

City of Rockville

Vision Zero Action Plan Progress Chart - November 2022 Update

Action Item	End Date	Objective	Status	Notes
1. Crash Analysis / Predictive Analysis	7/1/2021	Complete the crash analysis and identify areas in the HIN.	Completed	<p>The initial crash analysis was completed in October 2021. This analysis includes the 89 serious injury and fatal crashes that occurred during the five-year period between January 1, 2016, and December 31, 2020, with an average of 17.8 crash per year. Through this analysis, staff has identified a “high-injury network” which includes road segments with at least five or more serious injury and/or fatal crashes during this period. All segments in the high-injury network are on State-maintained roadways. A new analysis, using crash data between January 2017 and December 2021, will be completed by the end of this year.</p> <p>Additionally, the Vision Zero survey is still up and open to new respondents submitting information about their perceptions of traffic safety within the city. To date, there have been 261 responses to this survey. City staff added a “near-miss” questionnaire to the Vision Zero website in December 2021, since this questionnaire has been posted, the City has received 56 responses. This questionnaire is used for residents or visitors who encounter a “near-miss” crash. Both the Vision Zero survey and Near Miss questionnaire results will be included in the annual crash analysis.</p>
	7/1/2022	Identify number of prioritized projects following the results of the crash analysis.	Ongoing	Transportation staff uses the results from the "Vision Zero Crash Data Analysis" to identify priority roadway safety projects. These includes evaluations of intersections (described in action items # 4 & 6 below), new sidewalks (action item 7) and new bicycle lanes (action item #9).
2. Update City Road Design Standards	7/1/2021	Complete review of the City's existing road design standards.	Complete	Staff has reviewed the city's existing road design standards and has identified which standards need modification.
	7/1/2023	Develop and publish new/revised road design standards utilizing best practices.	On-schedule	Staff continues to review the existing road design standards. Six standards including secondary and primary residential streets have been updated. Staff has also drafted updates for four additional roadway sections: primary and secondary industrial roads, alleys, and residential cul-de-sacs. These drafts will be reviewed and submitted to the Department of Public Works (DPW) Director for approval. Proposed changes include widening sidewalks, revising notes to require master plan bicycle facilities when appropriate, and increasing pedestrian access for cul-de-sacs. It is expected that this action item will be completed on schedule.

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3. Review Transit Stops	7/1/2022	Complete comprehensive review of transit stops per the findings of the crash analysis.	On-schedule	In response to a request from the Mayor and Council, DPW staff has included the location of transit stops as part of the next Crash Analysis to determine whether the location of bus stops influences pedestrian crash locations. Additionally, staff received a bus stop audit from Montgomery County for several bus stops along Rockville Pike (MD 355) between Wootton Parkway/ First Street and Country Club Road. The audit recommended consolidating some bus stops, moving others closer to intersections, and improving the sidewalk in other locations. Staff is coordinating with MDOT SHA, and MC DOT to implement these improvements.
	7/1/2023	Evaluate the review process and develop a program for reviewing stops every five years.	On-schedule	Staff will update review process and develop criteria for review to be updated every five years.
4. Evaluate Crossings and Unsignalized Intersections	7/1/2022	Develop a list of priority crossings and intersections for modification per the findings of the crash analysis including; Identify all high-risk crossings within the city and increase the percentage of safe crossings and intersections using the number of severe and fatal collisions at crossings and intersections.	Complete	Using the crash analysis data, and the most recent Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility study, staff has compiled a list of intersections within the City where multiple crashes have occurred over the past few years. The intersections on this list have been categorized as State or City intersections. The 11 State intersections have been shared with MDOT SHA.
	7/1/2023	Apply best practices to improve safe crossings (such as bump-outs, medians, traffic control devices like paddles and rectangular rapid flashing beacons).	On-schedule	20 City-maintained intersections are being evaluated by staff and a contractor for Vision Zero improvements to address multimodal traffic safety. The recommendations from the evaluations are expected next quarter.
5. State/Montgomery County/City Project Collaboration	7/1/2022	Improve safety on roadways operated and maintained by SHA.	Ongoing	Staff meets with the State Highway Administration (SHA) and Montgomery County staff quarterly to discuss safety concerns on roadways owned/operated by SHA/County.

