

VISION



ZERO

SAFER STREETS FOR ALEXANDRIA

# Past, Present, and Future

Christine E. Mayeur, AICP  
Complete Streets Coordinator

Department of Transportation & Environmental Services  
City of Alexandria, Virginia

# Today's Presentation

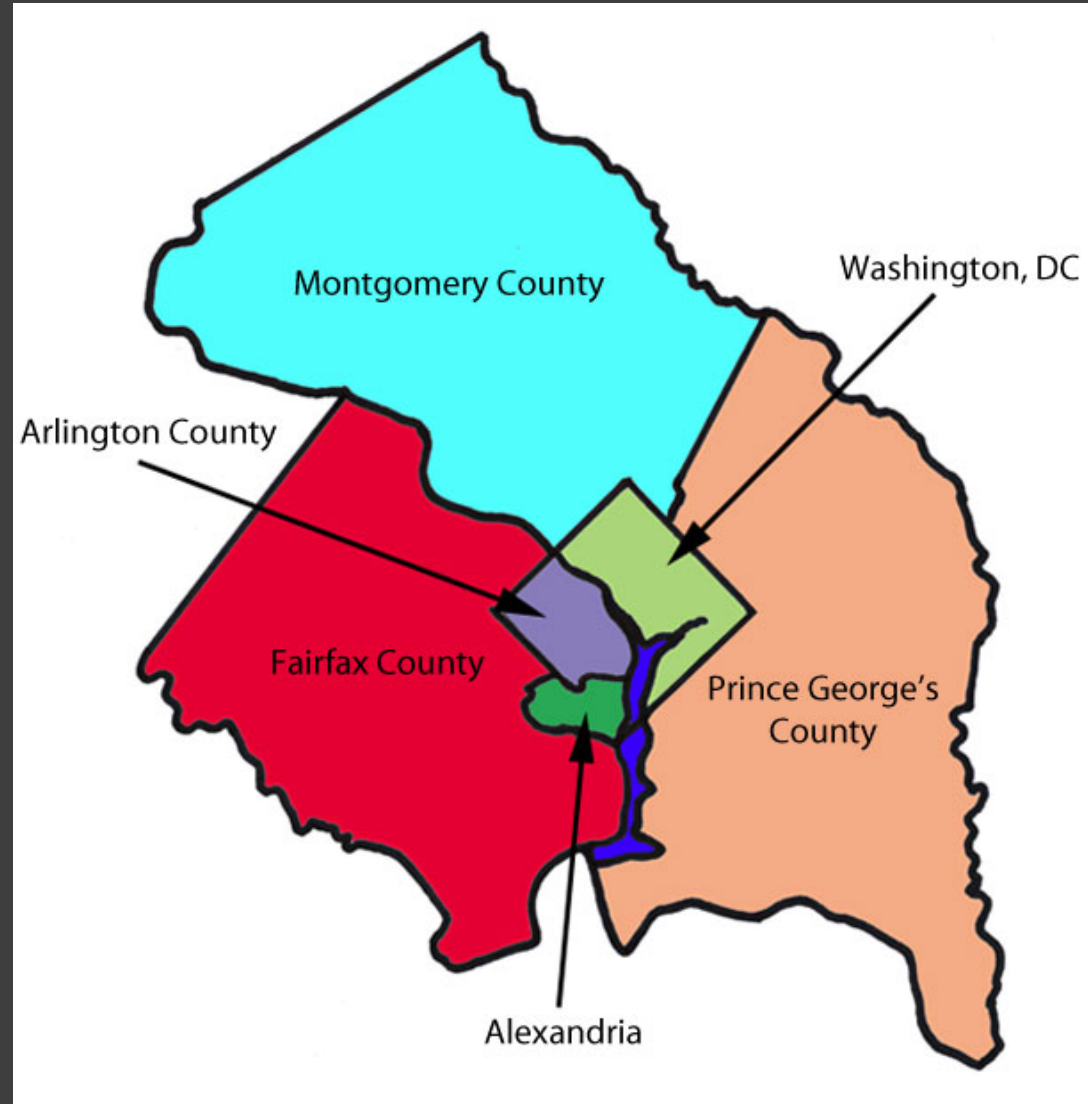


- Introduction to Alexandria
- Past:
  - Our path to Vision Zero
  - Challenges of being a small city implementing Vision Zero
  - How we drafted an Action Plan that attempts to address those challenges
- Present: Implement, Implement, and Implement
- Future: An ongoing effort

