



Vision Zero

Safe, equitable, sustainable streets for Seattle

Our Vision, Mission, Values, & Goals

Seattle is a thriving equitable community powered by dependable transportation. We're on a mission to deliver a transportation system that provides safe and affordable access to places and opportunities.

Core Values & Goals:

Equity, Safety, Mobility, Sustainability, Livability, and Excellence.

Departmental goal: Make vigorous progress on Vision Zero and reimagine community safety to eliminate injuries, deaths, and disparate impacts.

Presentation overview

- A moment of silence together
- Vision Zero and the safe system approach
- Trends and who is most affected
- Focus areas and prioritization
- Key strategies
- Questions/discussion

Moment of silence

Since launching Vision Zero in 2015, nearly 1,200 people have been seriously injured in a crash.

192 people have died, including 26 people this year.

We take a moment together to center on these lives lost and forever changed, and on the harm caused by traffic crashes.



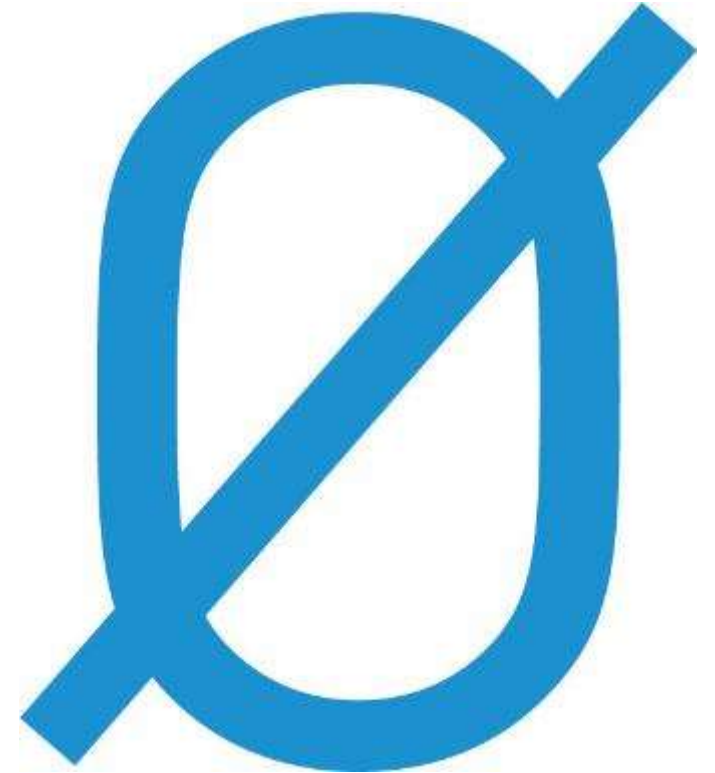
Photo: Seattle Neighborhood Greenways

What is Vision Zero?