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	Ongoing	Continue to advocate for identified project areas on roadways operated and maintained by SHA.	Ongoing	<p>City staff continues to regularly meet and coordinate with staff from MDOT SHA, Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), and M-NCPPC Montgomery County Planning Department. MDOT SHA completed an intersection safety audit for the Veirs Mill Road/Dodge Street/Rockville Pike intersection. This study was requested by the Rockville Traffic & Transportation (T&T) Commission with support from the Rockville Bicycle Advisory (RBAC) and Pedestrian Advocacy Committees (RPAC). Lastly, intersection improvements for Veirs Mill Road and Atlantic Avenue were completed in September 2022. This intersection is a Vision Zero identify intersection and the Mayor and Council submitted a request for this intersection's assessment in December 2021.</p> <p>The 11 Vision Zero intersection safety audits, described above for Action Items # 4 & 6, have been completed and are currently under review by MDOT SHA Office of Traffic Safety. While these results were expected during this quarter, MDOT SHA has indication additional time is needed for their review. The results are expected to be shared with the City in March 2023.</p>
6. Improve Traffic Signals	7/1/2022	Complete a review of traffic signals per the findings of the crash analysis.	Complete	Staff has compiled a list of intersections within the City where multiple crashes have occurred over the past few years. This list includes 11 state intersections and 20 city intersections.
	7/1/2023	Identify improvements and implement projects on signals owned/operated by the City and advocate for improvements that can lead us to better and safer experiences for all users at these types of intersections.	On-schedule	The state-maintained intersections were shared with MDOT SHA and the city is expected results from the intersection safety audits in March 2023. Additionally, city staff, with the support of a consultant, have begun to evaluate the city-maintained intersections for multimodal safety improvements.
7. Accelerate Sidewalk Construction	7/1/2022	Develop a list of high priority projects per the findings of the crash analysis.	Complete	Coordinating with the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee, staff has developed a list of priority sidewalk projects that incorporate additional criteria.
	7/1/2026	Complete priority projects and expand the city's bicycle network by providing additional sidewalk.	On-schedule	Staff is currently working with a consultant to evaluate feasibility of construction sidewalks along six gaps. Once these gaps are evaluated, designed for feasible sidewalks will be prepared and additional gaps will be evaluated for feasibility.

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8. Create Pedestrian Master Plan	7/1/2021	Complete the review of the City's existing pedestrian policies.	Complete	Staff has reviewed the City's policies and documents related to pedestrian safety. These policies, and potential updates to these policies, will be referenced in the Pedestrian Master Plan. RPAC and other engaged residents will be able to provide comments and feedback regarding existing policies for the Master Plan update.
	7/1/2023	Conduct public outreach, communication to stakeholder groups (such as the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee), and develop and present to the M&C a draft pedestrian masterplan.	Ahead of schedule	Staff and RPAC drafted a mission statement and goals for the Pedestrian Master Plan. Staff and RPAC have coordinated an RPAC sub-committee with the explicit purpose of reviewing Pedestrian Master Plan documents, data, policies, and recommendations. A website for the pedestrian master plan is active (www.engagerockville.com/pedestrian-master-plan) and provides project information as well as an opportunity to comment through interactive digital tools. There have been 238 survey responses and 84 community map comments. The website will be available and updated regularly for the entirety of the project. Once a plan draft has been reviewed internally, it will be shared with stakeholder groups and with the public ahead of a public meeting.
9. Expand Network of Safe Bicycle Facilities	7/1/2022	Develop a list of high priority projects per the findings of the crash analysis, the guidelines of the Bikeway Master Plan and the consultation of stakeholder groups (such as the Rockville Bike Advisory Committee).	Complete	Coordinating with the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee, staff has developed a prioritized list of bike lane projects from the Bikeway Master Plan.
	7/1/2028	Complete priority projects and expand the City's bicycle network by providing additional linear feet of bicycle infrastructure.	Ahead of schedule	Using the priority bicycle lane list, staff has recently received funding for design for the Martins Lane bicycle lanes, and the Monroe Street bicycle lanes through the Maryland Bikeways Grant program and the MWCOG Transportation Land Use Connections program, respectively. Additionally, the Park Road bicycle lanes and the N. Stonestreet Avenue bicycle lanes will be incorporated in the upcoming N. Stonestreet Complete Streets project.