# Alexandria, Virginia



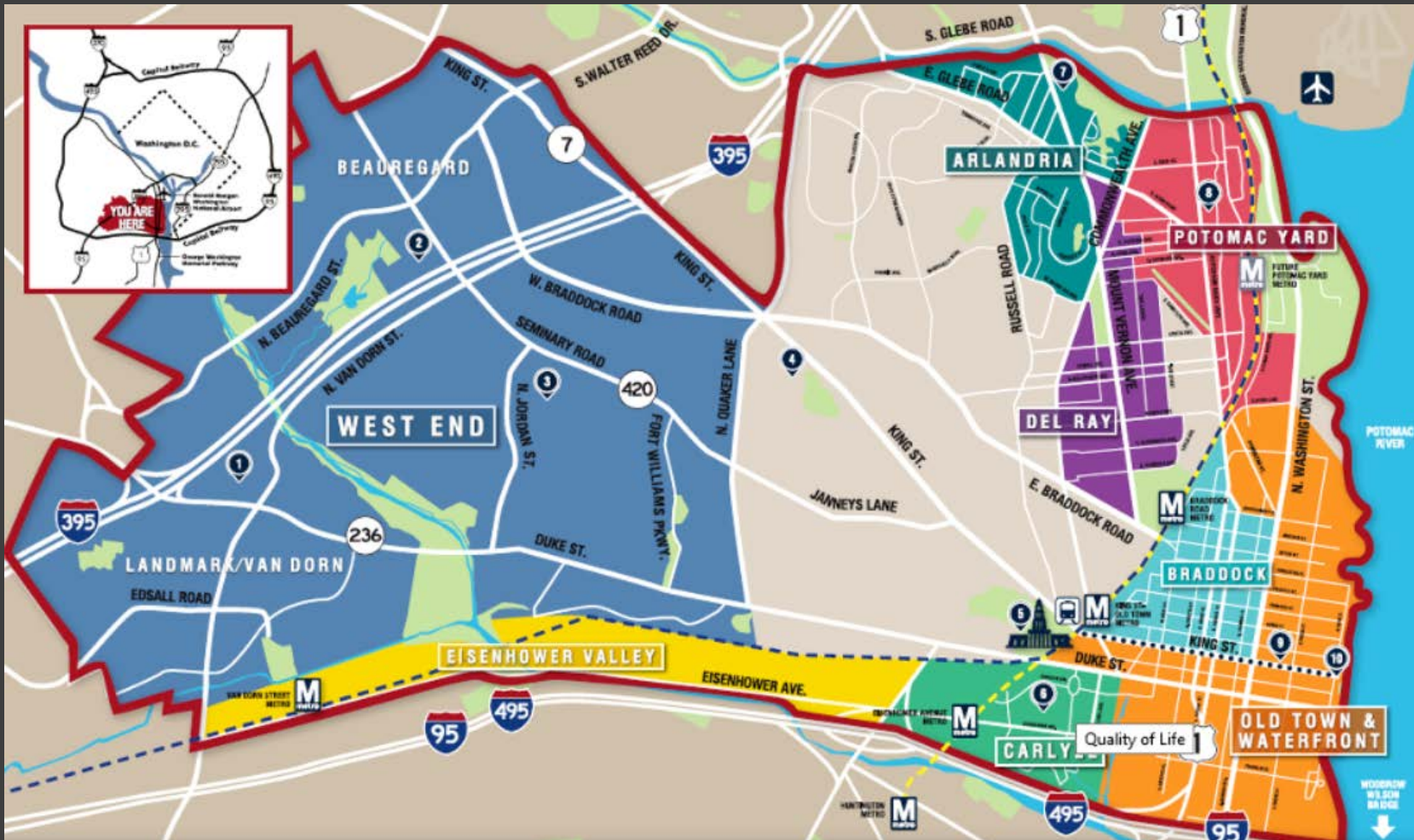
- Located in DC Metro Region of Northern Virginia
- Approximately 150,000 people
- Low household sizes and high % of single-person households