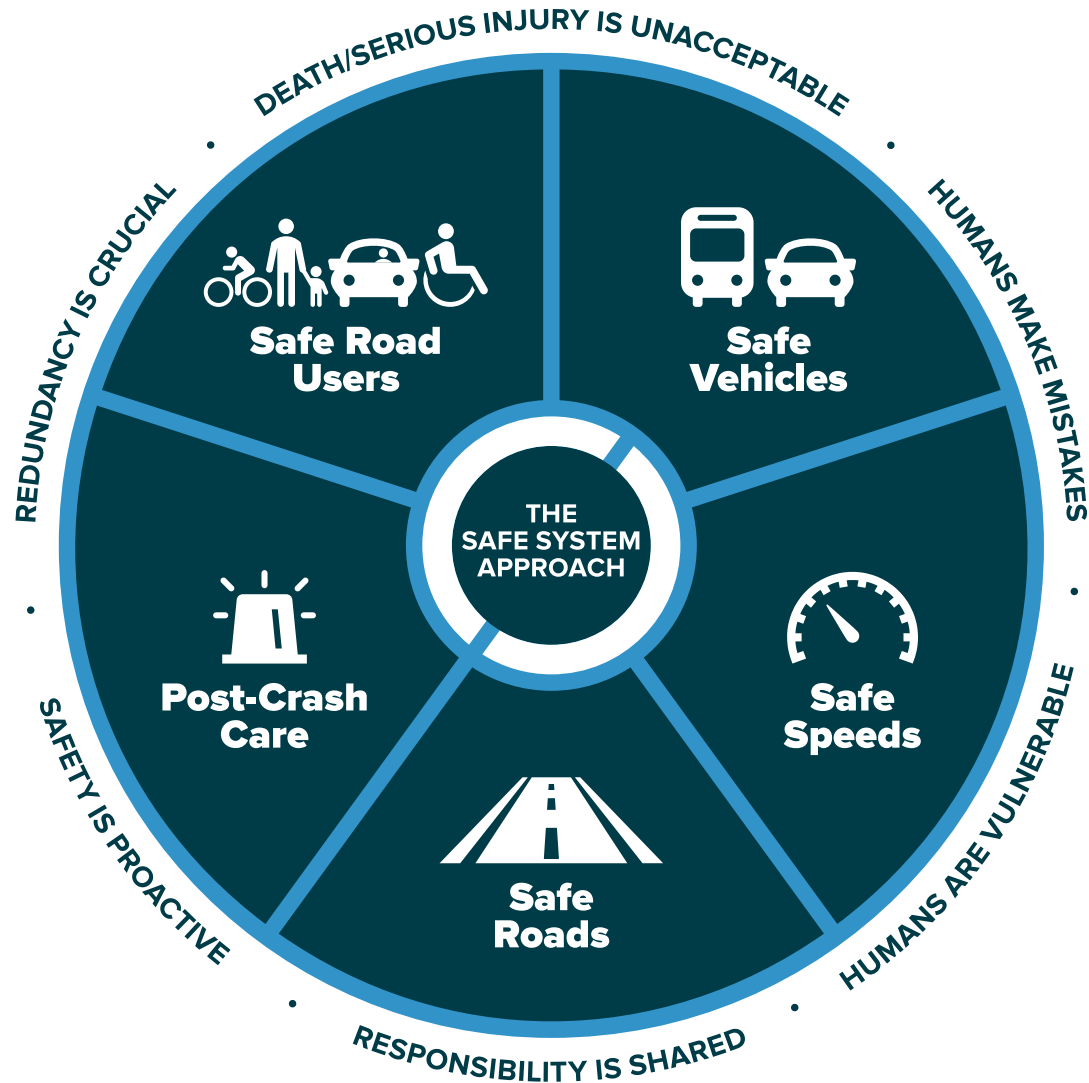
Seattle's goal to end traffic deaths and serious injuries on city streets by 2030.


Key principles

- Traffic deaths and injuries are preventable
- Humans make mistakes, are vulnerable and fragile
- Success does not hinge on individual behavior, but on the design of a safe system



