



# West Hartford Vision Zero Public Meeting

September 19, 2023







# Introduction

# Agenda

- Introduction
- Vision Zero Overview
- Study Process
- Safety Assessment Findings
- A Process That Works
- Next Steps
- **Open House**





# Our Team



Vision Zero  
Task Force

# Consultant Team



**Parker**  
Study Process &  
Safety Assessment



**Shawna**  
Webmap & Survey



**Adam**  
Action Plan



**Ben**  
Safety Assessment



**Michael**  
Action Plan

**Vision Zero** is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all.

# West Hartford's Path to Vision Zero



## U.S.

**Pedestrian deaths  
in U.S. reach  
highest level in 40  
years**

Feb 2, 2023 6:40 PM EDT

## Connecticut

### Passing the Vision Zero Bill will save lives

 by Abigail Roth  
April 7, 2023 @ 12:01 am



PIXY.ORG

## West Hartford

Government • Police/Fire

### West Hartford Police: Pedestrian Killed in Hit and Run Incident

December 20, 2022 • 1 Comment

NEWS

West Hartford residents call for change after five motor vehicle deaths in a week

 Emily DiSalvo  
Dec. 28, 2022 | Updated: Dec. 29, 2022 9:09 a.m.

WEST HARTFORD

### West Hartford Town Officials Look to 'Vision Zero' Policy in Eliminating Traffic Deaths

Published January 7, 2023 • Updated on January 8, 2023 at 9:02 am



# Local Policy Context



## Town of West Hartford



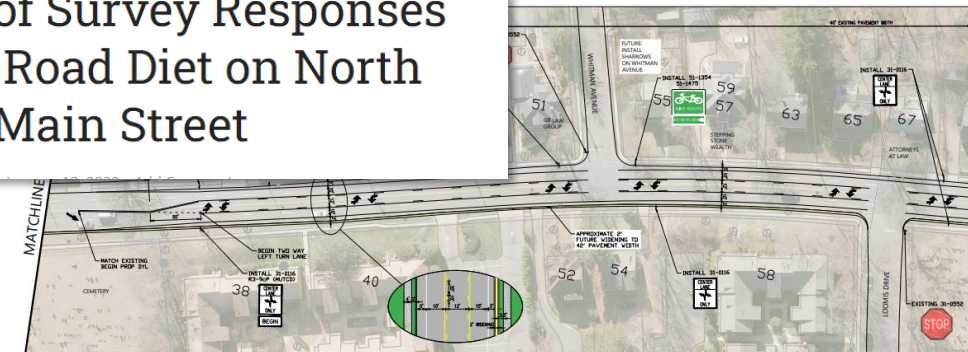
Plan of Conservation and Development 2020 – 2030

## RESOLUTION ADOPTING A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY FOR THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD



## Majority of Survey Responses Support Road Diet on North Main Street

Government

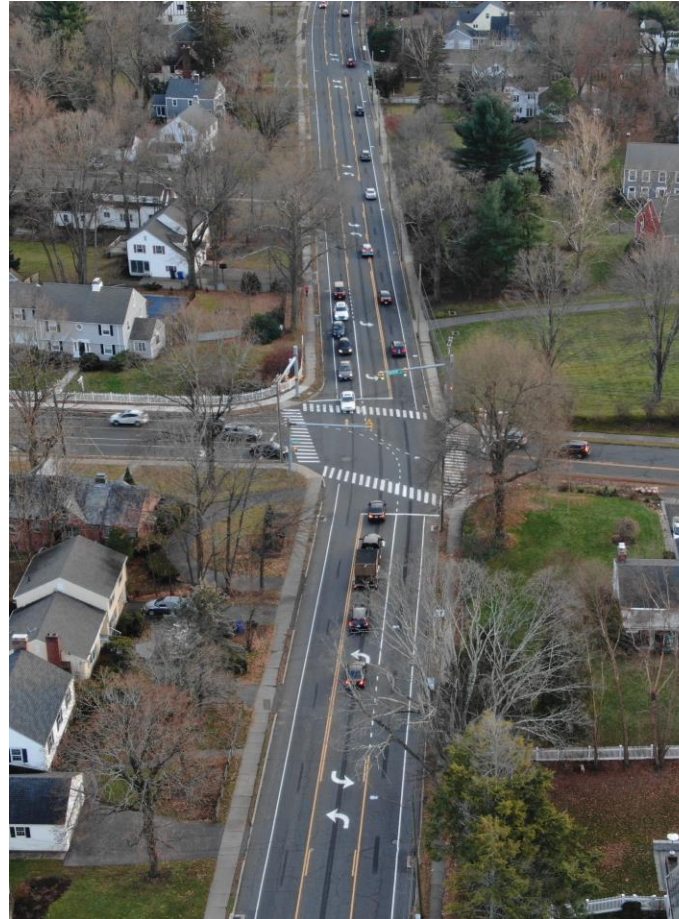




# Programs & Plans



**Vision Zero** is one of many on-going and upcoming efforts to promote roadways safety in West Hartford.







# Vision Zero Overview



# Where is Vision Zero Happening?



## VISION ZERO NETWORK



Map update: August 2022



# Safe Systems Approach

The Safe Systems Approach  
**places safety first and foremost**  
in road investment decisions.

- Safe Road Users
- Safe Vehicles
- Safe Speeds
- Safe Roads
- Post-crash Care



# How is Vision Zero Different?



Conventional Approach	Vision Zero Approach
Traffic deaths are inevitable	Traffic deaths are preventable
Prevent collisions	Prevent fatal and severe crashes
Perfect human behavior	Integrate human error into approach
Individual responsibility	Systems approach

# Vision Zero Action Plans



**Vision, Strategies, Action:**  
Guidelines for an Effective  
Vision Zero Action Plan

December 2017

- Data-driven
- Clear timeline for implementation
- Measurable goals
- Emphasis on equity
- Accountable
- Transparent