# Alexandria, Virginia



15 square miles of very dissimilar neighborhoods



# Old Town



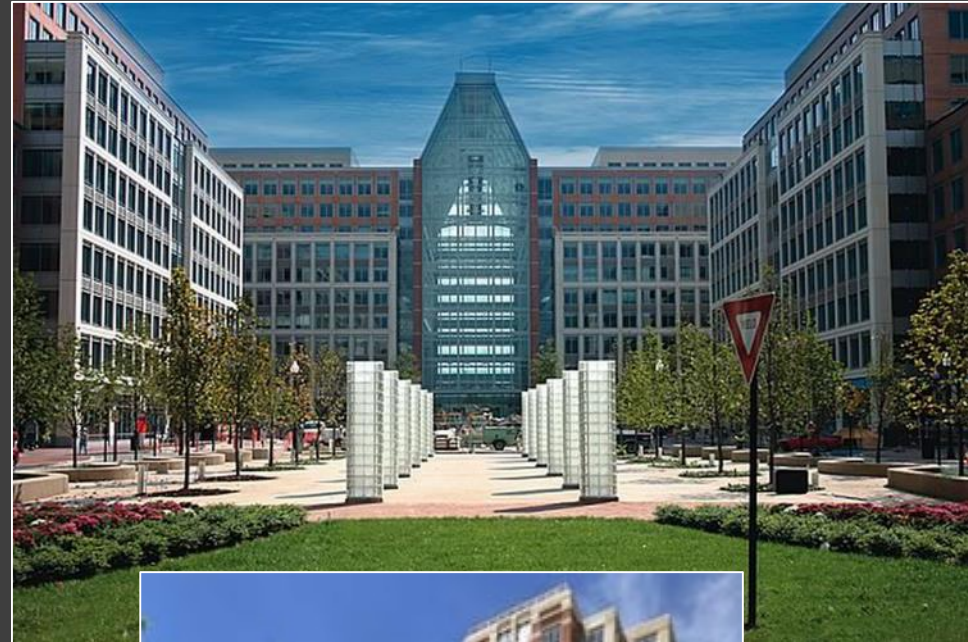
# Del Ray



# West End



# Carlyle





# Diverse Neighborhoods

## Diverse Roadways



# Diverse Neighborhoods

# Diverse Roadways

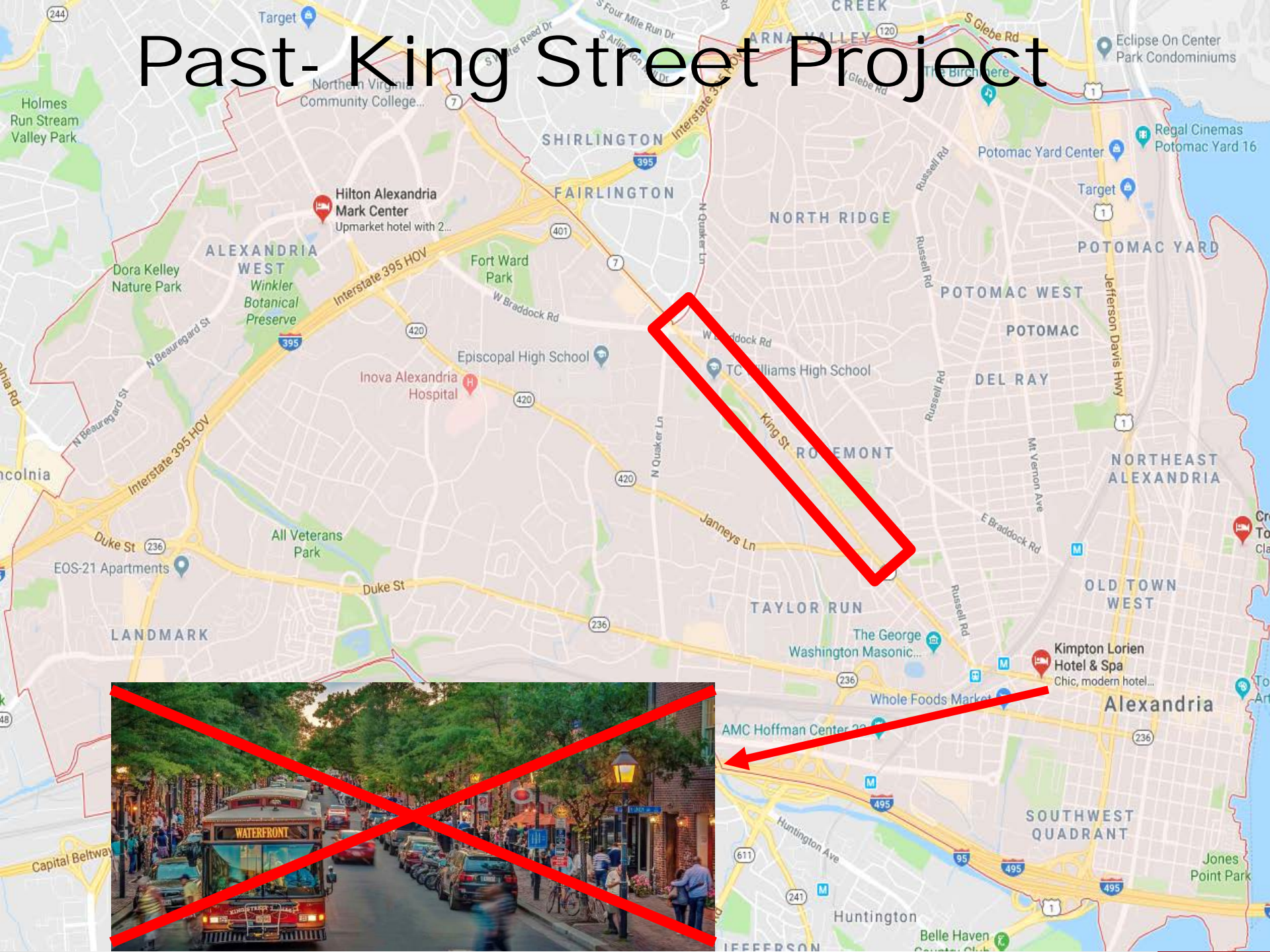


# Past- The Road to Zero



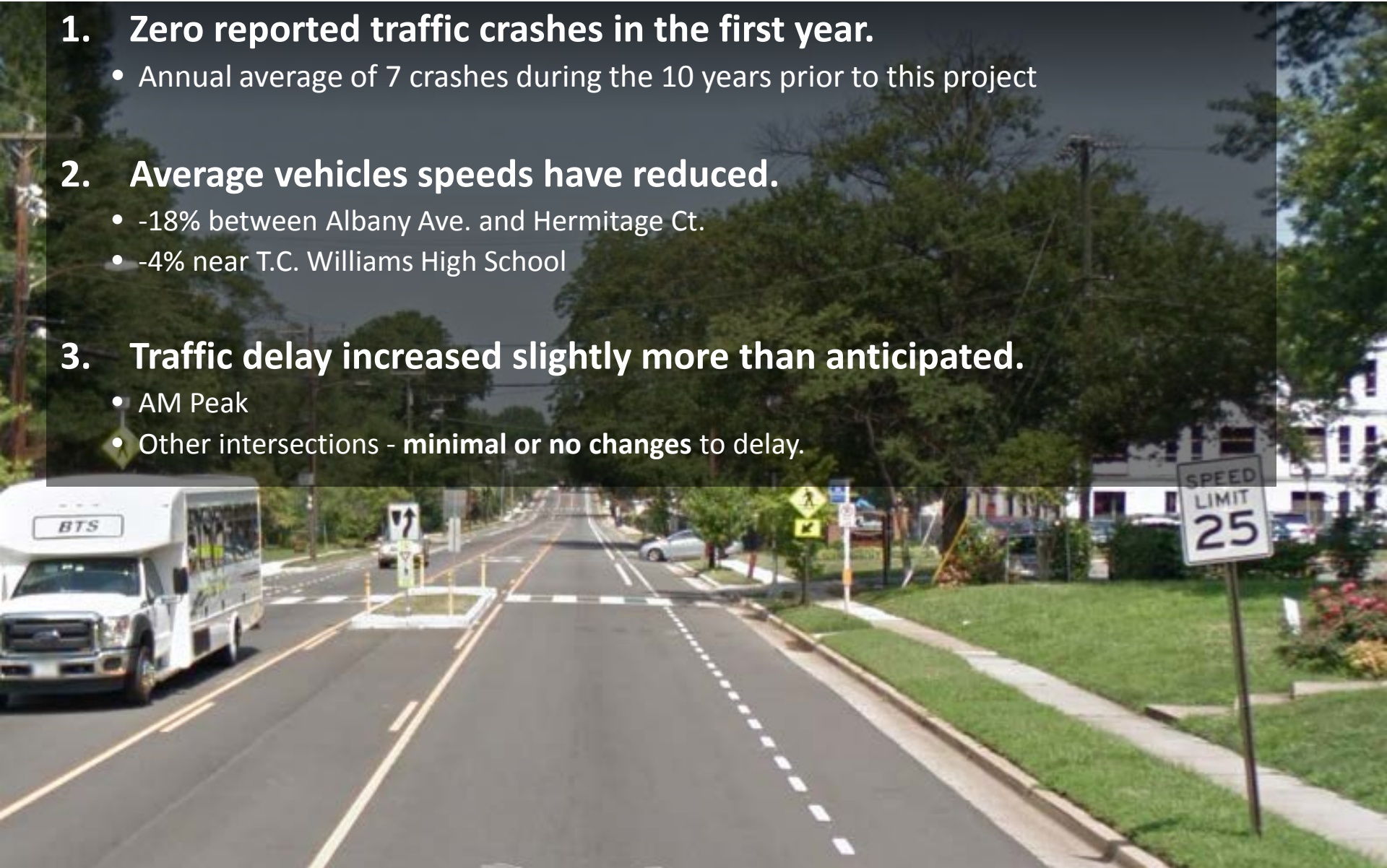
- 2001 – Traffic Calming Program
- 2008 – Transportation Master Plan
- 2011 – Complete Streets Policy
  - 2015 - Guidelines
- 2013 – Biking on sidewalks
- 2016 –
  - 25 MPH on Quaker, Seminary (March)
  - Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan (May)
  - King Street Complete Street Project (November)
- 2017 –
  - SR2S Walk Audits

# Past-King Street Project



# King Street Complete Street

- 1. Zero reported traffic crashes in the first year.**
  - Annual average of 7 crashes during the 10 years prior to this project
- 2. Average vehicles speeds have reduced.**
  - -18% between Albany Ave. and Hermitage Ct.
  - -4% near T.C. Williams High School
- 3. Traffic delay increased slightly more than anticipated.**
  - AM Peak
  - Other intersections - minimal or no changes to delay.




