

# Getting to Zero Roadway Fatalities

## A Primer on Vision Zero



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# Agenda

- What is Vision Zero?
- Principles of Vision Zero.
- Vision Zero Practices.
- Further Resources.



# What is Vision Zero?

No loss of life acceptable.

Traffic fatalities and injuries are preventable.

People will make mistakes.

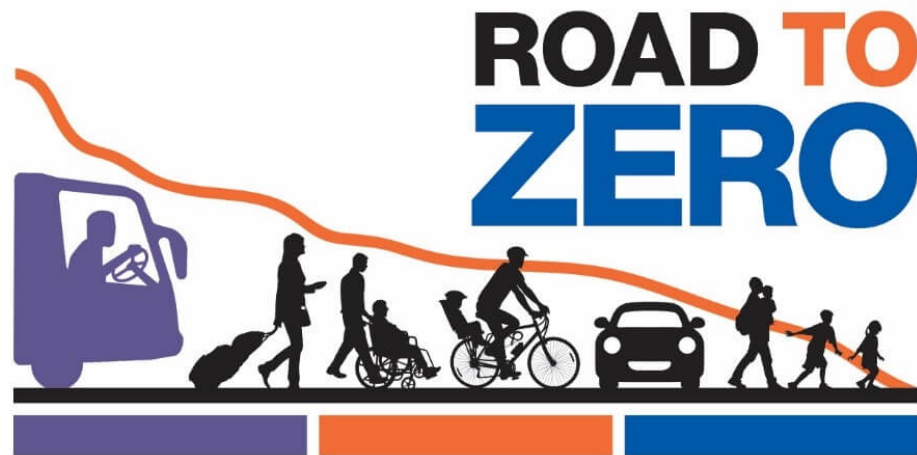


# What is Vision Zero?

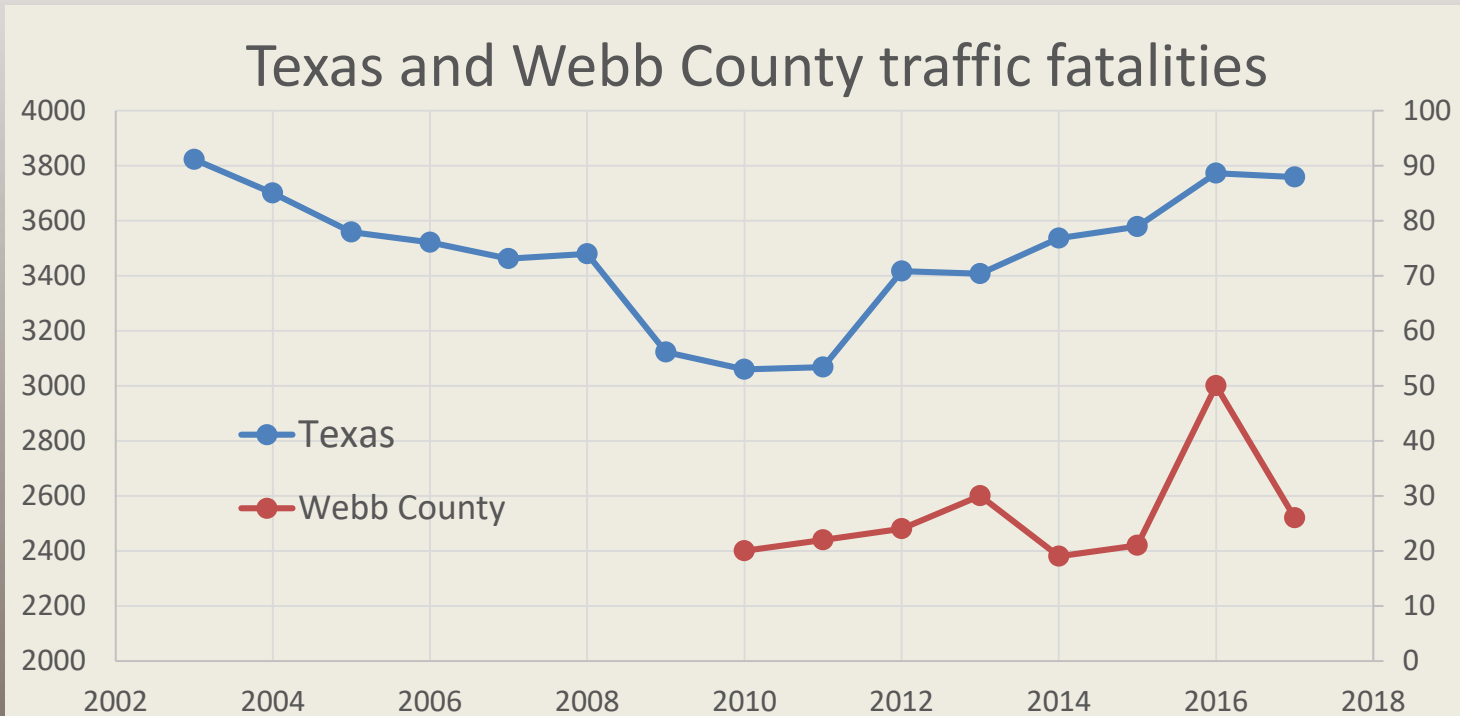
National Safety Council

Road to Zero Coalition

<https://youtu.be/MNtcKUTVGDo>



# Why do we need Vision Zero?



- Texas has not had a day without a traffic death since November 7, 2000.



# Texas and Vision Zero

- Austin and San Antonio have formally adopted Vision Zero.