# How Will Plan Be Used?



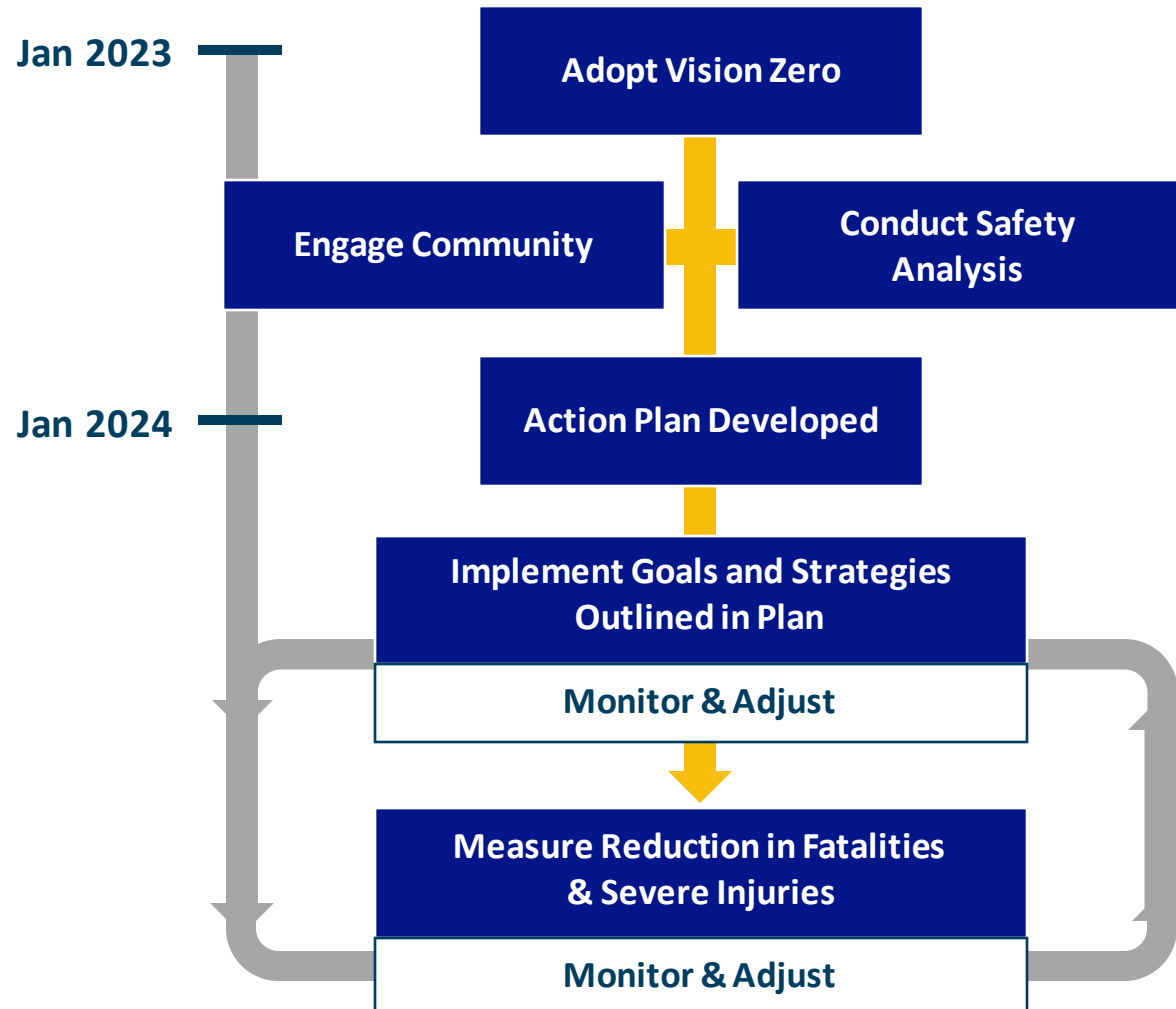
- Establish **comprehensive roadmap** for how crashes with serious injuries and fatalities will be eliminated in West Hartford
- Prioritize improvements at high-injury locations
- Secure federal funding



# Study Process



# Long-Range Process





# Public & Stakeholder Input



## Input

- ★ Task Force
  - Community Webmap
  - Public Survey
  - Public Meetings  
(September & December)
  - Webpage & Email
  - Stakeholder Meetings

## Outcomes

- Define the problem
- Prioritize locations
- Identify the types of changes

# Your Input Is Important!



- Understand your lived experience

- Safety concerns
- Unique challenges
- Understand existing conditions

# Your Input Is Important!



- Understand your lived experience
- Identify focus areas

- Locations of concern
- Relation to crash history & equity



# Your Input Is Important!



- Understand your lived experience
- Identify focus areas
- Lay foundation for implementation

- Improvement ideas
- Adequacy of safety improvements
- Short-term opportunities

# Your Input Is Important!

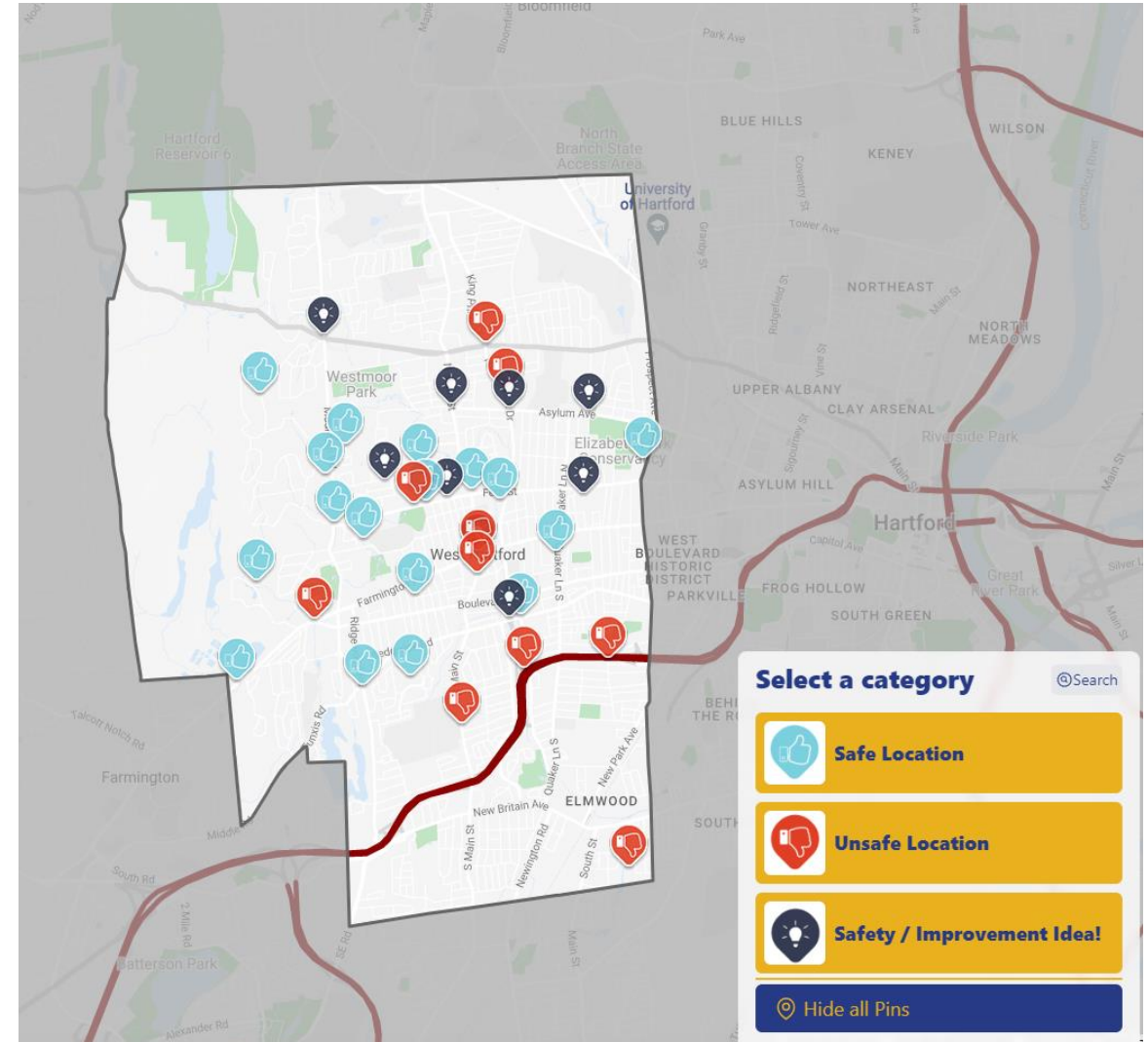


- Understand your lived experience
- Identify focus areas
- Lay foundation for implementation
- Make West Hartford more competitive for grants
- Demonstrate community support