# Past- The Road to Zero



- **Adopted Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan – Spring 2016**
  - Key strategy: Calls for a Vision Zero Policy and Action Plan
- **Adopted a Vision Zero Policy – January 2017**
  - Goal: Zero traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2028
- **Police adopted a Traffic Safety Plan- Fall 2017**
- **Adopted Vision Zero Action Plan – December 2017**

# CHALLENGES



- Small city with a lot of low speed residential streets = low KSI and fatality numbers 
- Developing a data driven plan with incomplete data
- Measuring success with incomplete data

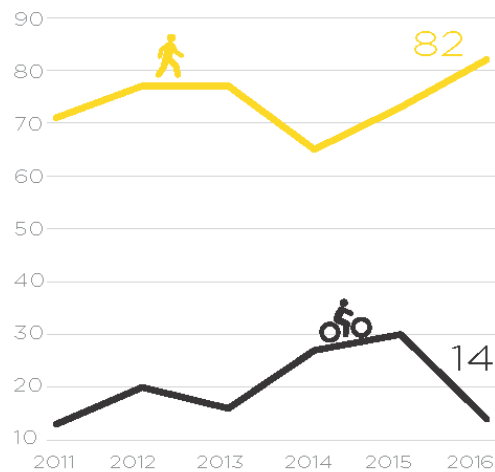
# Challenges: Low KSI



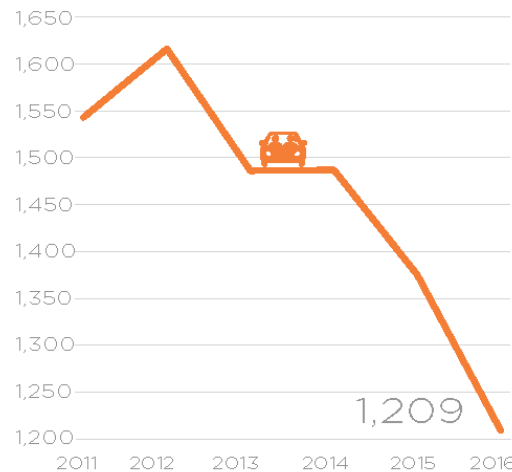
## TRENDS OVER TIME

### TOTAL CRASHES

crash type ● bicycle ● pedestrian

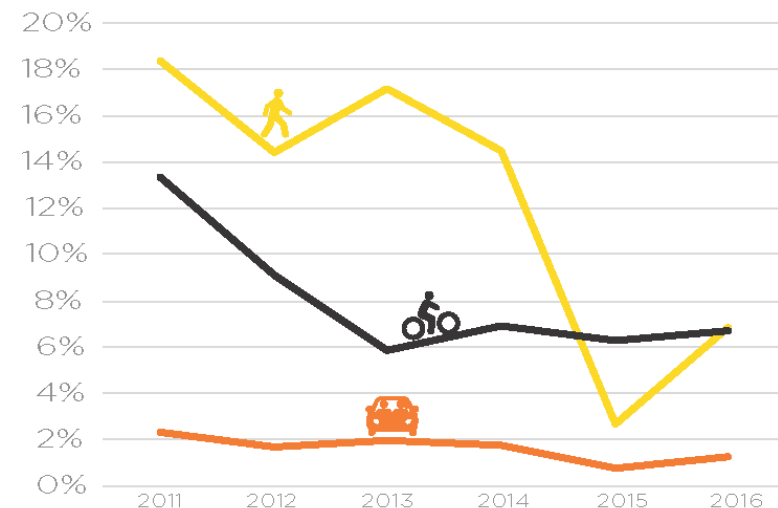


● vehicle only



## PERCENTAGE OF CRASHES RESULTING IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH

crash type: ● bicycle ● pedestrian ● vehicle only



**Note: Crash data provided by the Alexandria Police Department. Figures only include reports from the Alexandria Police Department, meaning that crashes where State agencies responded (such as on an interstate) or minor collisions that did not involve a police report are not recorded.**

- Very low fatality numbers
- Low Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) crashes



# Challenge: Incomplete Data



- State Crash form limitations
- Manual entry into Police Database
- Missing data fields
- Location entry errors
  - N QUAKER LN
  - NORTH QUAKER LN
  - N QUAKER LANE
- No “bicycle” category
- Limited “events”

Commonwealth of Virginia - Department of Motor Vehicles  
**Police Crash Report** FR300P (Rev 1/12)

Revised Report  GPS Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ GPS Long. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Barcode: 0 7 0 7 A Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

**CRASH**

Crash Date: MM DD YYYY Day of Week \_\_\_\_\_ MILITARY Time (24 hr clock) \_\_\_\_\_ County of Crash \_\_\_\_\_ Official DMV Use \_\_\_\_\_  
 City or Town of \_\_\_\_\_ City or Town Name \_\_\_\_\_ Landmarks at Scene \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location of Crash (route/street) \_\_\_\_\_ Railroad Crossing ID no. (if within 150 ft) \_\_\_\_\_ Local Case Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location of Crash (route/street) \_\_\_\_\_ Mile Marker Number \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Vehicles \_\_\_\_\_  
 At Intersection With or \_\_\_\_\_ Miles  Feet \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

**VEHICLE # \_\_\_\_\_ DRIVER**

Driver Fleed Scene  Driver's Name (Last, First, Middle) \_\_\_\_\_ Gender  M  F  
 Address (Street and Number) \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birth Date MM DD YYYY Drivers License Number \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ DL \_\_\_\_\_ CDL \_\_\_\_\_  
 Safety Equip. Used \_\_\_\_\_ Air Bag Ejected \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_ Injury Type \_\_\_\_\_ EMS Transport \_\_\_\_\_  
 Summons Issued As Result of Crash \_\_\_\_\_ Offenses Charged to Driver \_\_\_\_\_