- Texas Strategic Highway Safety Plan:
  - Long Term aspirational goal of zero deaths.

## Texas Emphasis Areas:



Source: <https://www.texasshsp.com/>



# Principles of Vision Zero

- Traffic deaths and severe injuries are preventable.
- The protection of human life is the highest priority of the transportation system.
- Human error is inevitable, and the transportation system should be forgiving.

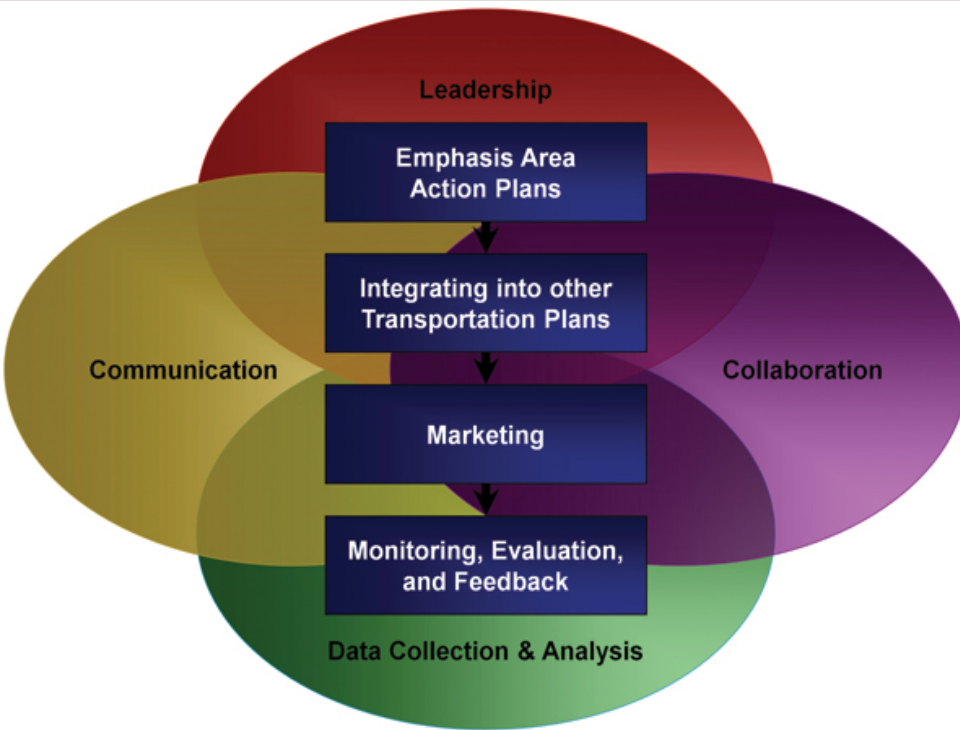


# Principles of Vision Zero

- Safe systems are more important than influencing behavior in reducing crashes.
- A Comprehensive approach involving public health, law enforcement, education, infrastructure improvements, technology advancements, and more.