# Your Input Is Important!



- Understand your lived experience
- Identify focus areas
- Lay foundation for implementation
- Make West Hartford more competitive for grants



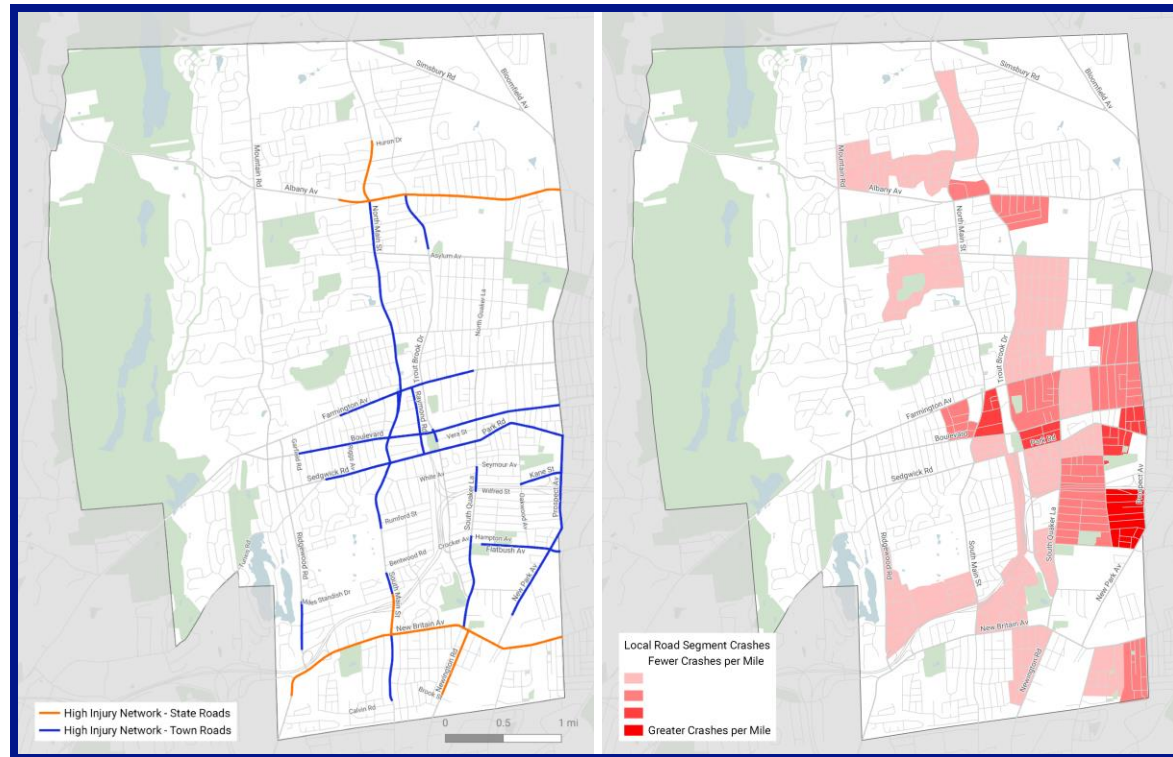




# Safety Assessment

# Foundation for Implementation

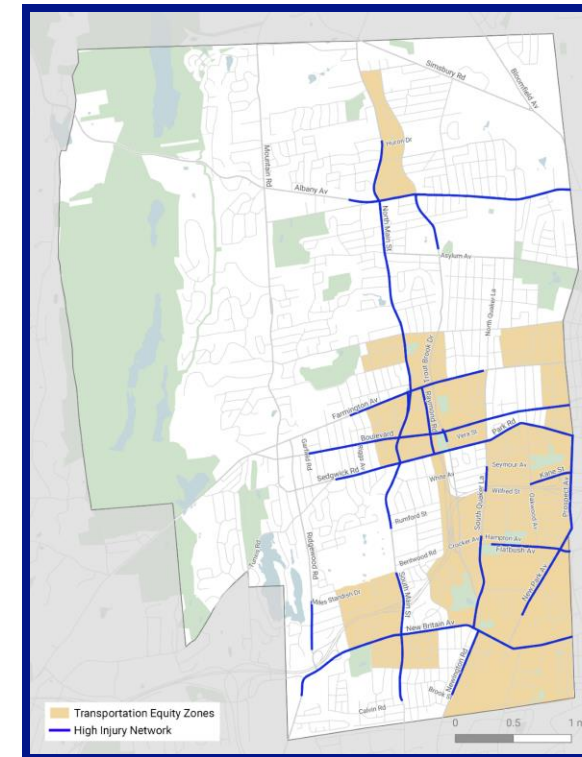
## Strong Technical Analysis



*High Injury Network*

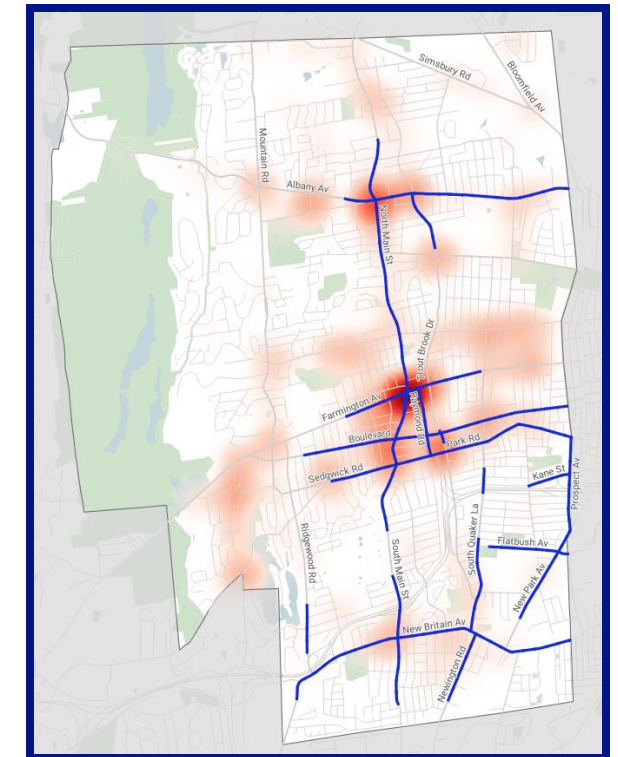
*Local Road Analysis*

## Equitable Implementation



*Transportation Equity Zones*