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10. Increase Enforcement Activities	Ongoing	Develop the list of high-incident areas for collisions and violations associated with the crashes. Use multiple enforcement techniques to target and change behavior. The efforts will be ongoing and reevaluated when new crashes occur to ensure we continue to use resources in the most effective and impactful manner.	Ongoing	<p>The Rockville City Police Department (RCPD) continues to enforce traffic safety alongside other enforcement activities. They respond to traffic enforcements requests from the public and other city departments. DPW staff will forward traffic safety requests when residents or visitors indicate people not yielding or following traffic laws in specific areas. This is an initial response before infrastructure changes are considered.</p> <p>Additionally, the traffic unit receives a copy of the monthly crash summary that is developed by the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee. RCPD analysts review this data, as well as other traffic requests, to review high-crash locations for additional enforcement.</p>
11. Explore Expanding Automated Enforcement	Ongoing	Both speed and red-light cameras are a part of the ongoing and continued efforts at promoting safe driving in the city. These efforts will include maximizing the impact to driver behavior through placement of existing portable speed cameras, in line with violation and crash data, while ensuring the location is in compliance with legal statutes. When a new contract is executed with the vendor, RCPD will explore the feasibility of increasing the number of automated devices to be deployed at more locations, thus allowing for greater impact on driving behavior and promoting safe driving.	Ongoing	RCPD continues to carry out automated traffic enforcement. A new contract for automated enforcement was executed in November 2022. The new contract has a five-year term and five additional one-year extension options. As per contract, the vendor has 270 days to replace and upgrade the city's existing 27 photo enforcement camera systems. This includes 10 red light cameras, 6 fixed pole speed monitoring systems (SMS), 2 mobile van SMS, and 9 portable SMS. Under the new contract, it is possible for the City to obtain additional camera systems, however, an amendment to the agreement would be required for this to occur. Additionally, RCPD would need to evaluate the proposed location to ensure there is sufficient space to install the camera as well as whether automated enforcement would be an effective measure to increase compliance.
12. Expand Traffic Law Enforcement and Distracted Driving Detection Program	Ongoing	Develop the list of high-incident areas for collisions and violations associated with the crashes. Use multiple enforcement techniques to target and change behavior. The efforts will be ongoing and reevaluated when new crashes occur to ensure we continue to use resources in the most effective and impactful manner.	Ongoing	The Rockville City Police Department continues to use funds from the FY22 Maryland Highway Safety Office grants for Impaired Driving, Distracted Driving, and Speed Enforcement to target unsafe driving behaviors. These enforcement efforts are carried out in different "waves" throughout the year to address traffic trends, e.g., there is a wave to target impaired driving during the holiday season. The Police Department received the FY23 Maryland Highway Safety Office grant for Impaired Driving, Distracted Driving, and Speed Enforcement in September.

