

Item 8

City of Knoxville Vision Zero Update

**PRESENTER: CODY GENTRY, VISION ZERO COORDINATOR,
CITY OF KNOXVILLE**

NO ACTION REQUIRED



CITY OF KNOXVILLE



SAFER STREETS FOR KNOXVILLE

Safer Knoxville:
The City's Plan to Eliminate Traffic Fatalities

Cody Gentry, Vision Zero Coordinator



What is Vision Zero?



- Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries.
 - The City is committed to eliminating traffic fatalities on City-controlled roads by 2040.
- Vision Zero is **not** a slogan or aspirational goal. It is a fundamental paradigm shift in our approach to traffic safety.
- Safety prioritized over everything else.

Background

2021

- City Council unanimously endorses Vision Zero goal



2040

Goal for reaching 0 traffic fatalities

2022

- City launches planning stage of Vision Zero Plan
- Vision Zero Steering Committee formed

2024

- Vision Zero Coordinator hired

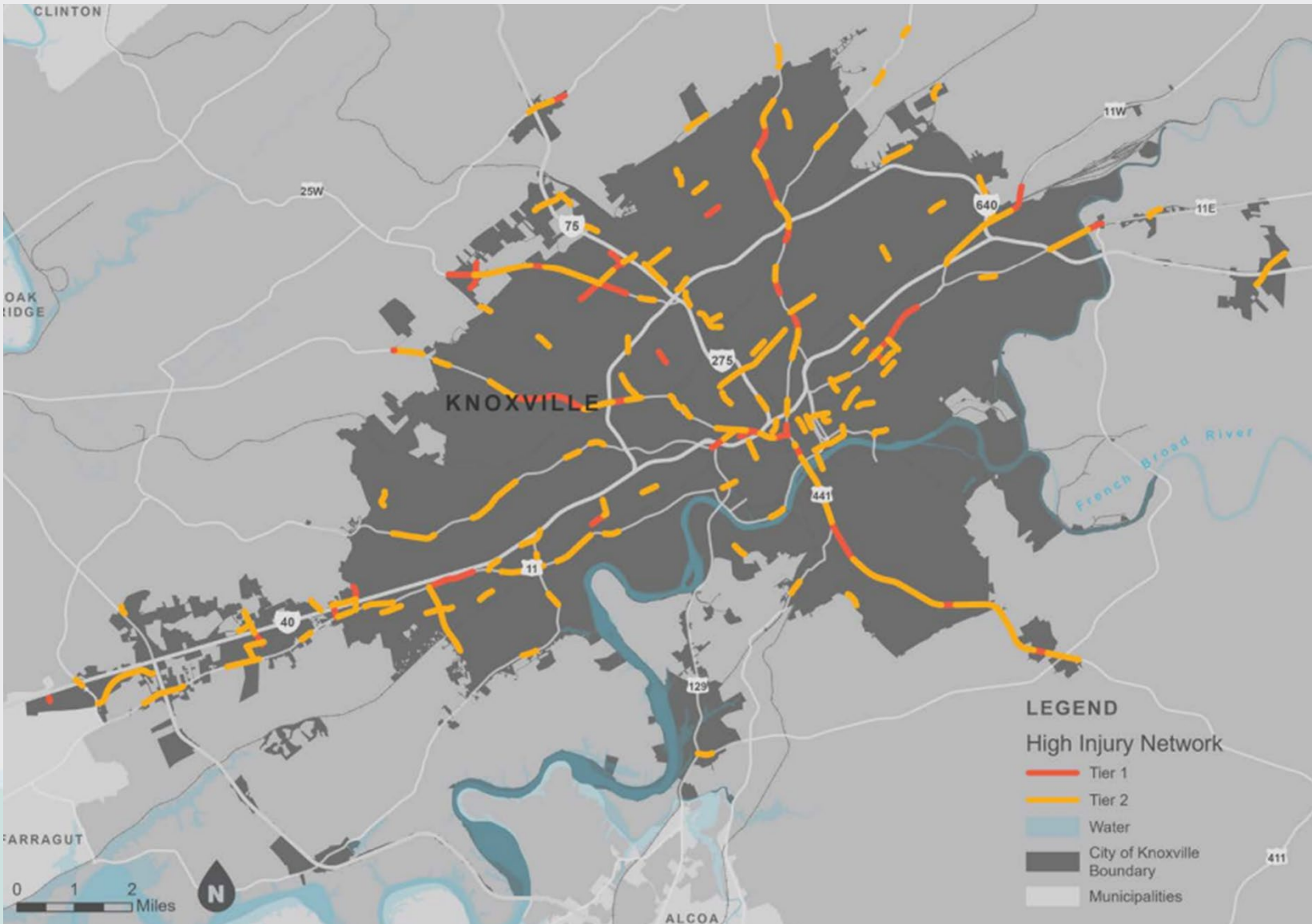
Vision Zero Action Plan



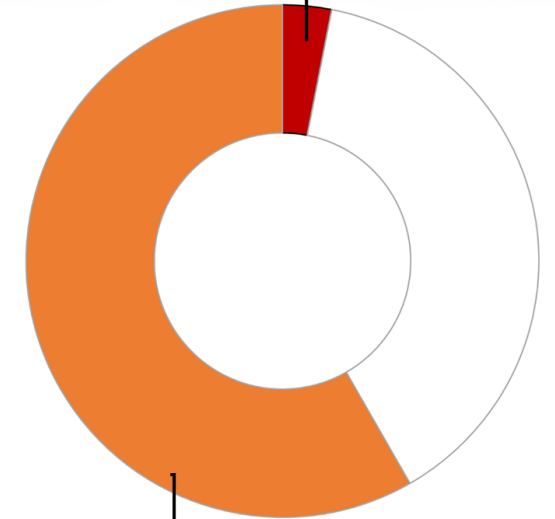
The City's Action Plan contains:

- High Injury Network (HIN)
- Crash Profiles and Countermeasures
- Action Plan Framework
- Priority Locations and Funding Opportunities

High Injury Network



5% OF NON-INTERSTATE
ROADWAYS IN KNOXVILLE



ACCOUNT FOR 63% OF THE
LIFE-ALTERING CRASHES

Is Vision Zero Possible?