## Strong Community Support

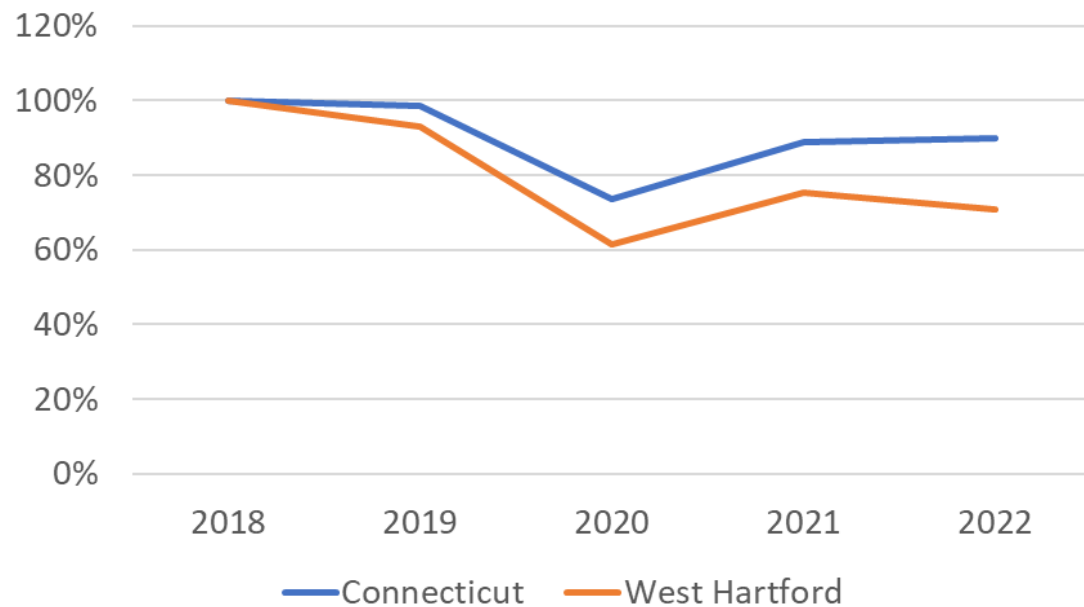


*Community Webmap*

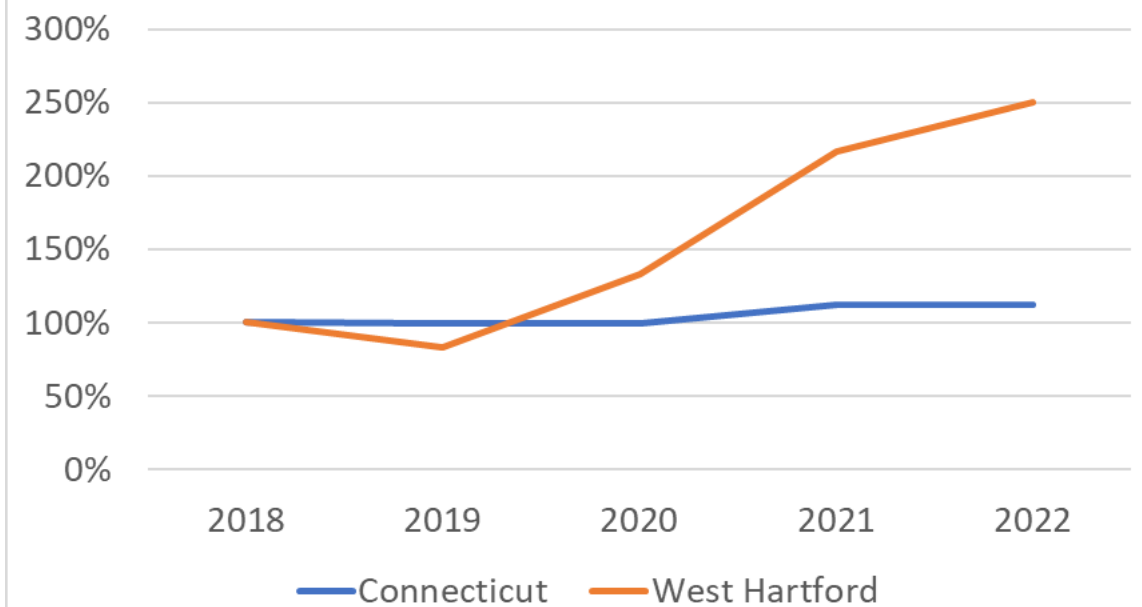


# Findings

All Crashes - Indexed to 2018



Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes - Indexed to 2018



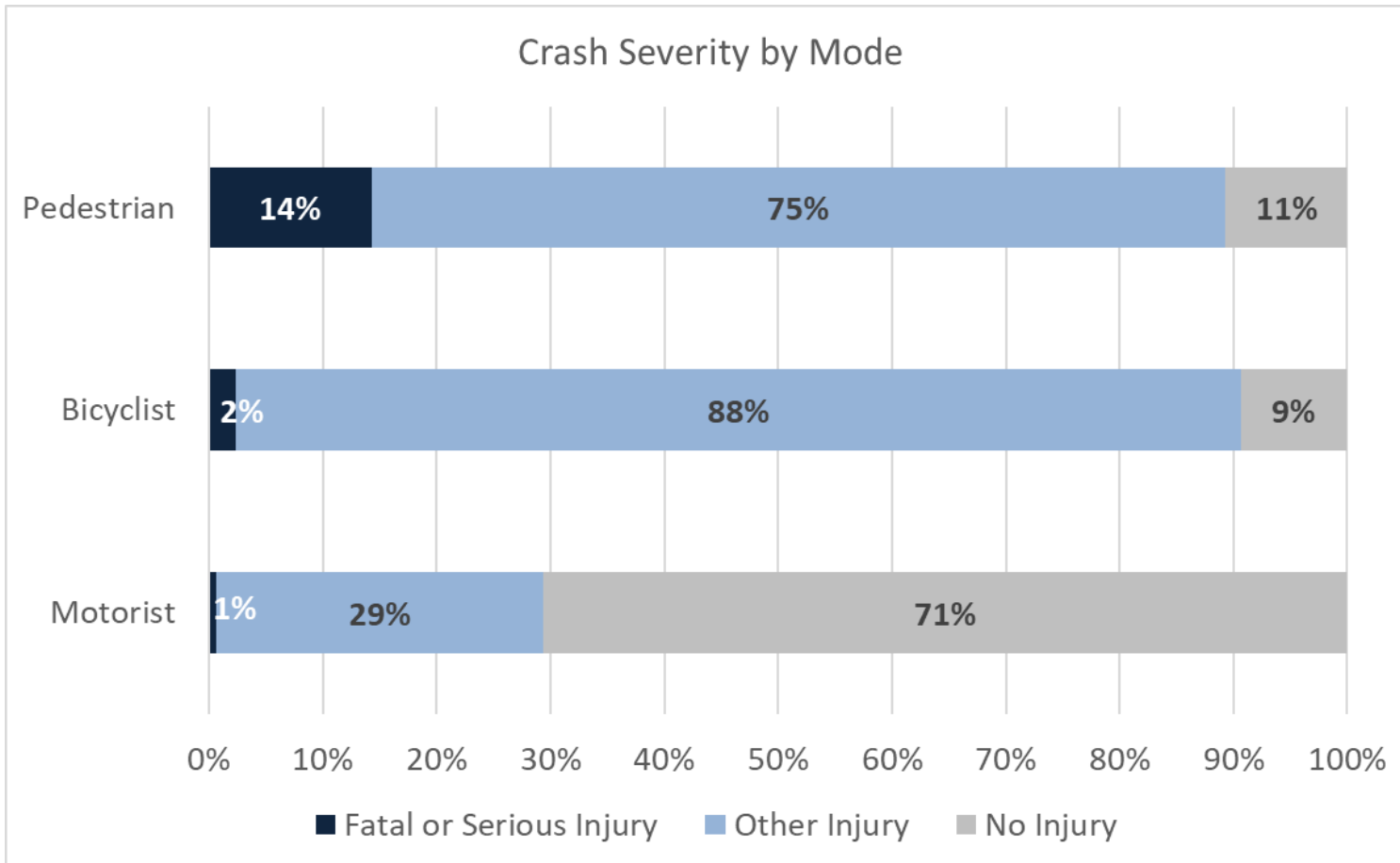


# Findings



- Fatal and serious injury crashes have **increased over the past 5 years**

# Findings



- The majority of pedestrian or bicyclist crashes resulted in injury
- 14% of pedestrian crashes resulted in a fatality or serious injury