A new mentality for roadway safety: safe system approach



 Secretary Pete Buttigieg 
@SecretaryPete

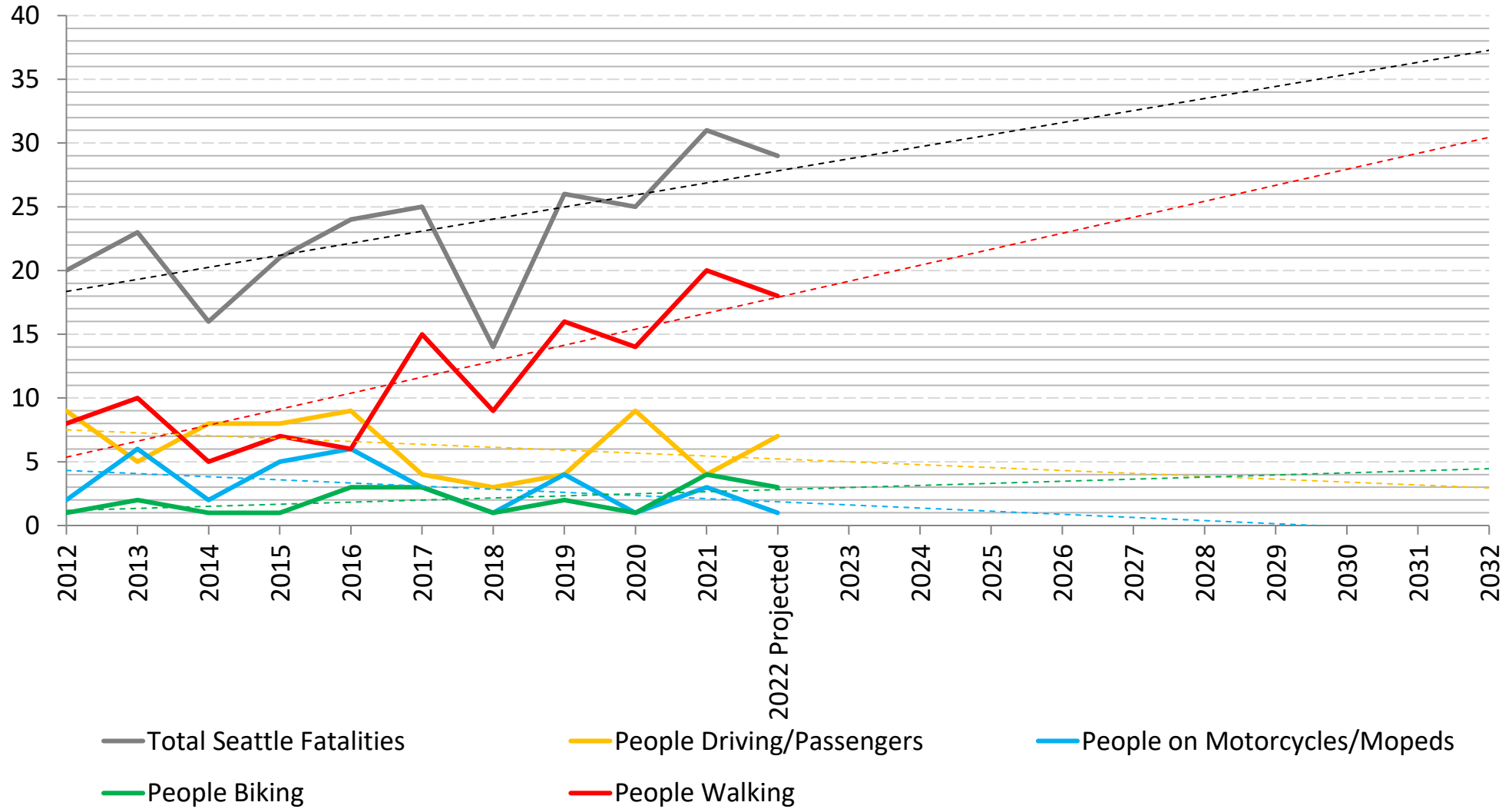
We would never tolerate 3,000 deaths per month on America's airlines or subways, but on our roads we act like it's normal.

It's time for a new mentality for roadway safety.

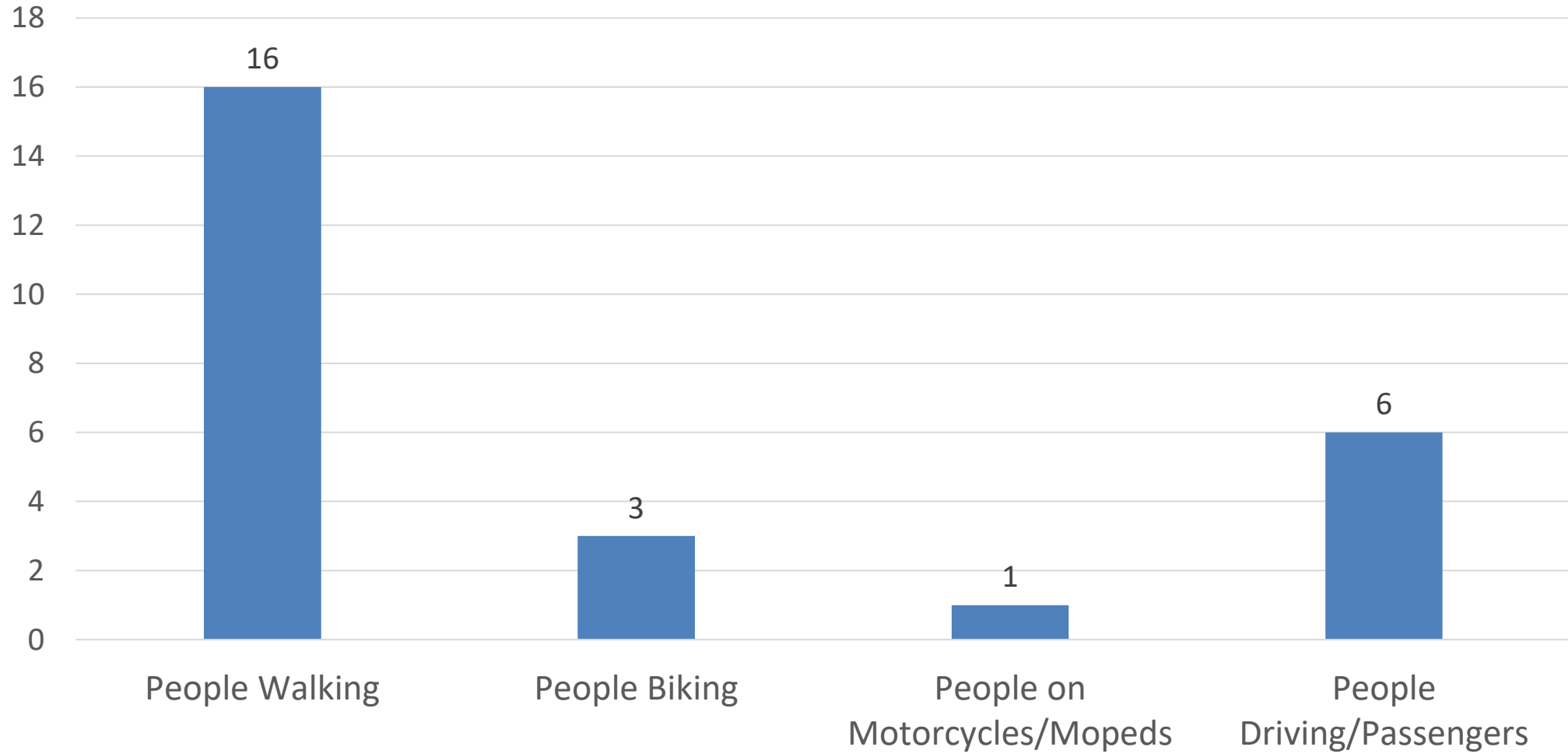
7:45 AM · Jan 31, 2022 · Twitter Web App