- Yes! Vision Zero is not a utopian vision.
- Multiple U.S. communities have reported zero traffic deaths within the last 5 years
 - Hoboken, NJ (2017-2023)
 - Jersey City, NJ (2022)
 - Alexandria, VA (2023)
 - Knoxville (20??)



How can we reach Zero?

We must completely change how we approach traffic crashes.



TRADITIONAL APPROACH

Traffic deaths are **INEVITABLE**

PERFECT human behavior

Prevent **COLLISIONS**

INDIVIDUAL responsibility

Saving lives is **EXPENSIVE**

VS

VISION ZERO APPROACH

Traffic deaths are **PREVENTABLE**

Integrate **HUMAN FAILING** in approach

Prevent **FATAL AND SEVERE CRASHES**

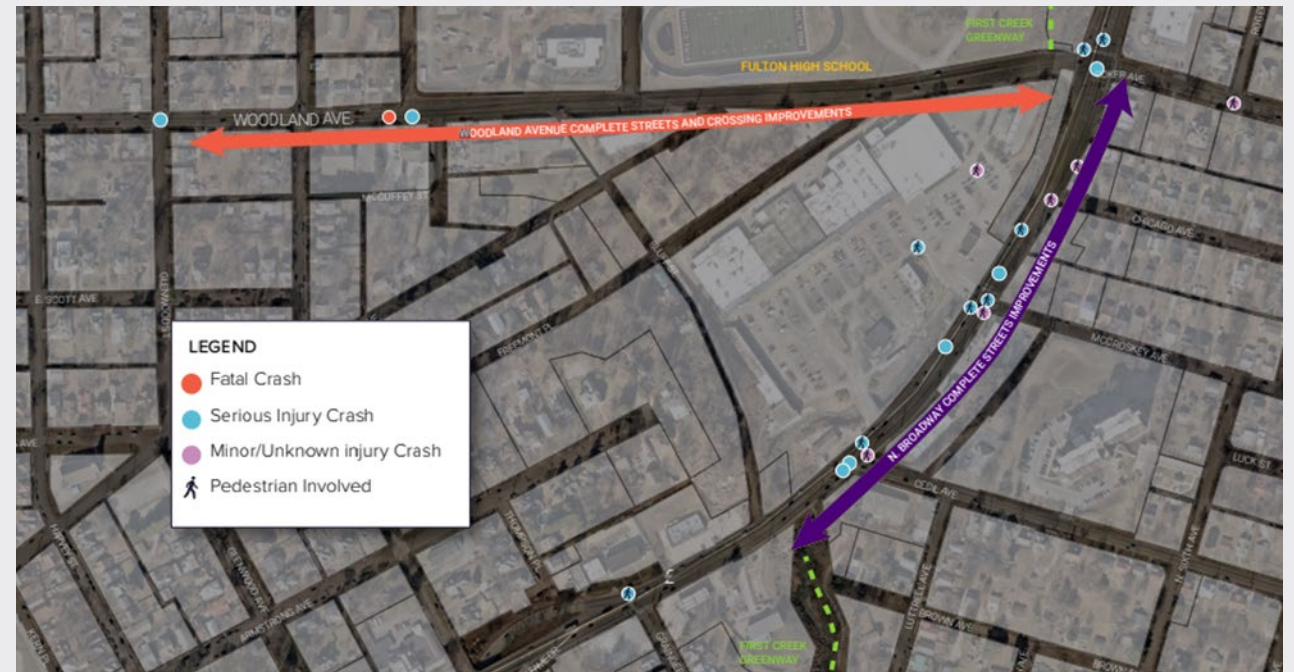
SYSTEMS approach

Saving lives is **NOT EXPENSIVE**

What are we doing in the City?



- Federal Grant Projects
- 2023 SS4A
 - A total of \$10 million (80% Federal)
- Planning Projects:
 - Speed Management Plan
 - Bicycle Facilities Plan Update
 - Online public dashboard
 - Follow-up stakeholder engagement
 - Feasibility Studies
 - MUTCD engineering studies
- Construction Projects:
 - Magnolia Ave Improvements (Cherry, Hembree, and Castle)
 - Broadway Streetscapes Project (Cecil to Woodland)
 - Woodland Ave Complete Street Project



What are we doing in the City?



- Federal Grant Projects
- 2024 SS4A
 - A total of \$22.25 million (80% Federal)
- Planning Projects:
 - Safe Routes to School Plan
 - Streetlighting Plan
 - Roadway Safety Audits – High Injury Network
- Construction Projects:
 - Chapman Hwy (Blount to Woodlawn/Ft. Dickerson)
 - Shared-use path on the west side of Chapman Hwy
 - Landscaped median





THANK YOU!

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