# Findings



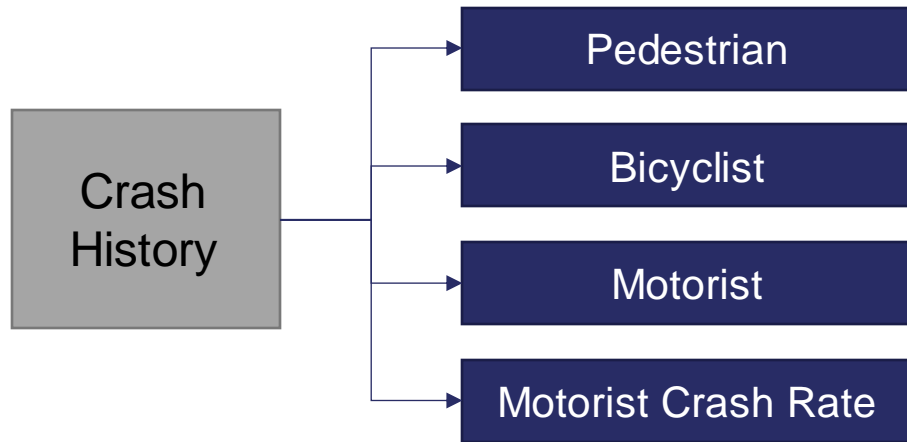
- Fatal and serious injury crashes have increased over the past 5 years
- Pedestrian and bicyclist crashes are **more likely to result in injury or fatality**



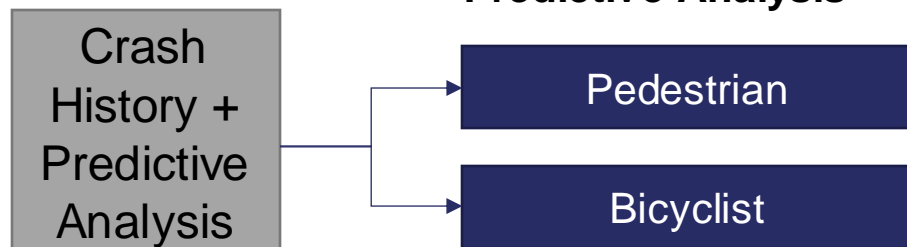
# Findings

## Crash Corridor Analysis

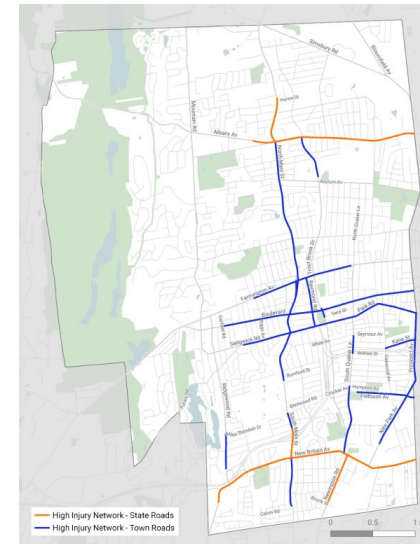
*Identify corridors with a history of injury crashes*



## Predictive Analysis



## High Injury Network (All Modes)



# Findings



- Fatal and serious injury crashes have increased over the past 5 years
- Pedestrian and bicyclist crashes are more likely to result in injury or fatality
- West Hartford's High Injury Network includes **9% of roadways on which 56% of fatal or serious injury crashes occurred**

# Findings



- Fatal and serious injury crashes have increased over the past 5 years
- Pedestrian and bicyclist crashes are more likely to result in injury or fatality
- West Hartford's High Injury Network includes 9% of roadways on which 56% of fatal or serious injury crashes occurred