657 Retweets 74 Quote Tweets 4,763 Likes

Traffic Fatalities on Seattle Streets



2022 Fatalities by Mode



Key issues: speed and conflict points

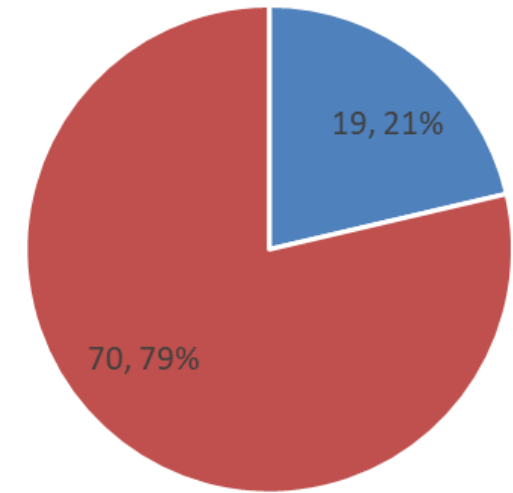
93% of pedestrian fatalities occurred on arterials

80% of these were multi-lane arterials (more than 1 lane in each direction)

40% of pedestrian collisions occur at signalized intersections

80% of crashes that killed a person biking occurred on a street with no bike facility

Roadway type where people walking were killed

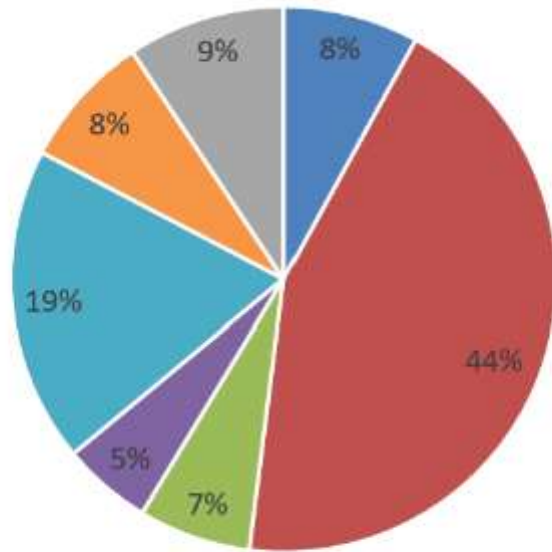


■ Single lane in each direction ■ Multi lane

2015 - June 2022 data

Where are fatal and serious crashes occurring?