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13. Collaboration with Court System	Ongoing	Initial education of the judicial system to the Vision Zero efforts has already occurred. As cases go to court, officers will ensure that judges are aware of violations occurring in high-incident areas prior to a sanction for the violation being imposed.	Ongoing	Initial education of the judicial system regarding the Vision Zero efforts has already occurred. RCPD continues to notify judges when violations occur in high incident areas.
14. Enhance Police Driver Training	ongoing	While not currently an issue for the Police Department, will monitor for any severe or fatal collisions involving police vehicles, and continue to identify and provide remedial driver training as needed.	Ongoing	The department continues to promote to employees the importance of modeling safe driving and pedestrian behavior. Every employee involved collision is reviewed to include an assessment of previous incidents if they exist. As applicable, employees are required to attend appropriate remedial driver training.
15. Temporary Traffic Control Devices	ongoing	Procure additional temporary traffic control devices as they are identified as being needed. Continue to partner with the County and State when additional devices are needed at crash scenes. This increased visibility and direction at incidents on the streets will reduce the number of severe or fatal collisions occurring on the roadway impacted by an unexpected event.	Ongoing	RCPD currently has portable stop signs, barricades and cones available to employees to aid in traffic control as necessary. RCPD uses these tools as necessary to direct traffic during crash incidents or other events.
16. Create Comprehensive Outreach Strategy	7/1/2021	Create a comprehensive outreach strategy for the general population.	Complete	Staff completed an outreach strategy and continues to coordinate with the Public Information Office to update outreach efforts regarding Vision Zero. This includes Rockville Reports articles about traffic safety and transportation projects; social media messages reminding residents and visitors to travel safety, and Vision Zero fact sheets providing information about the program. Additionally, the Vision Zero website includes a "Vision Zero Survey" to solicit comments about the program and traffic safety in general, and a "Near-Miss Questionnaire" to provide residents and opportunities to share near-miss incidents with City staff.
	7/1/2022	Evaluate the effectiveness of outreach efforts and create a communication strategy targeting specific groups per the findings of the crash analysis.	Ongoing	Public Information and Community Engagement Office staff continues to monitor activity of the city's vision zero webpage as well as comments and feedback regarding Vision Zero related posts.

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17. Join Montgomery County on Safe Routes to School Activities	1/1/2022	Join Montgomery County by developing a collaboration agreement with Montgomery County and MCPS.	Ongoing	Staff coordinated with the Montgomery County Safe Routes to School coordinator to present the program and opportunities for collaboration with the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Group and the Traffic & Transportation Commission. Staff also helped support the fall Walk/Roll to School Day event, providing "I Walk Rockville" buttons.
	7/1/2022	Evaluate the effectiveness of our outreach efforts, reevaluate actions per the findings of the crash analysis, and continue to coordinate with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS).	Ongoing	Staff will reevaluate the effectiveness of our outreach efforts and look into opportunities to implement safe routes to school activities for school-aged children. The City encourages students to share their experiences on the Vision Zero survey as well as the Pedestrian Master Plan survey.
18. Join Montgomery County's On-bike Education Programs for Kids	1/1/2022	Join Montgomery County by developing a collaboration agreement with Montgomery County and MCPS.	Ongoing	The Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee has collaborated with the Montgomery County Safe Routes to School Coordinator in order to pilot a bicycle-rodeo/bicycle education efforts at Beall Elementary School. Staff has worked with Beall Elementary School to provide additional bicycle racks for students. Staff has also supported the Ritchie Park Elementary School bike-to-school program, provide Vision Zero branded bike lights for students that bike to school at least 20 times.
	7/1/2022	Evaluate the effectiveness of our outreach efforts, reevaluate actions per the findings of the crash analysis, and continue to coordinate with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS).	On-schedule	Staff will continue to look into opportunities to promote on-bike education activities and biking related events, such as Bike to School Day, for school-aged children.
19. Safety Awareness Training for City Employees	7/1/2021	Develop education materials and provide information to City staff.	Complete	Staff coordinated with HR to distribute materials to new employees so that they understand the City's commitment during orientation. HR staff has also provided special training ("Toolbox Talks") to members of Public Works who spend much of their time in the field.