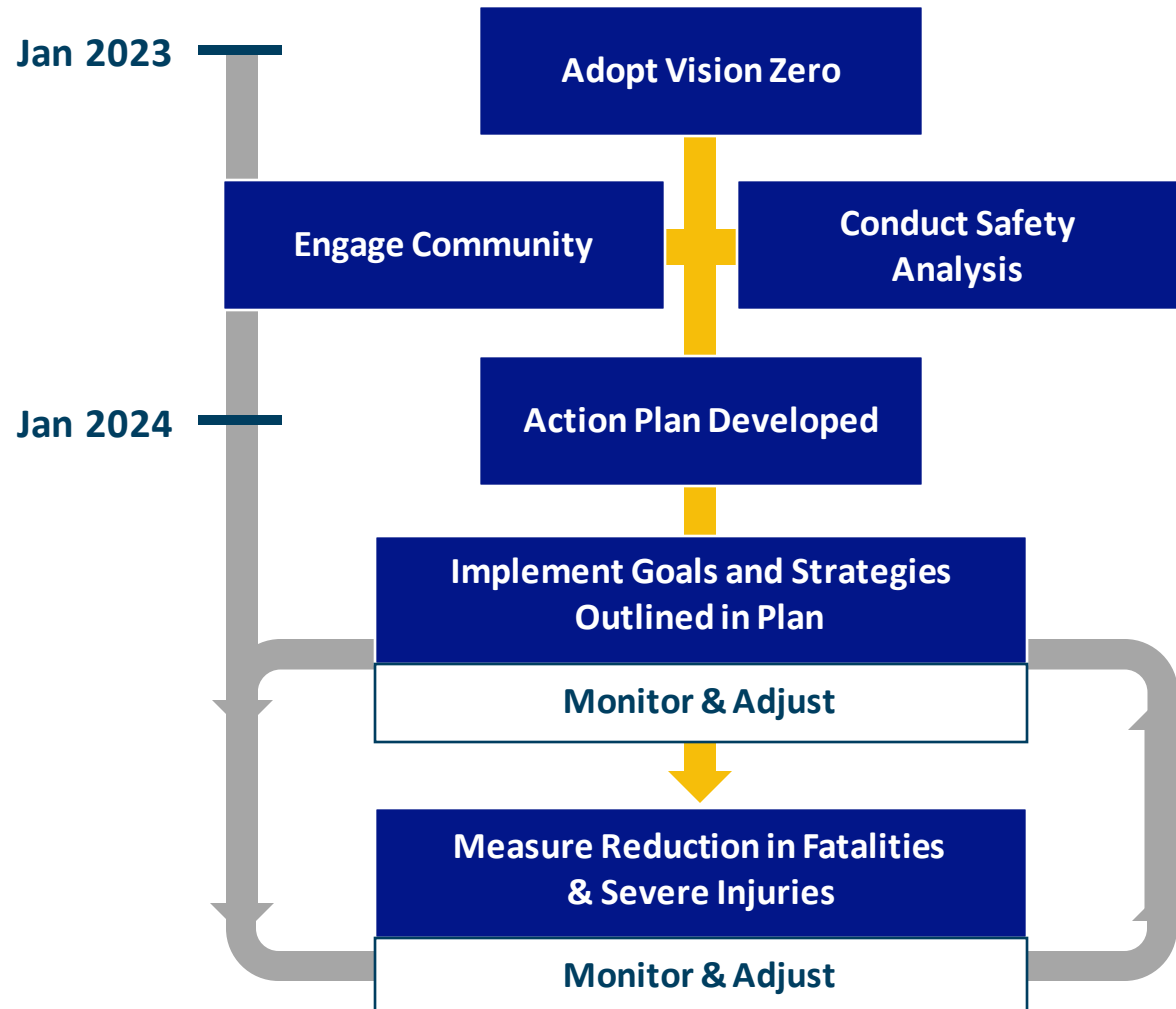




# A Process That Works



# Long-Range Process

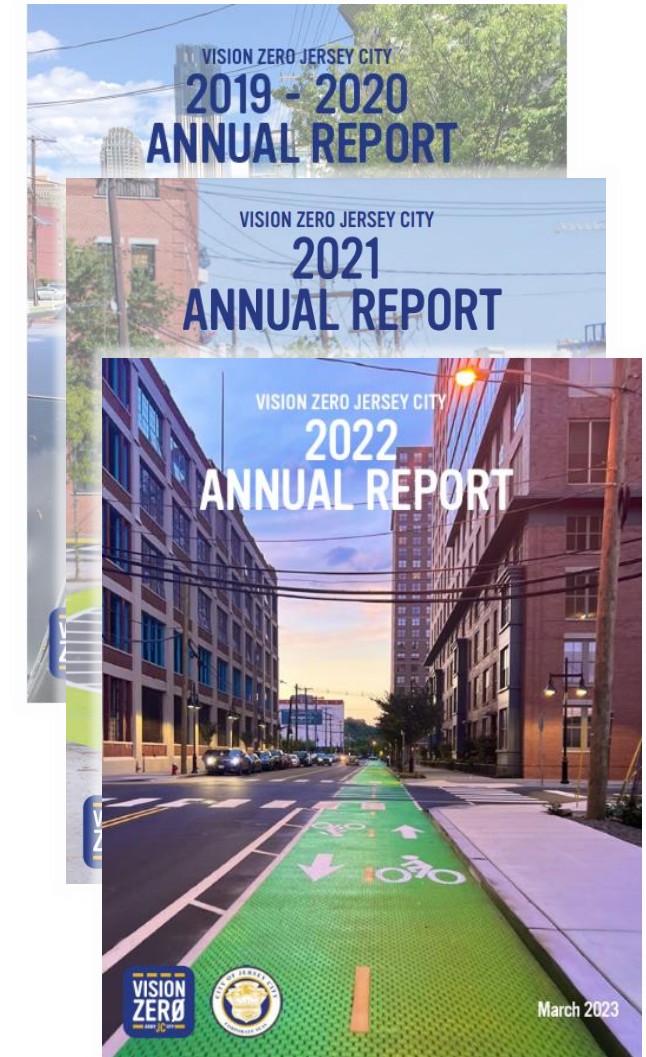




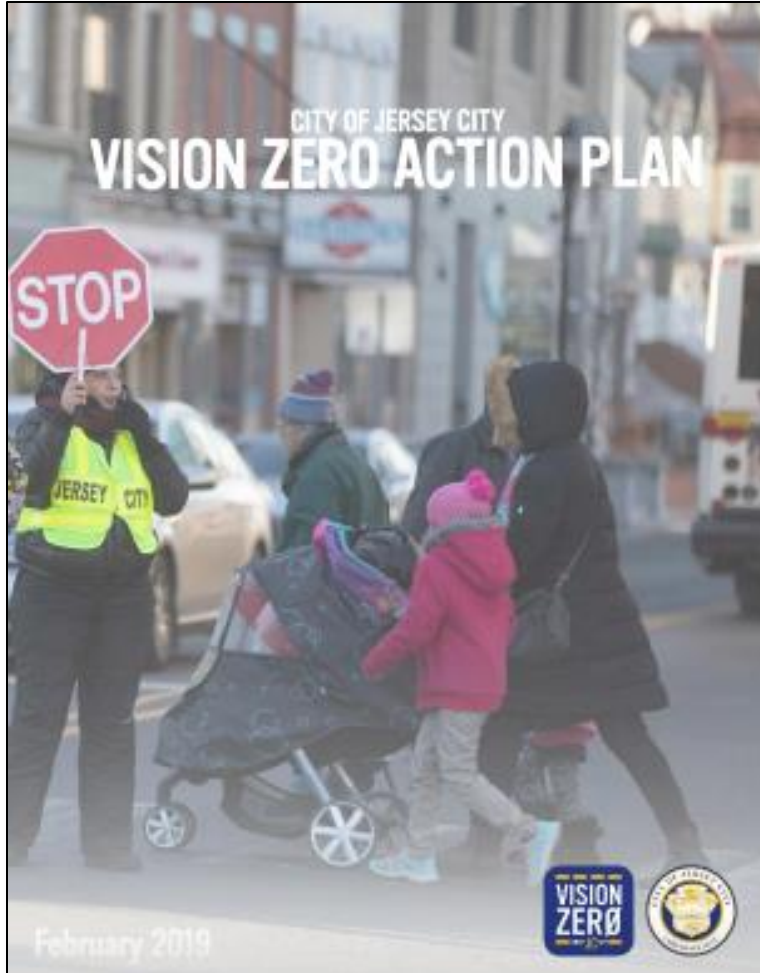
# Case Study: Jersey City



- Planning
- Implementation
- Monitoring
- Shared responsibility



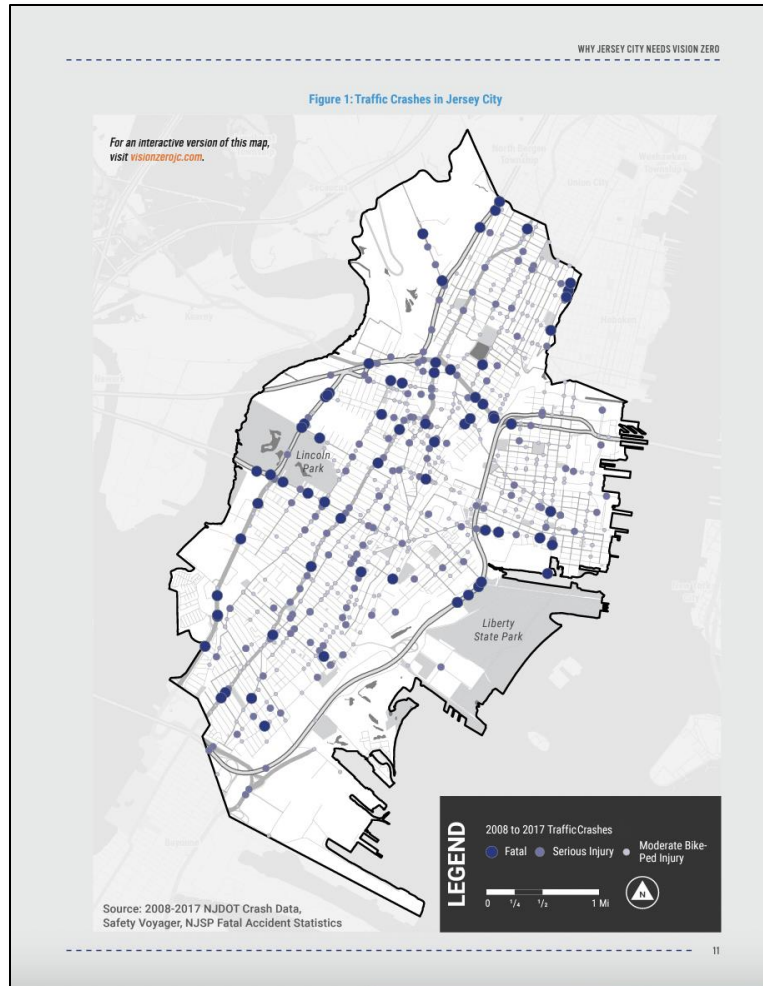
# Components of Action Plan





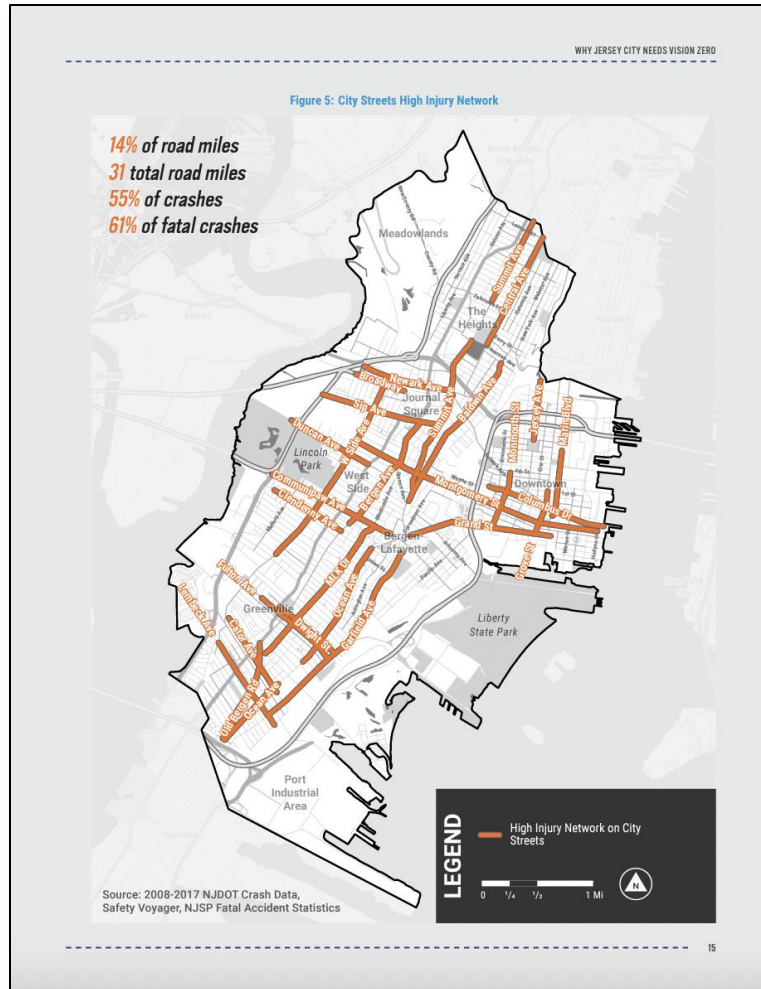
# Components of Action Plan

- Crash analysis

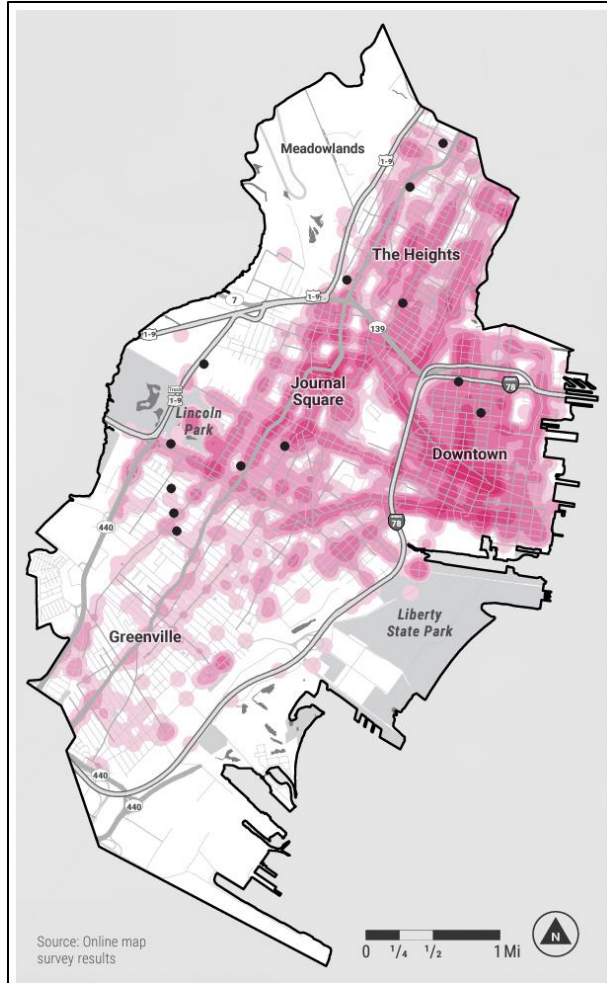


# Components of Action Plan

- Crash analysis
- High Injury Network



# Components of Action Plan



- Crash analysis
- High Injury Network
- Community input

# Components of Action Plan

## JERSEY CITY VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN

### Actions to Design Safer Streets

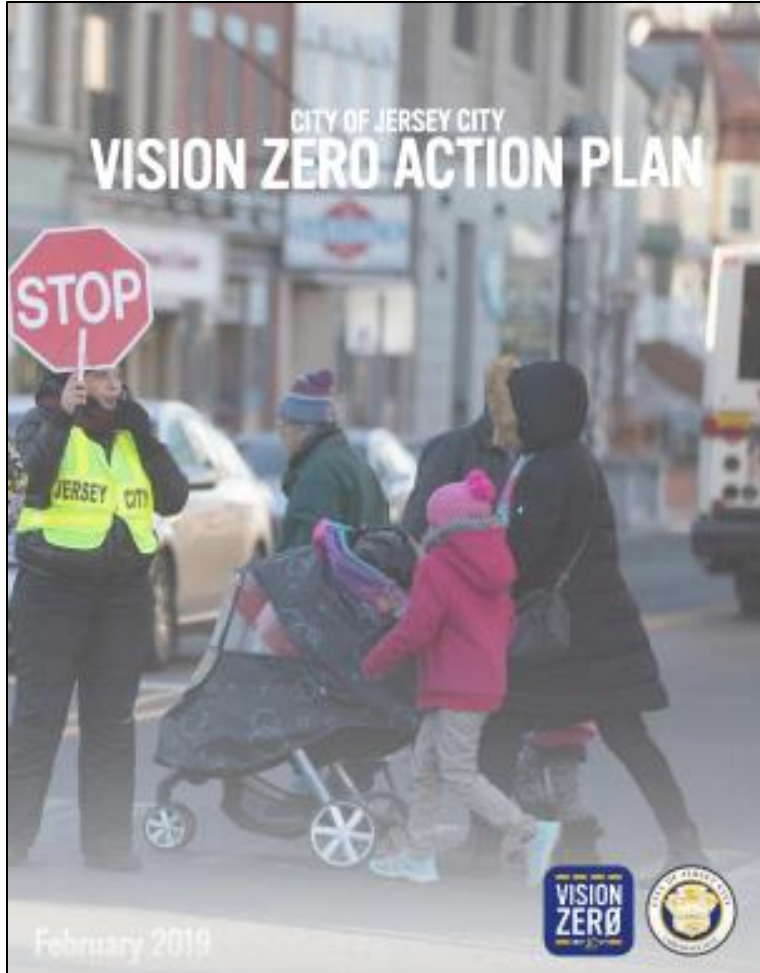
Action	Partners*	Timeframe	Performance Measures
<b>1.1</b> Incorporate the current speed hump program into a broader traffic calming policy that encompasses a wider menu of traffic calming options including raised intersections, traffic circles, diverters, forced turn channelization, and other treatments permissible on residential streets.	<b>T, E, M, C</b>	2 year	Update speed hump guidelines and application process
<b>1.2</b> Develop a neighborhood slow zone program to allow neighborhoods to request treatments to slow motor vehicles to 15 to 20 mph using traffic calming features, signs, and markings. Explore feasibility of setting a 20 mph speed limit on residential streets.	<b>T, P</b>	2 year	Pilot one neighborhood slow zone near a school along the HIN