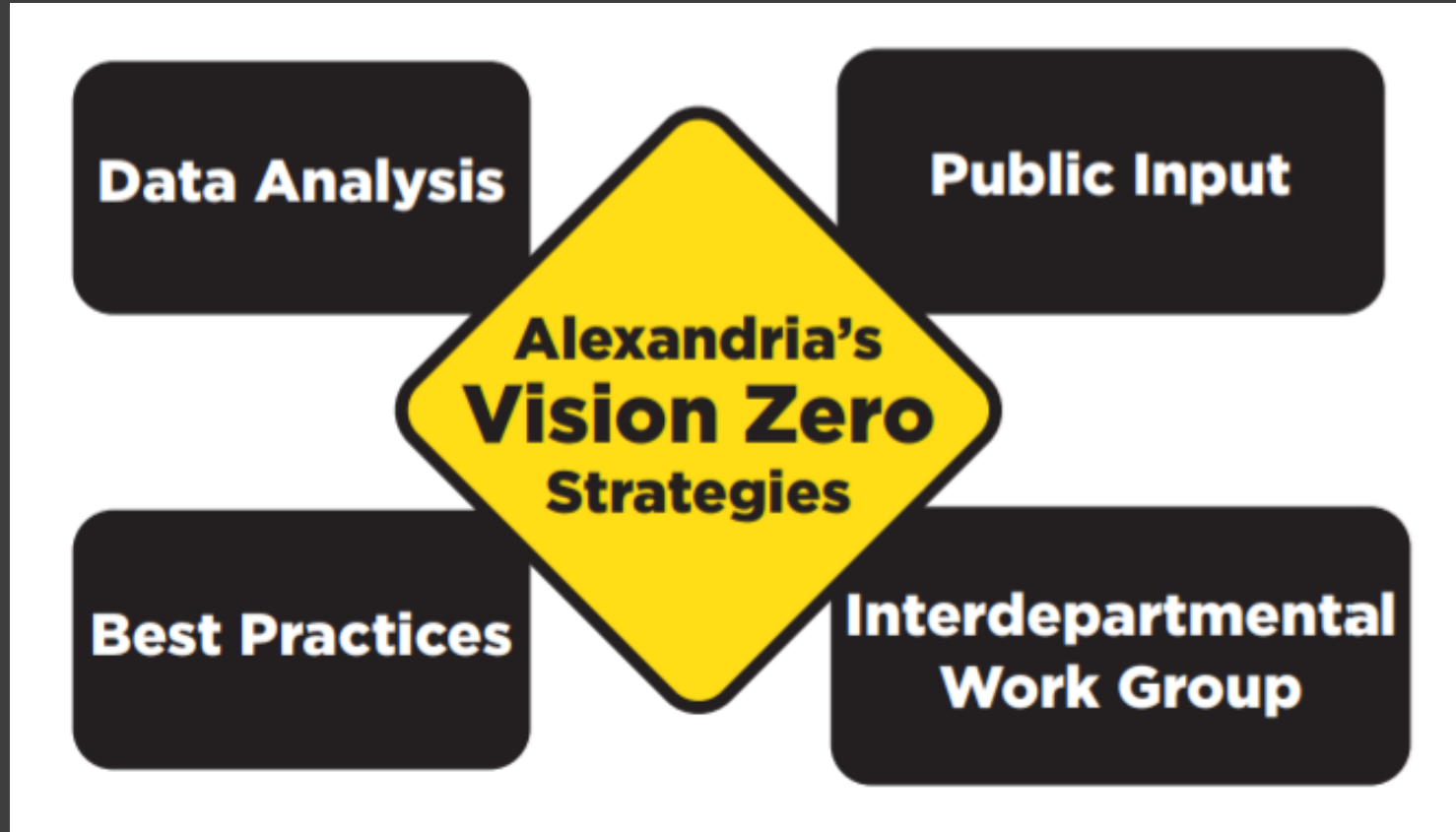
**VEHICLE**

Vehicle Owner's Name (Last, First, Middle) \_\_\_\_\_ Same as Driver  Address (Street and Number) \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vehicle Year \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle Make \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle Model \_\_\_\_\_ Disabled \_\_\_\_\_ CMV \_\_\_\_\_ Towed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vehicle Plate Number \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Repair Cost \_\_\_\_\_  
 VIN \_\_\_\_\_ Oversize \_\_\_\_\_ Cargo Spill \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Insurance Company (not agent) \_\_\_\_\_ Override \_\_\_\_\_ Underwrite \_\_\_\_\_  
 Speed Before Crash \_\_\_\_\_ Speed Limit \_\_\_\_\_ Maximum Safe Speed \_\_\_\_\_ Under 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 8-17 \_\_\_\_\_ 18-21 \_\_\_\_\_ Over 21 \_\_\_\_\_

**PASSENGER (only if injured or killed)**

Name of Injured (Last, First, Middle) \_\_\_\_\_ EMS Transport \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position In/On Vehicle \_\_\_\_\_ Safety Equip. Used \_\_\_\_\_ Airbag Ejected \_\_\_\_\_ Injury Type \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate MM DD YY \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Injured (Last, First, Middle) \_\_\_\_\_ EMS Transport \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position In/On Vehicle \_\_\_\_\_ Safety Equip. Used \_\_\_\_\_ Airbag Ejected \_\_\_\_\_ Injury Type \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate MM DD YY \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Injured (Last, First, Middle) \_\_\_\_\_ EMS Transport \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