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20. Training in the Community	7/1/2021	Create outreach materials and identify community partners.	Ongoing	<p>Electronic copies of the Vision Zero factsheet flyers were shared (in Spanish and English) with civic associations, HOA's, faith-based organizations, schools, and some Black and Hispanic organizations in the area. Paper flyers were also placed inside the mailed kits sent to volunteers for the days of service organized by the City. Staff coordinated with the Public Information and Community Engagement Office to update these flyers and to share the information.</p> <p>Staff recently shared "Safe urban cycling" pamphlets with the Thomas Farm and Twinbrook Community Centers. Additional pamphlets are available in City Hall and the Town Center Library.</p> <p>Staff continue to explore opportunities for reaching the community, especially community groups who face a disproportionate safety risk.</p>
	7/1/2022	Evaluate the effectiveness of our outreach efforts and reevaluate actions per findings of the crash analysis.	Ongoing	Staff will review effectiveness of outreach materials in reference to the results of the crash analysis and recommend further refinements for improved outreach.
21. Appoint Vision Zero Coordinator	7/1/2020	Serve as an initial point of contact and overseer of action item implementation.	Complete	A Principal Transportation Planner was hired in August 2021. This person's work program includes coordinating the Vision Zero Program and the city's pedestrian and bicycle transportation efforts.
22. Establish Cross Departmental Vision Zero Task Force	7/1/2021	Provide coordination among City departments while implementing action items.	Complete	The Vision Zero Task Force was created in March 2020 and has met quarterly since the adoption of the Vision Zero Action Plan in July 2020. Working groups were established from this task force to focus on implementing specific action items.
23. Change Policies, Regulations, and Laws	7/1/2022	Review existing laws, policies, and regulations to identify specific changes per the findings of the crash analysis.	On-Schedule	Staff continues to review policies, regulations, and practices for opportunities to further Vision Zero goals. Many of the pedestrian related policies will be reviewed as part of the Pedestrian Master Plan.
24. Ensure Fairness and Equality Throughout Vision Zero Projects	ongoing	Review all Vision Zero projects and strategies during the entirety of implementation to ensure fairness and equality are met.	Ongoing	Staff continues to carry out action items through the lens of equity and fairness. This includes assessing the needs of all people traveling different modes and providing an opportunity for people to achieve equal outcomes and not only be provided equal opportunities.

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25. Create Vision Zero Webpage	7/1/2021	Finalize the design of the Vision Zero webpage.	Complete	<p>The City's Vision Zero webpage is an active page on the City's website. The "Near-Miss" questionnaire was added in December 2021 to solicit responses from residents and visitors who have experienced a near-miss incident. Additionally, the most recent Vision Zero update, timeline, and progress charts have been added. The November 2022 update, timeline, and progress chart will also be added to the website once reviewed by the Mayor and Council.</p> <p>The Public Information and Community Engagement Office has helped to create a Vision Zero projects sub-page within the Vision Zero webpage. This helps organize the web page so that information is more accessible to the webpage visitors.</p>
26. Publish Collision Data	Ongoing	Publish crash data findings and analysis on the city's Vision Zero webpage upon completion of the crash data analysis.	Ongoing	Up-to-date crash data collected by the County is regularly updated on the County's Open Data Portal website and is available to the public. The city's Vision Zero website includes links to this information.
27. Improve Crash Data Collection	10/1/2021	Review crash data collection following the initial crash analysis.	Ongoing	Staff examined the methodology of the County's crash dataset and continues to look into opportunities to collect more qualitative data. Data collected during a crash is compiled in the Automatic Crash Reporting System (ACRS) which is a statewide program and consistent across police departments.
		Provide initial outreach with Montgomery County, and continue coordination throughout data collection.	Ongoing	Staff meets with Montgomery County regularly to share data findings and opportunities for additional data analysis.
28. Coordinate with Peer Learning Opportunities	ongoing	Provide initial outreach to other Vision Zero Communities and organizations.	Ongoing	<p>Staff continues to coordinate with Montgomery County and Maryland Department of Transportation on Vision Zero actions through its Vision Zero Coordinators with the Department of Transportation and Planning Department.</p> <p>Additionally, staff attends the Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments.</p>
29. Update Traffic Safety Programs	7/1/2022	Complete the review of the city's existing traffic safety programs and policies per the findings of the crash analysis.	Ongoing	Staff continues to review policies and programs as related to other transportation and development activities. Additionally, staff will work with the RCPD to identify other programs that can be implemented to advance traffic safety, such as crosswalk enforcement.
	7/1/2023	Identify and prioritize specific changes.	on-schedule	Staff will identify traffic safety programs that can be implemented through the Vision Zero program.

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30. Procure Safer Vehicles	7/1/2021	Adopt new fleet purchasing policy.	Complete	Staff has reviewed the fleet replacement policy and recommended additional language to the Fleet Vehicle Replacement Schedule of the FY23 Budget.