<b>1.3</b> Prioritize major safety engineering projects at locations along the High Injury Network.	<b>E, P, DPW, T</b>	Annual	Conduct safety evaluations along 5 miles along the HIN per year
<b>1.4</b> Advance high-priority projects established in Bike Master Plan.	<b>E, P, T</b>	Annual	Prepare concept development studies for 2 miles of protected bike lanes per year
<b>1.5</b> Increase the visibility of crossing pedestrians at intersections and mid-block crosswalks through design strategies such as painted curbs, flex posts, and bike corrals.	<b>T, E, P, DPW</b>	2 year	Evaluate 30 of the most dangerous intersections along the HIN for potential improvements
<b>1.6</b> Update Standard Engineering Details to strengthen requirements to maintain pedestrian and bicycle access near construction zones.	<b>E, DPW, T</b>	2 year	Update Traffic Barricade Manual and standard engineering details
<b>1.7</b> Explore the desirability and feasibility of introducing additional pedestrian malls throughout the City.	<b>P, BA, E, M, T</b>	2 year	Evaluate one new pedestrian plaza location
<b>1.8</b> Launch a citywide initiative to treat streets as places by incorporating placemaking efforts, with public art, green infrastructure and neighborhood amenities, into traffic safety initiatives prioritizing Communities of Concern.	<b>P, BA, E, DPW, T</b>	2 year	Pilot one placemaking initiative enhancing locations along the HIN
<b>1.9</b> Work with JC Public Schools to establish dedicated school drop-off/pick-up zones.	<b>T, E, C, PE, P</b>	2 year	Pilot dedicated pick-up/drop-off zones at 6 schools along the HIN