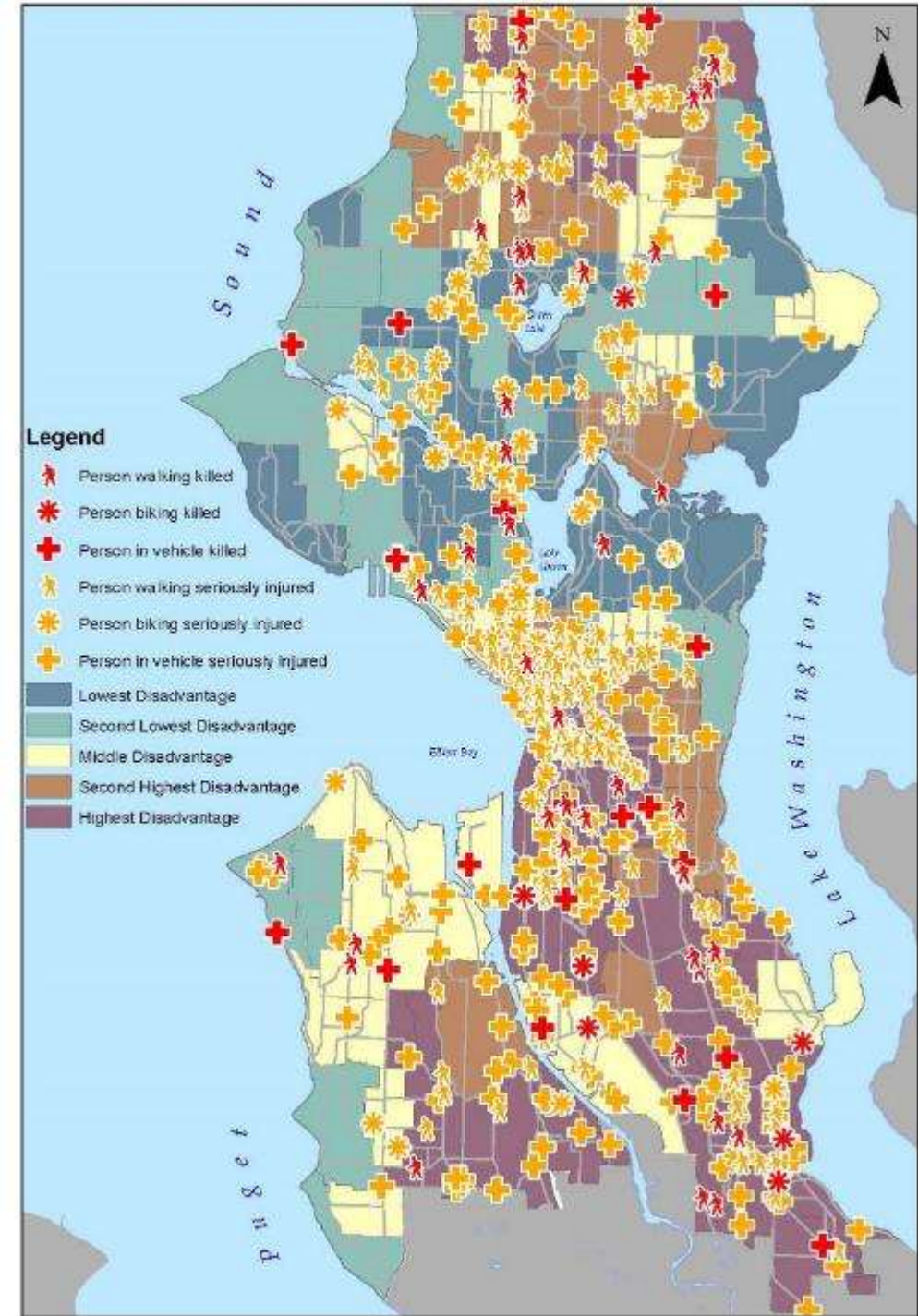
2019-2021 fatalities
by Council District



Last 3 years, nearly half of fatal crashes occurred in District 2.

In 2021, 56% were in D2.

■ Dist 1 ■ Dist 2 ■ Dist 3 ■ Dist 4 ■ Dist 5 ■ Dist 6 ■ Dist 7



Vision Zero focus areas

To advance safety and equity, we prioritize investments in areas of highest need.

