



2020 DENVER VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN

# Progress Report Card











The Denver Streets Partnership issues this report card to honor the 57 people who died in traffic crashes on Denver's streets in 2020 and to hold our City leaders accountable to their Vision Zero commitment to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries.



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**STREETS**  
PARTNERSHIP

Denver's streets looked very different in 2020. With a sharp decrease in traffic early in the year and an undeniable need for more accessible open space, the City rose to the challenge by quickly rolling out Shared and Open Streets. We're also celebrating 40 new miles of bike lanes. Denver received high marks for implementing corridor-wide traffic calming on Bannock Street, Colfax Avenue, and Santa Fe Drive. Walnut Street and Smith Road also received new treatments but these had a limited impact on safety.

Signal modifications to prevent serious crashes were also installed at 156 intersections but Denver did not install a single "Smart City" technology despite their goal of 15. Most concerning, the City continues to fail at providing some of our most basic but essential infrastructure — sidewalks. Only 6.32 miles of new sidewalks were built, falling well below the goal of 20 miles. Less than half a mile of these sidewalks were built along Denver's High Injury Network.

	ACTIONS	LOCATION*	QUALITY**	COMPLETE	SCORE
 BUILD 25 MILES OF BIKE LANES	40 MILES OF BIKE LANES BUILT	A	B-	A	B+
 BUILD 20 MILES OF SIDEWALKS	6 MILES OF SIDEWALKS BUILT	D	D	F	D-
 IMPLEMENT TRAFFIC CALMING ON 2 CORRIDORS	IMPLEMENTED TRAFFIC CALMING ON 5 CORRIDORS	B+	A-	A+	A
 REDESIGN 3 INTERSECTIONS TO INCREASE SAFETY	ADDED BULB OUTS OR BIKE CORRALS TO 17 INTERSECTIONS	D-	A-	A	B-
 INSTALL OR UPGRADE 5 PED CROSSINGS	INSTALLED SIGNS OR PEDESTRIAN ACTIVATED SIGNALS AT 4 CROSSINGS	D	A	B	C+
 IMPROVE OPERATIONS AT 10 INTERSECTIONS	IMPROVED SIGNALS AT 156 INTERSECTIONS	C	A	A+	A-
 ENHANCE STREET LIGHTING ON 3 CORRIDORS	CONVERTED 3,000 LIGHTS TO LED ON NUMEROUS CORRIDORS	A	A	A	A
 "SMART CITY" TECHNOLOGIES AT 15 INTERSECTIONS	INSTALLED DATA COLLECTION DEVICES (NO OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS)	A-	F	F	D

\* Located on the High Injury Network and/or in a Community of Concern?

\*\* Did the action improve safety for all users?

**FINAL GRADE B-**

This Report Card focuses specifically on Denver’s progress on street safety improvements as outlined in the Vision Zero Action Plan. Our current street designs and policies still lack the necessary measures to protect all road users, especially the most vulnerable. To achieve Vision Zero, Denver must make transformational changes to prevent this unnecessary loss of life.

### What is Vision Zero and why does it matter?

Denver’s Vision Zero Action Plan aims to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries by the year 2030, and outlines actions the City will take in several areas to achieve this goal.

## 2020 FATALITIES:

# 57



 **16**

people walking



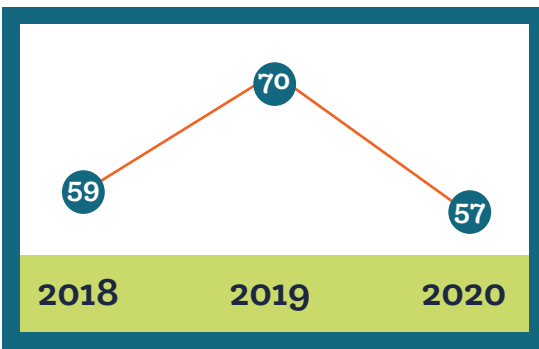
**1**

person bicycling



**1**

person on an e-scooter



At the height of the pandemic in April 2020, Denver did not have a single traffic fatality. While the number of deaths did decrease from 2019 to 2020, this is likely more indicative of fewer people on the streets, rather than a result of infrastructure changes.



Despite the City's improvement in their grades over time, traffic fatalities are not decreasing fast enough to hit the goal of zero fatalities by 2030.



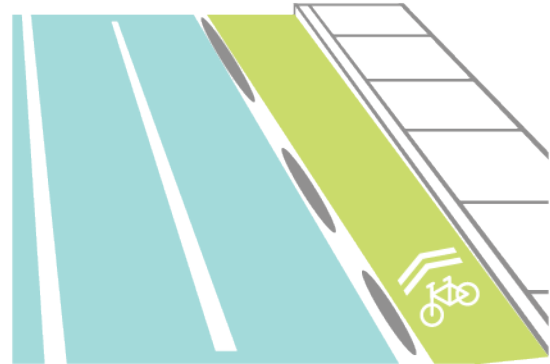
We are now in the third year of Denver's five year Vision Zero Action Plan. To reach its goals, Denver needs to step up their efforts by:

**1** Address policy and funding challenges that are preventing the city from meeting their goals for building sidewalks.

**19%**



to goal of building 88 miles of sidewalks.



**2** Establish more aggressive targets for other street safety improvements, particularly corridor-wide traffic calming, pedestrian crossings, and intersection redesigns.

**3** Enact quick policy changes that will have a widespread impact, namely speed limit reduction.



**20 is Plenty**



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The Denver Streets Partnership is a coalition of community organizations advocating for people-friendly streets in Denver.

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