# VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN SUMMARY

SAFER STREETS FOR CHARLOTTE

## WHY VISION ZERO?

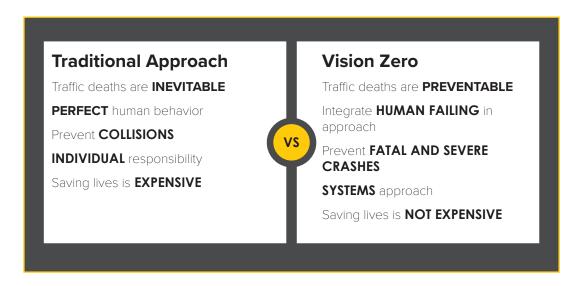
Because even one traffic fatality is too many.

Liz Babson

Director, Charlotte Department of Transportation

#### **FOCUS ON TRAFFIC FATALITIES & SERIOUS INJURIES**

Vision Zero is a comprehensive traffic safety initiative focused on eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries.



#### Success of Vision Zero is based on community involvement.

More than 50 members from organizations representing a breadth of safety professions and advocates contributed to Charlotte's Vision Zero Action Plan and will continue to advocate for it in their communities.

#### **BUILD ON CHARLOTTE'S LONG-STANDING COMMITMENT TO TRAFFIC SAFETY**

Below are highlights of traffic safety work Charlotte has completed during the past several years such as improving traffic signals and expanding our pedestrian and bicycle network.



#### SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS

- ✓ 56 traffic signals installed
- ✓ 152 leading pedestrian intervals activated
- ✓ 12 school flashing lights installed



#### PEDESTRIAN NETWORK

✓ 71 miles of sidewalk constructed 115 pedestrian crossing upgrades



#### **BICYCLE NETWORK**

- ✓ 41 miles of bicycle facilities constructed
- ✓ 12 urban trail crossings





#### **MAINTENANCE**

- 1.151 miles of streets resurfaced
- More than 2,000 potholes repaired



#### STREET LIGHTING

✓ 3,424 street lights added, upgraded or transferred to the city's system



#### STREET PROJECTS

- ✓ 18 major street projects constructed/initiated
- ✓ 12 major intersection projects constructed/initiated



# CREATE SAFER NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS

Neighborhood residents know their streets best. The city currently offers neighborhoods three solutions that residents can ask the city to implement to calm traffic on residential streets.

- ✓ Speed limit reduction
- ✓ Speed humps
- ✓ Multi-way stops

To request a traffic calming solution, residents may call 311 or submit a request online.

Keeping drivers and pedestrians safe is a priority for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department. It is critical to have committed partners in this endeavor through Vision Zero.

#### **Kerr Putney**

Chief, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department

#### REDUCE SPEED LIMITS ACROSS CHARLOTTE

#### Charlotte is experiencing an epidemic of speeding.

Speeding accounts for 44 percent of traffic fatalities in Charlotte.

The Vision Zero Action Plan focuses engineering, education and enforcement efforts on reducing speeds throughout the city, especially in areas where crashes have led to fatalities and serious injuries.

Speed reduction measures include lowering speed limits in problem areas and increased use of technology such as driver feedback displays.



### DESIGN AND BUILD SAFER ROADS

A linchpin of the Vision Zero philosophy is that human error will occur but should not be fatal or lead to serious injury. Engineering design must consider potential mistakes to the maximum extent practical while keeping pace with the transportation needs of Charlotte's growing population.

The city is committed to designing complete streets that serve all users.

#### **BEATTIES FORD PROJECT**

The road-widening project on Beatties Ford Road is an example of the city 's commitment to designing and building safer roadways. This road-widening project is currently in progress and will include a planted median, bicycle lanes, sidewalk, planting strips and roadway lighting improvements.

### IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

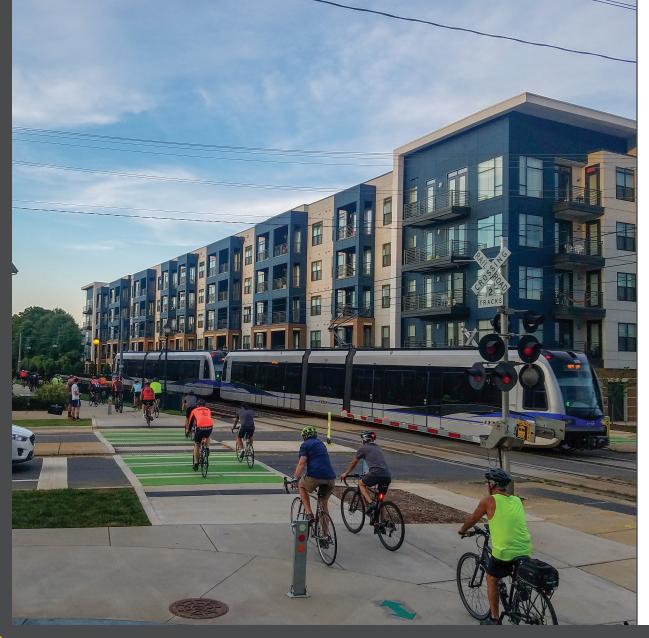
Leading pedestrian intervals give pedestrians a walk signal several seconds before vehicle traffic receives a green signal.

These intervals have been shown to reduce crashes between vehicles and pedestrians by as much as 60 percent at treated intersections.

The city currently has over 150 intersections with leading pedestrian intervals and will install an additional 15 annually through Vision Zero.

In addition to pedestrian intervals, the city is installing hybrid pedestrian beacons at crosswalks throughout the city. These crosswalks provide safe crossing areas at intersections or stretches of road without a traffic signal.





#### **CREATE SAFE STREETS FOR ALL USERS**

- ✓ Construct 20 miles of sidewalks per year
- ✓ Construct new or improved pedestrian crossings at 25 independent locations by 2025
- ✓ Test and build new safety treatments for bike networks

#### SHAPE COMMUNITY CULTURE OF SAFETY

- Develop a community ambassador program to promote traffic safety at events
- ✓ Award 25 place-making community grants related to traffic safety
- Conduct concentrated enforcement focusing on speeding, impaired driving and pedestrian safety

#### **ANALYZE THE DATA**

- Continue gathering and updating data on Charlotte's high injury networks
- ✓ Expand CDOT investigations to include both fatal and serious injury crashes
- ✔ Prioritize all projects based on data from the high injury network

#### **EVALUATE POLICY AND LEGISLATION**

- ✓ Adopt a safe routes to schools district policy with CMS
- ✓ Ensure all new city fleet vehicles include back up cameras
- ✓ Explore legislation on automated speed enforcement city wide



#### **GET INVOLVED**

The City of Charlotte is committed to eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries on our streets but we cannot do it alone. Success requires us all to work together for safer streets.

- ✓ Spread the word and email *CLTVisionZero@charlottenc.gov* to include Vision Zero at your next community meeting or event.
- ✓ Take the pledge to obey all traffic laws at *NCVisionZero.org/join-us*.
- ✓ Use and share our interactive map. Tell us about your traffic safety concerns at *CharlotteNC.gov/VisionZero*.