High Injury Network

- **Darker orange** = higher priority
- Reactive and targeted approach based on fatal and serious injury crash history and equity

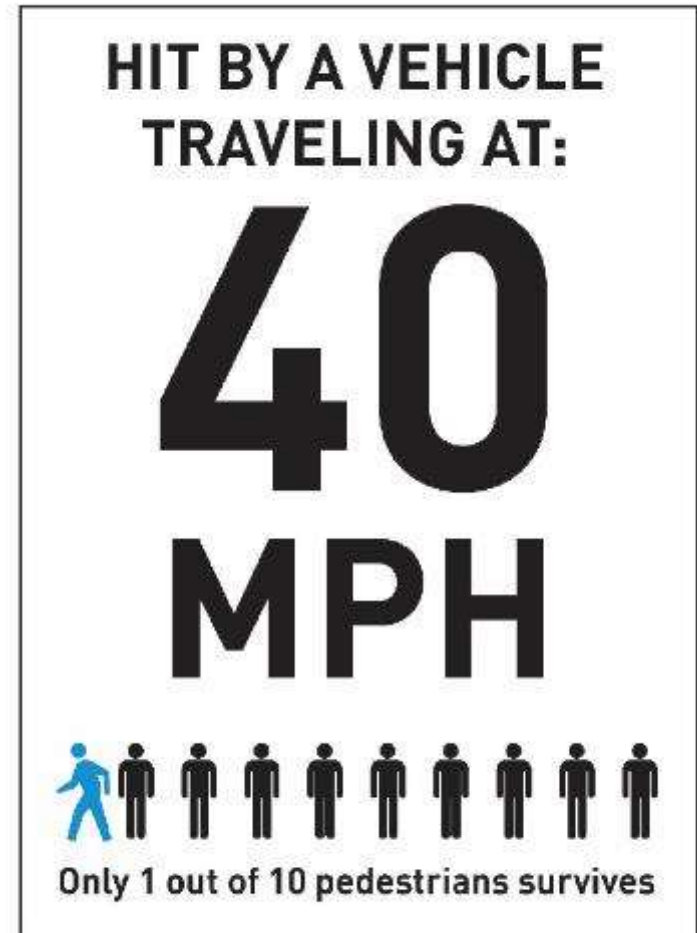
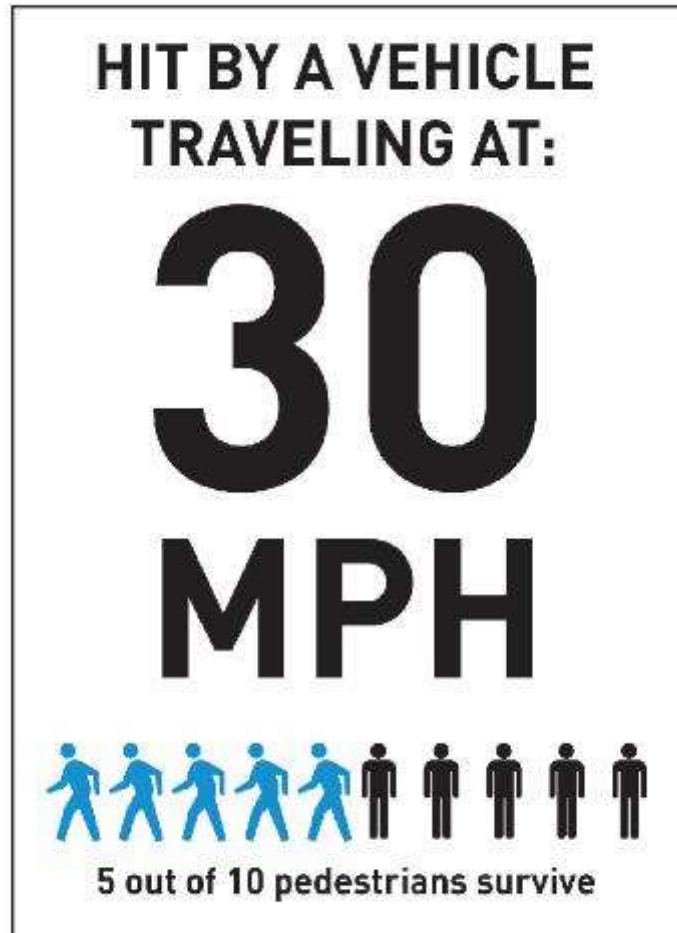
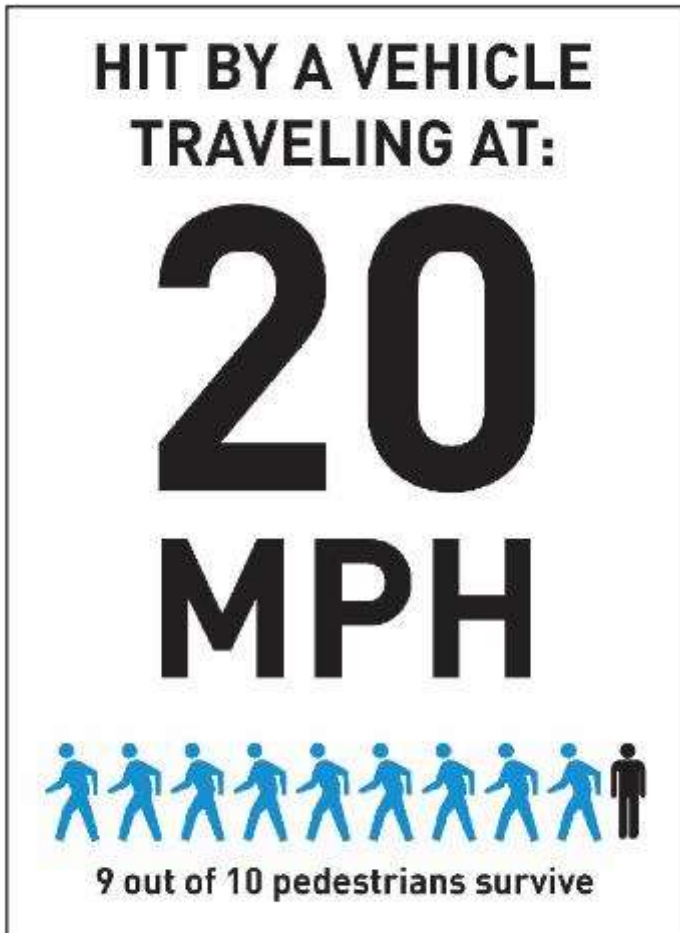
Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Analysis

