



# Vision Zero in Alexandria

Public Health Advisory Commission  
October 20, 2016

# What is Vision Zero?

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

# The Problem

- Traffic fatalities and injuries are a major public health issue
  - Over 35,000 traffic fatalities in the United States in 2015
  - Over the past five years, 10 traffic fatalities, 670 traffic-related injuries, and 1700+ crashes annually in Alexandria
- Traffic fatalities and injuries have significant personal and societal costs
- People fear for their safety and the safety of their children on our streets; and this impacts mobility choices and health

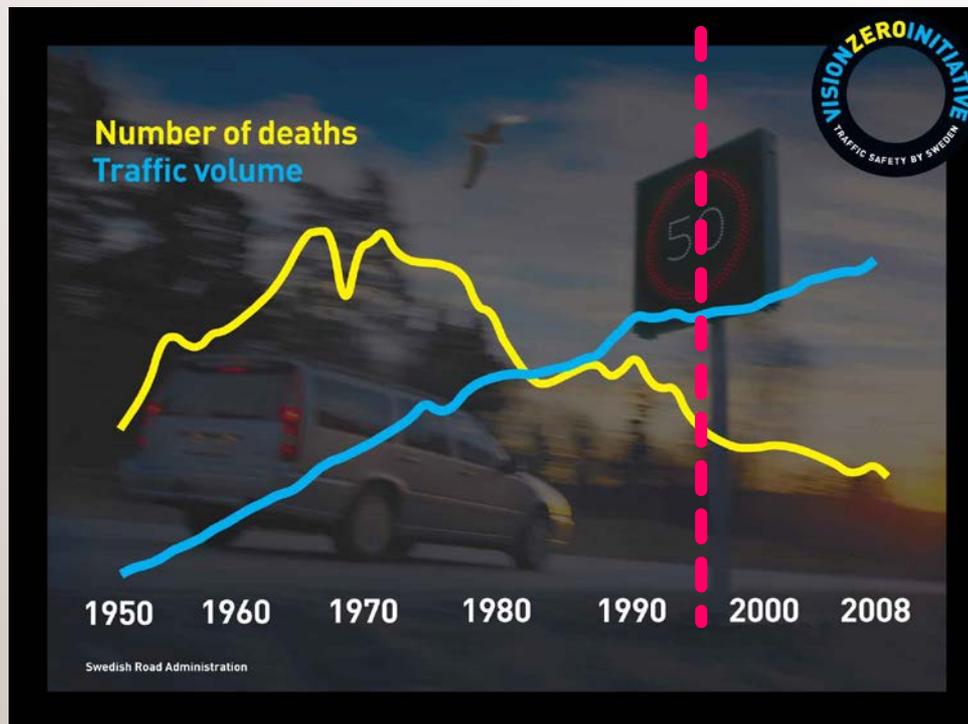
# Vision Zero Approach

- Recognize traffic fatality and injuries are the results of crashes and are preventable
- Sets timeline to aggressively eliminate both
- Focused on strategic and measurable goals, and driven by data
- Takes a multidisciplinary approach (Not just Traffic Engineers!)

Vision Zero Network

# Vision Zero Origins

- Originated in Sweden in 1994 (made law 1997)
- Resulted in 50% decline in pedestrian fatalities over past 5 years
- Among the safest transportation systems in the world



(Source: Vision Zero Initiative, Sweden)