# Solution: 4-prong Approach



# Designing a Plan: Low KSI



- Analyzed total crashes to confirm high crash locations and corridors

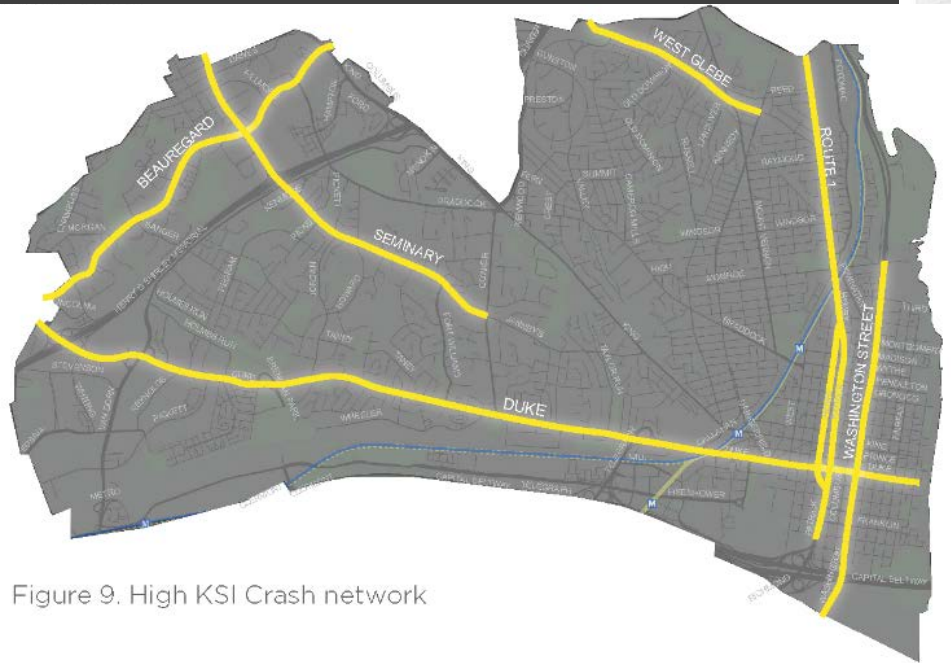
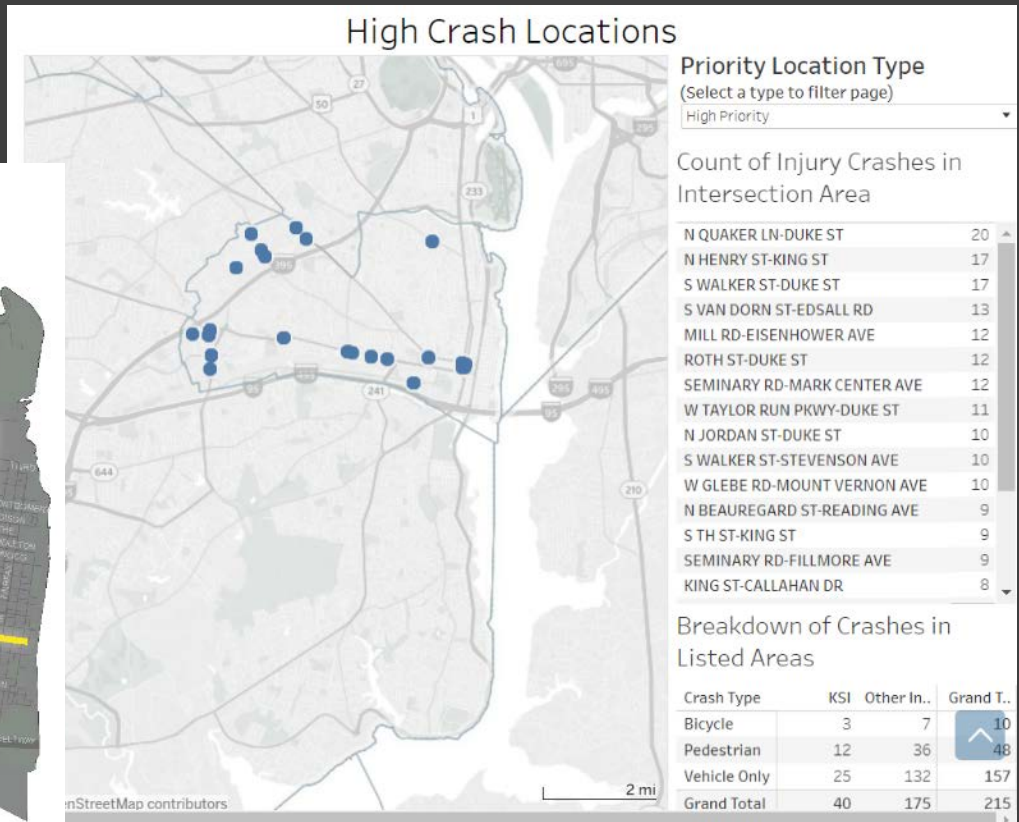


Figure 9. High KSI Crash network



# Qualitative and Quantitative Data



## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT KEY FINDINGS

Over **1,000** residents, visitors, employees, and business owners were engaged in the Vision Zero Action Plan process. The following are the key findings:

## TOP 3 SAFETY CONCERNS REPORTED

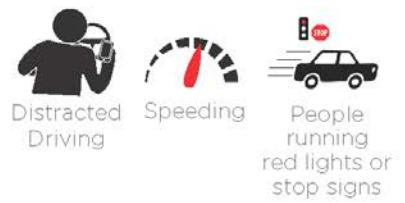


## CRASHES EXPERIENCED

**16%**

of survey participants were seriously injured or knew someone that had been seriously injured or killed in a traffic crash in Alexandria