<b>1.10</b> Undertake a review of loading zones and vehicle-for-hire staging areas to determine if relocation or consolidation of sites is appropriate, especially along the HIN corridors.	<b>T, C, E, P</b>	2 year	Pilot new loading zone spacing and design on approximately 1/2 mile-long segment of one corridor

\* **ABC**: Lead partner      ABC: Supporting partner(s)

- Crash analysis
- High Injury Network
- Community input
- Actions, timelines, partners & performance metrics



# Components of Action Plan



- Crash analysis
- High Injury Network
- Community input
- Actions, timelines, partners & performance metrics

# Case Study: Jersey City



## How Jersey City Made it Through 2022 With Zero Traffic Deaths

2022 is predicted to be another record-breaker in terms of traffic fatalities, but not in Jersey City.

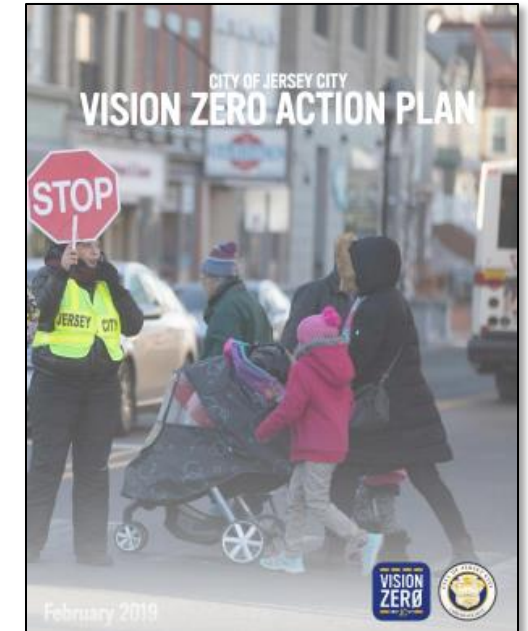
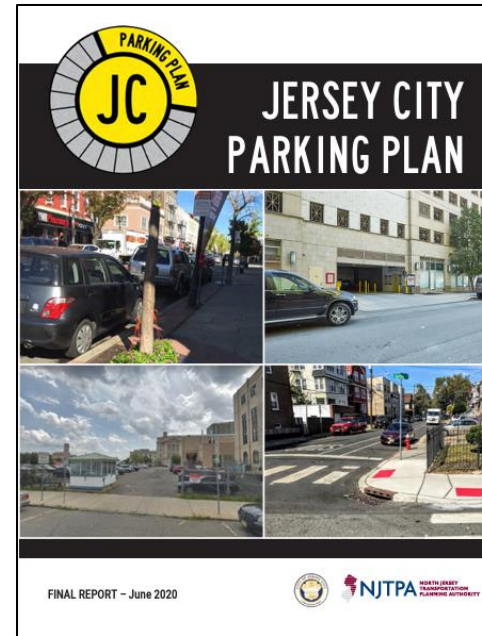
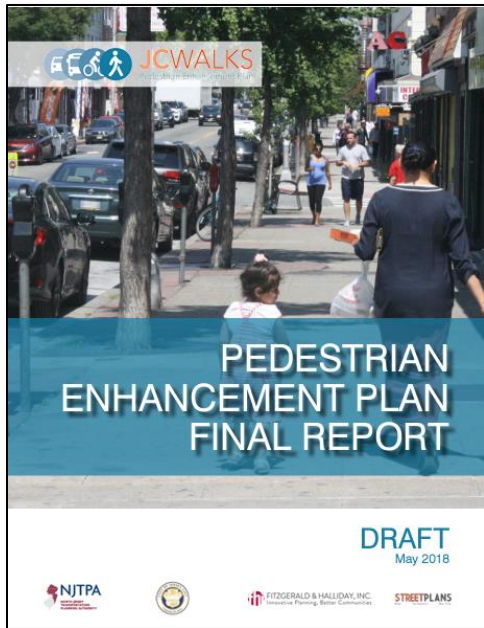
By Erin Marquis Published December 30, 2022 | Comments (17)



Photo: [Praneeth Thalla/Wikicommons](#)



# Case Study: Jersey City



Facility Plans

Vision Zero  
Action Plan



# Next Steps



# Next Steps



1. Add your contact info to sign in sheet!
2. Stop by Open House Stations:
  - Webmap/Survey
  - Study Schedule
  - Safety Assessment
3. Participate in Webmap & Survey by **Tuesday, October 3**
4. Public Meeting #2: **December 6 (Time TBD)**



[www.westhartfordct.gov/government-services/vision-zero](http://www.westhartfordct.gov/government-services/vision-zero)

[VisionZero@WestHartfordCT.gov](mailto:VisionZero@WestHartfordCT.gov)



# Consultant Team



**Parker**  
Study Process &  
Safety Assessment



**Shawna**  
Webmap & Survey



**Adam**  
Action Plan



**Ben**  
Safety Assessment



**Michael**  
Action Plan