# Vision Zero Cities

## A Vision Zero City meets the following minimum standards:

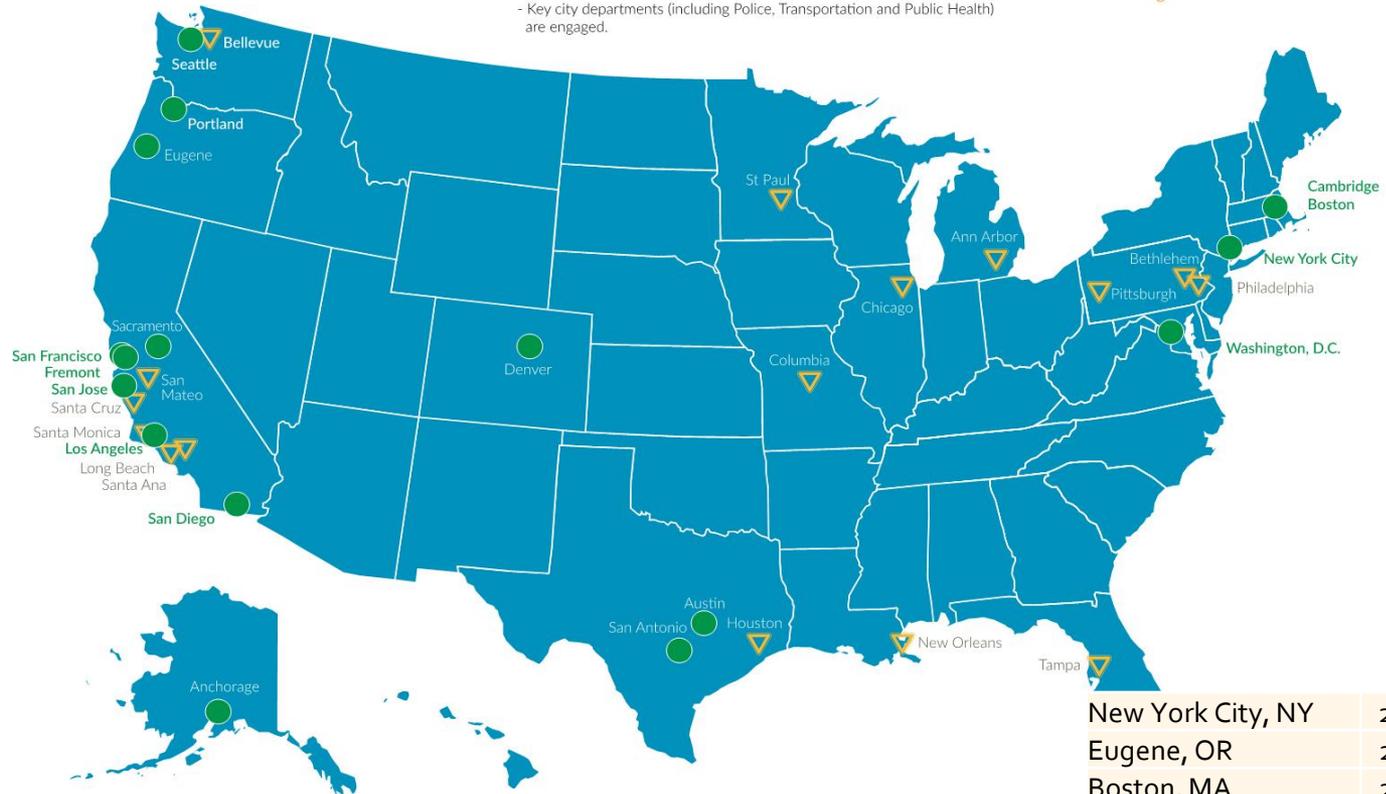
- Sets clear goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and severe injuries
- Mayor has publicly, officially committed to Vision Zero
- Vision Zero plan or strategy is in place, or Mayor has committed to doing so in clear time frame
- Key city departments (including Police, Transportation and Public Health) are engaged.



Vision Zero City



Considering Vision Zero



(Source: Vision Zero Network)

New York City, NY	2014	June
Eugene, OR	2015	November
Boston, MA	2015	December
Fort Lauderdale, FL	2015	
San Francisco, CA	2015	February
Seattle, WA	2015	February
Sacramento, CA	2015	March
San Jose, CA	2015	April
Los Angeles, CA	2015	August
Washington, DC	2015	December
Fremont, CA	2016	March
Austin, TX	2016	May
Portland, OR	2016	October

# How Vision Zero is Achieved

## 4 E's of Traffic Safety:

Education (Inform Rules & Responsibility)

Ex. Targeted campaign to reduce distracted driving

Enforcement (Address Problems / Increase Awareness)

Ex. Targeted enforcement near school zones

Engineering (Design for Safety)

Ex. Capital project to improve walking and biking to school

Evaluation (Lessons Learned)

Ex. Detailed crash analyses and reports to evaluate the efficacy of engineering, education, and enforcement

Education/Enforcement

Behavior  
Change



Engineering/Education

Safe Routes to  
School



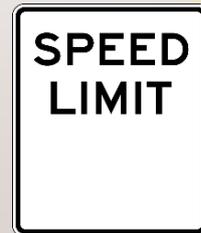
# Vision Zero Strategies

Traffic  
Enforcement



Enforcement/Evaluation

Redesign  
Streets



Engineering  
/Evaluation

# Alexandria and Vision Zero

- ▶ Pedestrian and Bicycle chapter updates to Transportation Master Plan
  - Adopted May 2016
  - **“Conduct an evaluation of traffic fatalities and develop a Vision Zero program that outlines the framework, budget and staffing needed to work toward eliminating pedestrian and bicycle related deaths and serious injuries in Alexandria”**
- ▶ Expanded to work toward eliminating ALL traffic related deaths and serious injuries in the City
- ▶ On target to be first city in Virginia to adopt a plan!



