Vision Zero Atlanta

- Ordinance Adopted 4/20/20
- Included default 25 MPH speed limit on certain streets
- Development of VZ Task Force and Action Plan
- Adoption of NACTO Urban Design Guidelines
Agenda

- Data Overview
- Centering Equity
- Speed Limits
- Safer Streets
- Next Steps
In 2019 alone, 73 people died on Atlanta’s streets including 22 pedestrians, 3 scooter riders and a cyclist.
There was a 43% increase in crash-related fatalities from 2018 to 2019, and we are rapidly approaching these numbers just 9 months into 2020.

Data Source: Atlanta Police Department, as of Aug. 2020
72% of Atlanta’s traffic deaths and 42% of traffic injuries occur on only 6% of the city’s streets. We call this Atlanta’s High-Injury Network.
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“The transportation department will hear from a lot of competing voices, and it needs to listen to the most vulnerable ones. When you solve for the most vulnerable people on the street, you make the street better for everyone. Creating a new transportation department also creates an opportunity to model positive feedback loops with the community.”

Odetta MacLeish-White
MANAGING DIRECTOR, TRANSFORMATION ALLIANCE
Communities of Concern

- **Composite Scoring**
- **Data Indicators**
  - No vehicle access
  - % School-age children, seniors, disabled persons
  - No health insurance
  - Transit ridership
  - Race
  - Single-parent households
  - Income
Community Engagement

• Create process to ensure we Plan “WITH” the community; Take the time to Understand history and ensure Barriers are not exacerbated
• Collaborate and partner with Community-Based Organizations
• Start to build community capacity, trust, confidence and participation in public processes
• Provide stipend for community members time and energy.
Agenda

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Reducing high vehicle speeds, a key factor in 54% of Atlanta’s traffic deaths in 2019, is a major focus of Vision Zero programs around the world.

Forbes
Speeding: It’s Just As Dangerous As Driving Drunk, New Report Finds

“You can’t tackle our rising epidemic of roadway deaths without tackling speeding” – National Transportation Safety Board Chairman
Today in Atlanta streets of similar width and character have different speeds

Local “Neighborhood” Streets

Collectors

Source: Google Street View
Atlanta will establish a consistent 25mph speed limit for neighborhood streets and downtown roads

Recommended city action by street type and regulatory status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Streets with City-Controlled Speed Limits</th>
<th>City Streets on State “Laser List”</th>
<th>GDOT roads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local roads</td>
<td>Consolidate posted speed limits at 25mph (Appx 550 Signs)</td>
<td>No roads fall in this category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collectors</td>
<td>Lower to 25mph &amp; remove from state laser list (Appx 430 Signs)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Arterials</td>
<td>Conduct further study to evaluate tradeoff of lowering posted speed limit vs maintaining ability for radar speed enforcement capability</td>
<td>GDOT controlled. Request doing a traffic study on a case by case basis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlying Arterials</td>
<td>Review speed limit on a case by case basis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Atlanta City Planning
Agenda

Data Overview

Centering Equity

Speed Limits

Safer Streets

Next Steps
The Action Plan for Safer Streets aims to:

- Connect SW Atlanta to Westside Trail and MARTA
- Provide north-south connections between Midtown, Downtown, and West End
- Bridge the gap between Grant Park and West End
- Expand access to MARTA stations, city parks, and schools by providing first/last mile connections
- Reduce risk as 100% of routes are on the city’s high-injury network or near schools

- 2-Year Plan to deliver 20 miles of LIT lanes
- 12 out of 22 of these streets are currently in design or construction
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Next Steps?

• Vision Zero Action Plan – Starting early 2021
• Tactical Urbanism Guidance – To be released Sept. 2020
• Traffic Calming Toolkit
• Sidewalk Inventory – To be complete Oct. 2020