## PRIMARY CRASH FACTORS REPORTED:



## TOP 3 CONCERNS: DIFFERENCES

*PARTICIPANTS IN ARLANDRIA, THOSE AGED 30-50 YEARS, AND TITLE VI POPULATIONS NOTED...*



*...IN THEIR TOP THREE CONCERNS*

## SELF-REPORTED CRASHES INVOLVED:



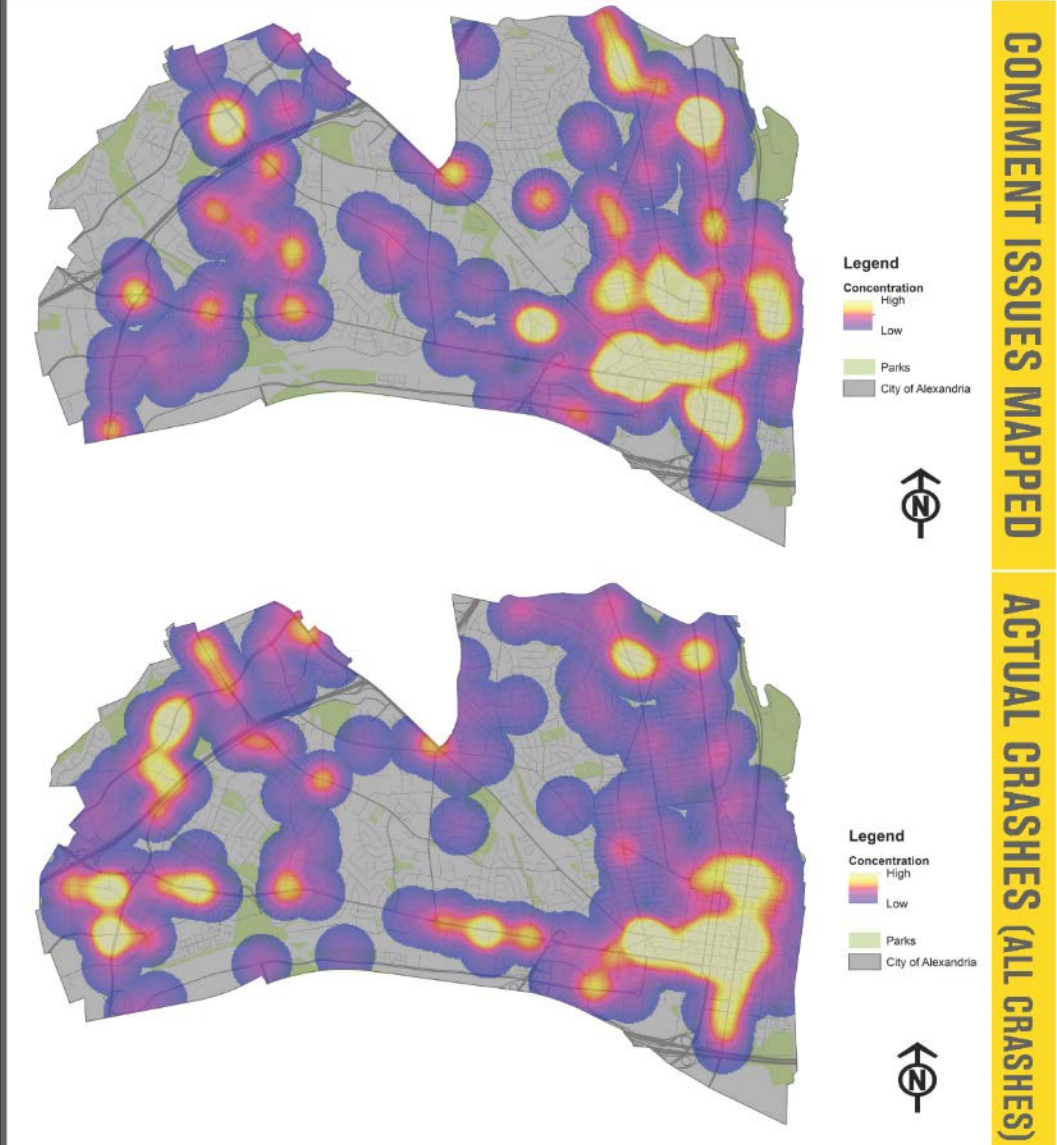
## CRASHES REPORTED OF OTHERS INVOLVED:



**Title VI Populations** include any participants that identified as minority, low-income, and Limited- or No-English Proficiency.

A detailed version of the results from the online survey and street meetings can be viewed in Appendix B.

# Qualitative and Quantitative Data



# Qualitative and Quantitative Data



FROM 2011-2016,

## 445 PEDESTRIANS WERE INVOLVED IN CRASHES



**1 in 7** CRASHES RESULTED IN A FATALITY OR SERIOUS INJURY



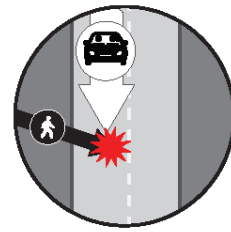
## COMMON PEDESTRIAN CRASH TYPES

**LEFT-TURN CRASH AT SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION**



10 people suffered serious injuries or fatalities

**PEDESTRIAN CROSSING MID-BLOCK**



12 people suffered serious injuries or fatalities

**RIGHT-TURN CRASH AT SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION**



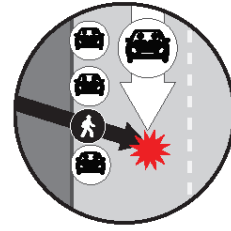
4 people suffered serious injuries or fatalities

**LEFT-TURN CRASH AT UNSIGNALIZED INTERSECTION**



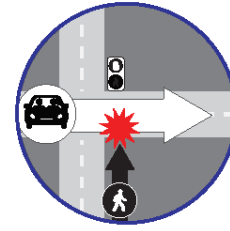
6 people suffered serious injuries or fatalities

**PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FROM BEHIND PARKED CARS**



4 people suffered serious injuries or fatalities

**PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AGAINST SIGNAL**



3 people suffered serious injuries or fatalities

Note: Crash data provided by the Alexandria Police Department does not include information on why the pedestrian chose to cross the street, or if there were factors that forced the pedestrians to cross the street.

# Qualitative and Quantitative Data



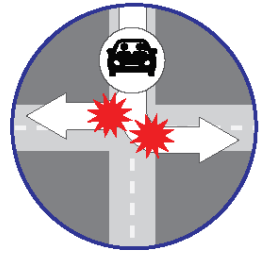
FROM 2011-2016, there were **9,328** **CRASHES INVOLVING ONLY MOTOR VEHICLES**

**1 in 50** CRASHES RESULTED IN A FATALITY OR SERIOUS INJURY



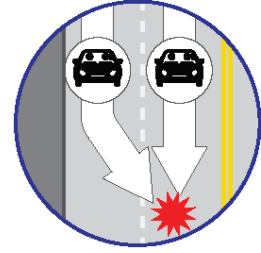
## COMMON MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH TYPES\*

ANGLE



**46%** of all reported crashes were angle crashes. 2% of all angle crashes resulted in serious injury or loss of life.

SIDESWIPE, SAME DIRECTION



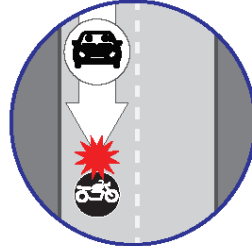
**26%** of all reported crashes were sideswipe, same direction crashes. 1% of all these crashes resulted in serious injury or loss of life.

REAR END



**11%** of all reported crashes were rear end crashes. 1% of all rear end crashes resulted in serious injury or loss of life.

MOTORCYCLIST



**27%** of crashes involving a motorcyclist resulted in a serious injury or fatality and accounted for less than 1% of all crashes.