# Planning for Vision Zero

- Transportation Commission Support
  - Summer 2016 - draft policy & identify targets and goals
- City Boards and Commissions
  - Fall 2016 – Briefings on Vision Zero and support for policy
- City Council Adoption of Policy
  - Winter 2016/2017
- Community Workshops
  - Winter/Spring 2017 – engage public & inform plan
- Coalition Partners
  - Winter/Spring 2016 – education, collaboration & support
- Action Plan & Framework
  - Summer 2017 – Crash analysis and detailed framework for future action and funding

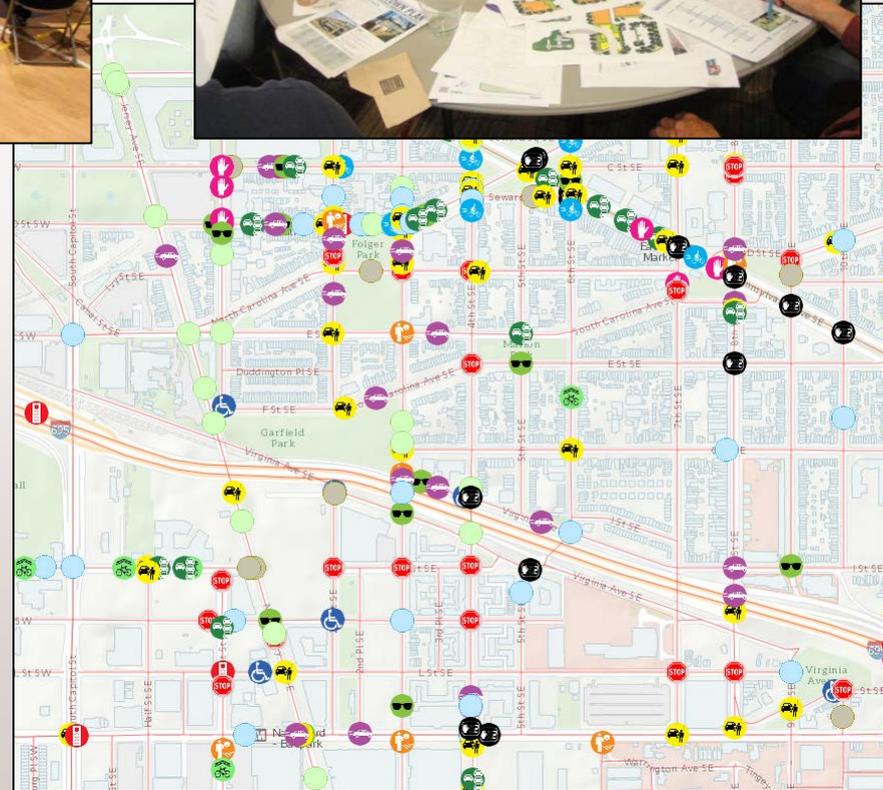
# Vision Zero Policy

- Adopt goal of zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2028
- Engage residents, businesses, and the community in the development of a Vision Zero Action Plan
- Form an interdepartmental working group to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan that will:
  - Provide a comprehensive analysis of crashes in Alexandria
  - Outline the programs to reduce crashes
  - Identify associated funding needed
- Directs staff to provide an annual report on the progress of crash reduction and the implementation of the Vision Zero Action Plan following the completion of the Action Plan.

# Community Engagement



- Community workshops
  - Define priorities
- Online surveys and wikimaps



# Vision Zero: Coalition Partners

- Community Support – Spread the mission!
  - Advocacy groups
  - Non-profits with similar missions
  - Major employers (funding opportunities \$\$!!)
  - Boards and Commissions



# Developing an Action Plan

- Intergovernmental Working Group

- City Departments: Transportation, Police, Health, Communications, etc.
- Public Schools
- Boards and Commissions

- Community Workshops

- Crash analysis

- Identify programs

- Forecast costs and budget

- Timeline for evaluation and implementation



# Role of Public Health Advisory Commission

- Recognize that a **Vision Zero Policy aligns with Commission's goal** of improving public health in the City
- Provide **letter of support** to City Council to adopt a Vision Zero Policy (resolution)
- Consider providing a staff representative to Vision Zero **intergovernmental work group** that would assist in development of Action Plan
- Consider becoming a **Coalition Partner** committed to implementing the Action Plan



# Questions & Discussion

# Contact Information

**Ray Hayhurst**

Complete Streets Coordinator

Dept. of Transportation & Environmental Services

Raymond.Hayhurst@alexandriava.gov