streamlined delivery and thorough evaluation

Flexibly respond to community-identified traffic safety needs and construction coordination opportunities

Maximize use of local funding for traffic safety improvements

# **2021 Vision Zero Action Strategy**



More than 80 miles of safety improvements have already been completed or are in planning or construction on the High Injury Network. This Action Strategy commits the City to applying the Quick-Build toolkit on the remaining 80 miles of the High Injury Network

visionzerosf.org/about/action-strategy/

## What's Next

#### Applying the Quick-Build Toolkit to the High Injury Network

Since 2014, approximately 80 miles of corridor-level improvements have been completed or are in planning or construction. The City has approximately 80 miles remaining on the High Injury Network that need to be updated with safety improvements. This strategy commits the City to making these core safety improvements using the Quick-Build toolkit—which can include tools such as continental crosswalks, painted safety zones, daylighting, traffic signal retiming, and protected bike lanes.





### SF is committed to applying the Quick-Build toolkit to the High Injury Network

80 MILES OF CORRIDOR-LEVEL IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED OR ARE IN PLANNING OR CONSTRUCTION

80 MILES OF HIGH INJURY NETWORK REMAINING TO BE UPDATED WITH SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

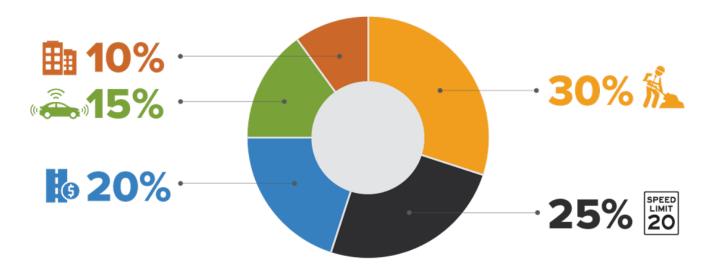
COMMUNITIES OF CONCERN

LINCOLN NORIEGA MONTEREY

30 VISION ZERO SF ACTION STRATEGY 2021-2024



## What's Next





Major Street Redesign: Car free zones, Quick-Build projects, Protected bike lane network, and transit only lanes



Speed Safety Cameras: Using speed cameras to enforce speed limits



**Mode Shift and Pricing Tools:** Moving to active transportation modes by using tools like pricing



Advanced Vehicle Technologies: Advance driver-assisted systems and smaller vehicles



**Increased Housing Density:** Housing near jobs/services, especially affordable housing and services for unhoused populations

## **Contact Information**

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