# Vision Zero Practices



- Sustain leadership, collaboration, and accountability.
- Be data driven.
- Implement what works.
- Prioritize Safety.

Source: FHWA Strategic Highway Safety Plan Implementation Process Model



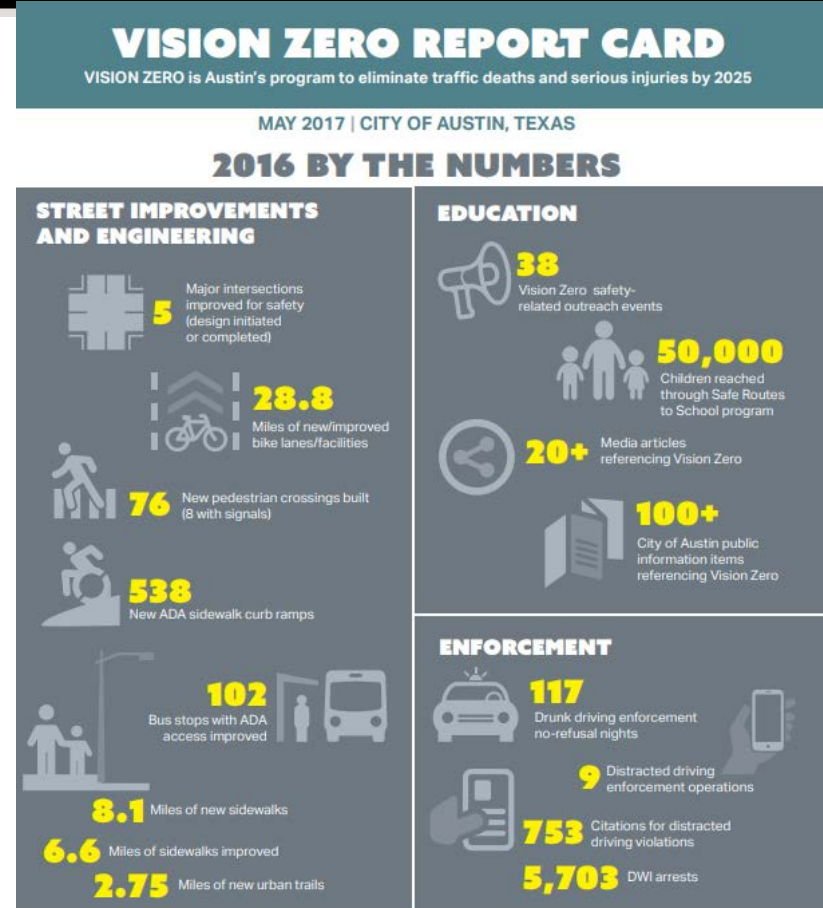
# Leadership and Collaboration

- A champion for safety is the best way to ensure all safety partners work in a collaborative group.
- Establish an organizational structure to formalize collaboration.
- Establish emphasis areas.
- Develop action plans.



# Accountability

- Develop action plans with goals and strategies.
- Champions and leaders should ensure strategies are being implemented.
- Evaluate progress and reassess goals and strategies periodically.
- Be transparent.



# Be Data Driven

- Use safety data to determine priorities:
  - Establish emphasis areas.
- Develop actionable strategies:
  - Use evidenced based approaches on what works.
- Use a safe systems approach:
  - Decreased focus on user behavior or individual locations.



# Implement What Works

- We know how to reduce severe crashes.
- Target overall trends with proven countermeasures.
- Be comprehensive:
  - Engineering and infrastructure.
  - Enforcement.
  - Education.