- Guides proactive investments to prevent crashes, based on crash risk for most vulnerable

2022 High Injury Network Map



Key strategy: calm traffic, slow speeds through design



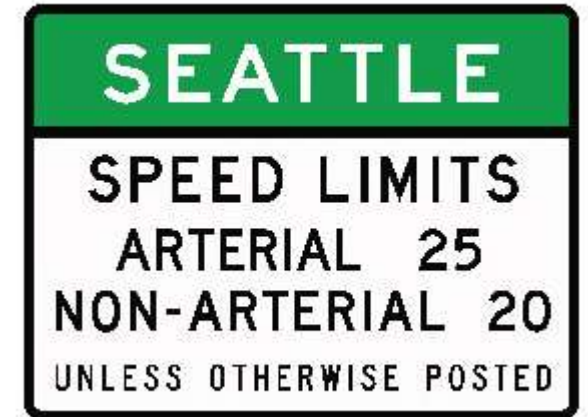
Safe speeds: an iterative process

Step 1: change signs

- ✓ Lower citywide speed limits to more survivable speeds
- ✓ Make signs larger and more frequent
- ✓ Outcome: 90+% of city arterials are signed at 25 MPH

Step 2: change **design**

- Redesign streets to result in lower vehicle speeds (make it uncomfortable to go over the speed limit)
- Prioritize safety of most vulnerable over vehicle throughput and speed
- Focus on highest need areas first



Key strategy: separate through space and time

Separate vulnerable travelers, minimize conflict opportunities

Since 2019, we've added leading pedestrian intervals (LPIs) to nearly half our ~1,000 traffic signals. This small but mighty treatment gives people walking and rolling a 3-7 second head start at the intersection.

Benefits:

- 50% reduction in pedestrian turning collisions
- 35% reduction in serious and fatal collisions

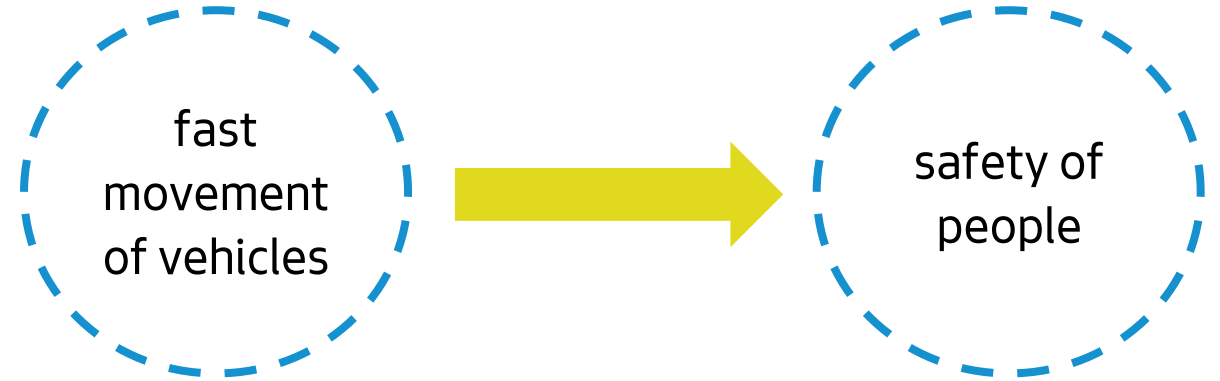


More than a slogan

Requires a paradigm shift.

