VDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan
Stakeholder Team Kick Off

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Pedestrian Safety in Virginia

- Pedestrians made up about 16% of highway fatalities in 2016 (Virginia DMV, 2016 crash data).

- Pedestrian fatalities represented over 12% of all highway fatalities between 2011-2016.

- Pedestrians were involved in 1.3% of all traffic crashes between 2011-2016.

- Pedestrian crash and fatality rates have steadily climbed between 2014 and 2016. Pedestrian fatalities increased by 53% between 2015-2016.
Pedestrian Deaths
As % of Total Highway Deaths
2011-2015

- Virginia
- United States
### VDOT Pedestrian Safety Initiatives

- VDOT bicycle and pedestrian safety program within its Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

- Virginia DMV analyzes bike and pedestrian crash data, provides education materials and tips to the driving and general public related to pedestrian safety, and supports outreach for pedestrian safety.

- VDOT incorporate pedestrians and bicyclists as an emphasis area in its new Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP).

- VDOT has been working to analyze pedestrian crash data for risk factors and statewide trends.
PSAP Focus Areas

- Risks to pedestrian safety at street crossing locations
- Motor vehicle speeds
- Sidewalks and walkways separate from motor vehicle traffic
- Visibility between motor vehicles and pedestrians
- Pedestrian and motorist behaviors
Goals for the VDOT PSAP

- To better understand the pedestrian safety concerns throughout the state and identify countermeasures to address those concerns

- To identify HSIP pedestrian safety projects

- To consider the relationship between land development and pedestrian safety

- To integrate crash data into bike/pedestrian elements of SMART SCALE

- To consider maintenance issues for pedestrian access and safety
Step 1: Policy Review

- Summary and assessment of VDOT policies:
  - Design
  - Traffic engineering
  - Permitting and land use
  - Posted speed limits and speed setting procedures for roadway design and operations
  - VDOT/VTRANS pedestrian planning and policy

- 3 Local (or State) Policy Case Studies, considering:
  - Funding and prioritization programs
  - Complete Streets policies
  - Design or countermeasure selection guidance
  - Maintenance policies
  - Traffic calming policies
  - Speed limit-setting guidelines
Step 2: Crash Data Analysis

- Crossing With Signal
- Crossing Against Signal
- Other

**Pedestrian Fatal Crashes**
- 73%
- 17%
- 10%

**Pedestrian Injury Crashes**
- 61%
- 26%
- 13%

- Evaluate KHA Report for systemic trends
- Identify clusters from geocoded crash data
Existing Crash Data Analysis

Pedestrian Fatal Crashes
- No X-Walk Present: 86%
- X-Walk Present: 14%

Pedestrian Injury Crashes
- No X-Walk Present: 71%
- X-Walk Present: 29%
Speed and Pedestrian Crashes

Pedestrian Fatal Crashes

- <=25: 33
- 26-35: 86
- 36-45: 46
- 46-55: 7
- 56-65: 0
- >65: 0

Pedestrian Injury Crashes

- <=25: 170
- 26-35: 46
- 36-45: 36
- 46-55: 7
- 56-65: 0
- >65: 2

Vehicle Speeds
Step 3: Identify “hot spots” and risk factors

[Map showing hot spots and risk factors around specific areas like Benning Road and Capitol Heights.]
Step 4: Pedestrian Countermeasures

- Focus on FHWA Proven Safety Countermeasures
- Review other research and guidance, such as PEDSAFE and NCHRP Synthesis 498 “Application of Pedestrian Crossing Treatments for Streets and Highways”
- Including treatments recommended by standing VDOT policies such as “Pedestrian Crossing Accommodations at Unsignalized Locations”
Crossing Treatments
Signalized Crossings
Step 5: Project List and Final Report

- Develop Recommendations for Short, Mid, and Long-term Implementation
  - Funding strategies
  - Internal webinar

- Final Report
Step 6: Outreach and Training

- Communications Plan
- 3 one-day workshops at various locations in Virginia
# Project Schedule

## Stakeholder Team Meetings
- Review policy and practice
- Hot spots and risk factors
- Countermeasures or other treatments
- Develop recommendations
- Final Report
- Outreach Events

## May – September 2017
- May 2017
- June 2017
- July 2019
- August 2017
- December 2017
- January 2018-May 2018
Thanks!