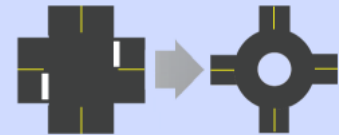
# What Works: Infrastructure

- Roundabouts
- Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons
- Road Diets



## Roundabouts

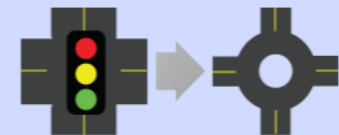
### Two-Way Stop-Controlled Intersection to a Roundabout



82%

Reduction in severe crashes

### Signalized Intersection to a Roundabout



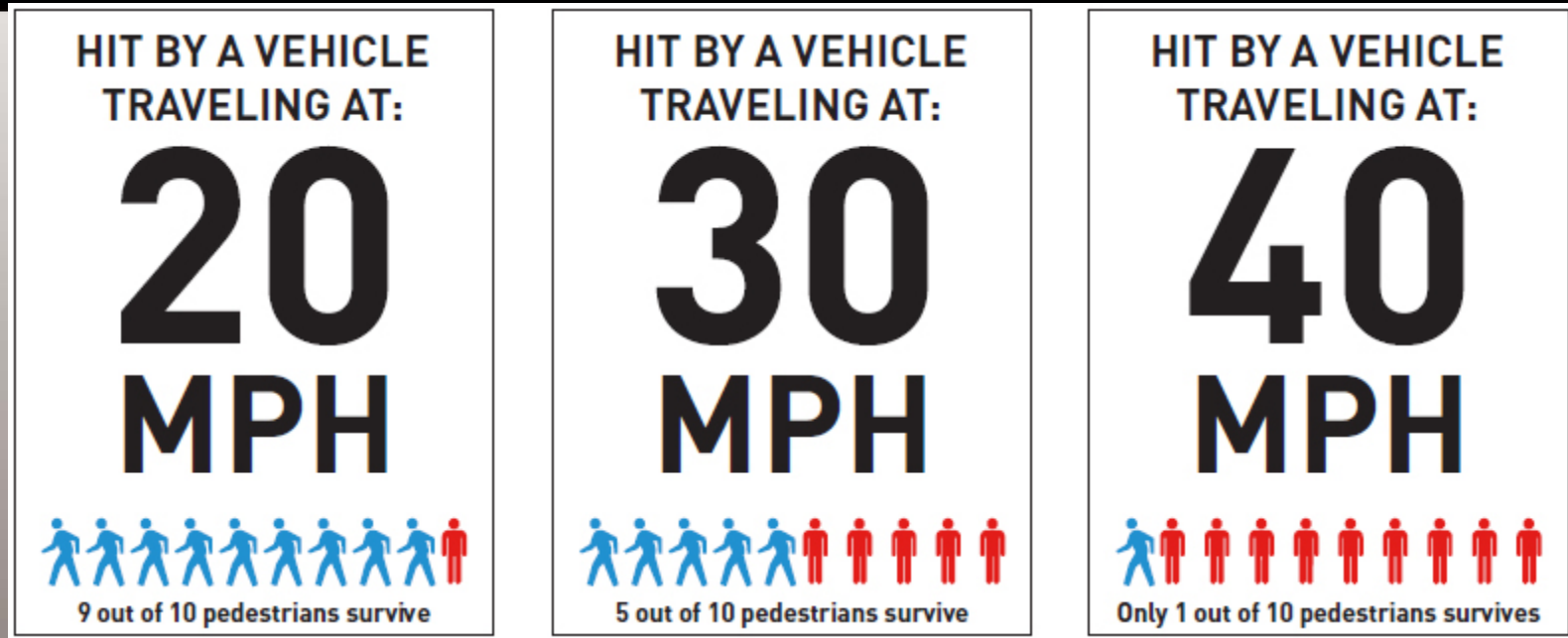
78%

Reduction in severe crashes

Source: *Highway Safety Manual*



# What Works: Speed Management



Source: Seattle Department of Transportation

- Focus on speed through design, enforcement, and education.





# Prioritize Safety

- Incorporate safety into all actions:
  - Land Development and permitting.
  - Maintenance of streets.
  - Long range plans.
  - Street design policies and standards.
- Prioritize funding for safety improvements.
- Maintain a collaborative approach to safety.



# Further Resources

- Vision Zero Network
  - <https://visionzeronetwork.org/>
- Road to Zero Coalition
  - <https://www.nsc.org/road-safety/get-involved/road-to-zero>
- FHWA Office of Safety
  - <https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/>
- Austin Vision Zero
  - <http://www.austintexas.gov/visionzero>
- Texas Strategic Highway Safety Plan
  - <https://www.texasshsp.com/>



# Thank You



Source: FHWA

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