\*No other crash types comprised more than 3% of the dataset. Crash types listed have the highest percent share of total crashes.

# Present- Implementation



## YEAR 1 ENGINEERING PRIORITIES

Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES) has developed a set of priority engineering improvements in the first year of Vision Zero. These priorities are listed below:

- Install Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPis) at ten intersections
- Install No Right on Red turn restrictions at ten intersections
- Install Pedestrian count-down signals at five intersections
- Reduce the speed limit from 35mph to 25mph on one high crash corridor
- Upgrade twenty crosswalks with high visibility, laddered markings
- Install two major pedestrian intersection improvements
- Install fifteen low-cost safety improvements, including new road markings, signs and minor signal modifications
- Develop concept design for funding application for at least one high crash location
- Upgrade curb ramps to improve accessibility at fifteen locations
- Upgrade three uncontrolled crossing locations with safety improvements
- Implement Safe Routes to School improvements at six schools



# Present- Implementation



Year 1 Priority Action Items	
<b>Action 1A</b>	<b>Make information easily available to the public</b>
1A.1	Establish dashboard for all crash and safety data on the Vision Zero website.
1A.3	Provide annual citation data for infractions that potentially lead to serious injuries and deaths
<b>Action 1B</b>	<b>Enhance data collection and coordination efforts</b>
1B.2	Work with State Police, DMV, VDOT and State Pedestrian Task Force to revise crash reporting standards and information captured to better inform data analysis leading to projects and programs
1B.3	Standardize and establish definitions and training on crash reporting methods
1B.4	Work with the State to update crash reporting methods to differentiate between alcohol and drug related crashes.
<b>Action 2A</b>	<b>Support and encourage statewide legislative efforts to implement stricter traffic safety laws</b>
2A.3	Support statewide efforts to revise distracted driving laws, including increase of fines.
<b>Action 2B</b>	<b>Evaluate City policy and administrative guidelines to improve data collection and reporting</b>
2B.1	Develop system to track, manage, respond to, and prioritize improvements.
<b>Action 3A</b>	<b>Improve delivery and implementation of safety treatments</b>
3A.2	Identify criteria for installation of "No Right on Red" and LPIs implementing changes
3A.3	treatments for priority Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan and recommendations
<b>Action 3B</b>	<b>Develop and implement infrastructure policies to reduce KSI crashes</b>
3B.2	Automatically display the pedestrian walk signal where signage is present
3B.3	Use the data that identifies high injury crash corridors and intersections to inform signage and education efforts, and require comprehensive safety improvements at high-priority intersections
3B.5	Explore a Citywide 25mph speed limit
3B.6	Update the Streets and Transit Chapters of the Transportation Master Plan to prioritize KSI crashes and elevate crash data as a priority in decision-making
<b>Action 4A</b>	<b>Inform the public of Vision Zero efforts</b>
4A.1	Maintain a comprehensive website to provide information on the projects, programs, and progress of Vision Zero to include dashboard and annual reports
4A.4	Work with media partners to more accurately report traffic crashes to avoid victim-blaming and report crashes in the context of Vision Zero
<b>Action 4B</b>	<b>Create a network of partnerships to ensure the success of Vision Zero</b>
4B.4	Partner with VDOT's Northern Region Transportation Operations Center to further enhance public messaging of crashes and traffic disruptions within the City
4B.5	Initiate a regional Vision Zero Task force to identify path toward regional Vision Zero education campaigns and polices.
<b>Action 4C</b>	<b>Craft a successful education campaign to inform the public of Vision Zero and topic areas</b>
4C.1	Develop education "campaigns" with messaging that focuses on topic area(s) of importance (e.g. Speeding, Distracted Driving, and Driving Under the Influence).
<b>Action 4D</b>	<b>Encourage City Staff to incorporate Vision Zero into Everyday Practices</b>
4D.1	Add Vision Zero education to defensive driving courses to training for all City employees receiving fleet driving permissions. Require employees to update this training certifications every 3 years
4D.3	Install Pedestrian Collision Avoidance systems on DASH buses
<b>Action 4E</b>	<b>Strengthen traffic safety enforcement policies and practices</b>
4E.2	Focus enforcement on roadways with higher speeds and increase traffic stops in these areas
4E.4	Regularly deploy high-visibility DUI enforcement in high-priority areas on nights with higher concentrations of severe and fatal crashes and major community events
4E.7	Identify and install signage at critical intersections to permit increased fines for failure to yield to pedestrians in a marked crosswalk

# Present- Implementation



- Regional Coordination
- Educational/ Outreach Plans
- Working closely with Police
- Establishing Work Groups
- Update data dashboard
- **Prioritize our actions based on staff and budget**

# Future: Ongoing Work



## IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION AND EVALUATION

- 1A - Make information easily available to the public
- 1B - Enhance data collection and coordination efforts
- 1C - Evaluate success of existing and planned programs to determine best way to allocate resources for change

## ENHANCE CITY PROCESSES AND COLLABORATION

- 2A - Support and encourage statewide legislative efforts to implement stricter traffic safety laws
- 2B - Evaluate City policy and administrative guidelines to improve safety outcomes

## BUILD SAFE STREETS FOR EVERYONE

- 3A - Improve prioritization of safety treatments to inform implementation
- 3B - Develop and implement infrastructure policies to reduce KSIs

# Future: Ongoing Work



## PROMOTE A CULTURE OF SAFETY

- 4A - Inform the public of Vision Zero efforts
- 4B - Create a network of partnerships to ensure the success of Vision Zero
- 4C - Craft a successful public education campaign to inform the public of Vision Zero and Topic Areas
- 4D - Encourage city staff to incorporate Vision Zero into everyday practices
- 4E - Strengthen traffic safety enforcement policies and practices

# Future- Coordination



- Explore regional Vision Zero
  - Regional messaging- in conjunction with Street Smart
  - Building our culture of safety
- Connect datasets for better data
  - Think regionally

# Future- Evaluation



- Commitments to monitoring and refining our plans
- Transparency in our progress
- Manageable Action Items
- Short term plan with points for reevaluation

# More Information



[www.alexandriava.gov/VisionZero](http://www.alexandriava.gov/VisionZero)

Christine E. Mayeur, Complete Streets Coordinator

[christine.mayeur@alexandriava.gov](mailto:christine.mayeur@alexandriava.gov)