We must move toward prioritizing the safe movement of human beings, rather than the fast movement of vehicles.

- Safety of people as the top priority
- Slow down to the speed of life
- Reallocate street space

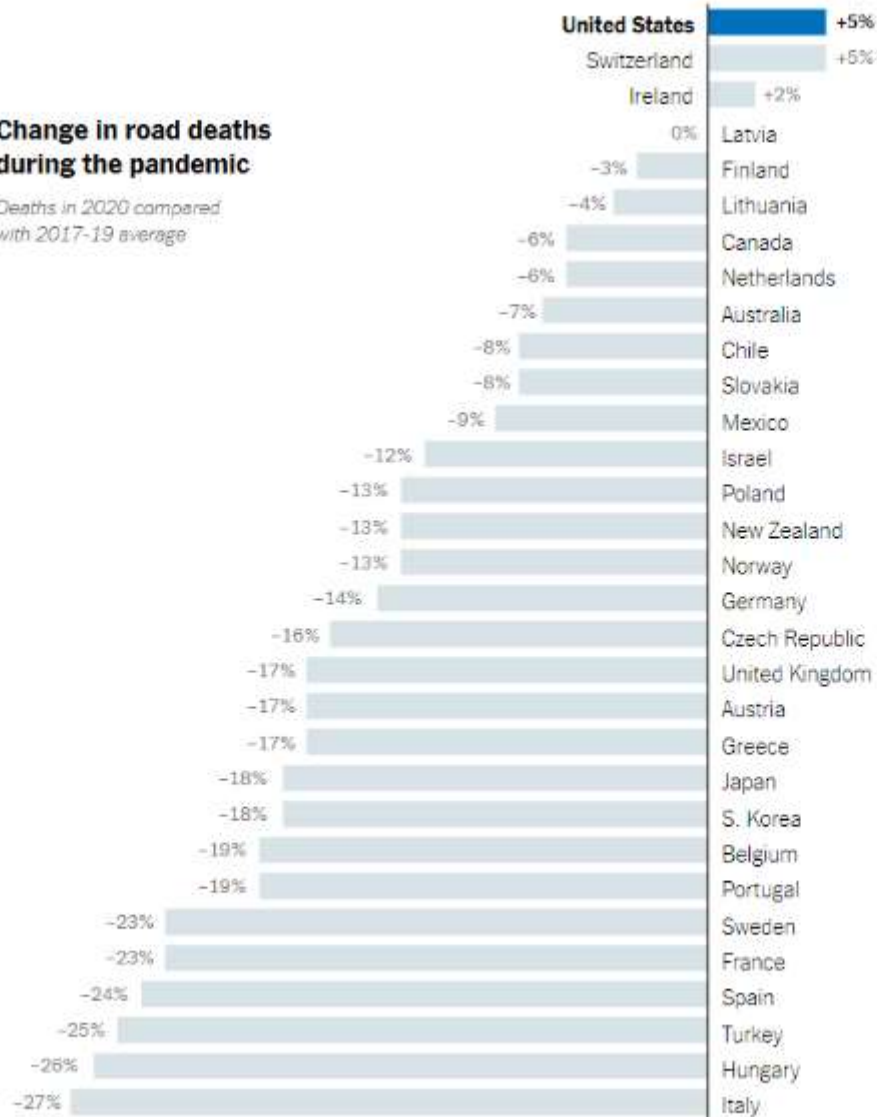


- Alignment across all levels of leadership
- Need community support and partnership

Ending on a positive note: this is achievable

Change in road deaths during the pandemic

Deaths in 2020 compared with 2017-19 average



Source: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development • The New York Times



CURBED

GETTING AROUND | JUNE 17, 2022

Hoboken Hasn't Had a Traffic Death in Four Years. What's It Doing Right?

By Christopher Robbins



Photo: Chris Robbins

Questions?

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www.seattle.gov/visionzero

