

Federal Boulevard Pop-Up Traffic Calming Final Report

REGIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL & WALKDENVER

ABOUT THE PROJECT

In 2017, the traffic fatality rate on Federal was 20 times the average for urban streets in Colorado. The majority of fatalities and injuries on Federal in northwest Denver occurred at or near the intersection with W 50th Ave. The Regis University Community Council and WalkDenver teamed up to bring attention to the safety improvements urgently needed on this dangerous corridor. On April 27, 2019, we hosted a “pop-up” demonstration event at Federal Blvd and W 50th Ave to reduce speeding, improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity, and make Federal a safer and more pleasant street to travel on. Using tires, beach balls, and straw bales, we created a median, curb extensions at the corners, reduced the width of over-sized travel lanes, protected bike lanes, and even set up a pop-up bus shelter!



WHAT IS TRAFFIC CALMING?

Traffic calming uses physical design and other measures to improve safety for all users of a street. Techniques can include curb extensions, reduced turning radii, bike lanes, and raised crosswalks. It aims to encourage safer, more responsible driving, potentially reduce traffic speeds, and encourage the use of other modes of travel. Traffic calming is a tactic that Denver will use as the city works toward achieving its Vision Zero goal of zero traffic deaths and serious injuries by the year 2030.

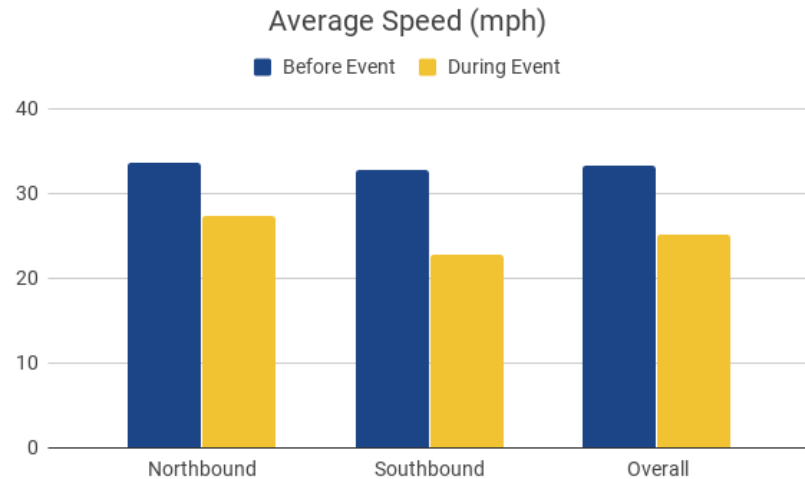
WHAT IS TACTICAL URBANISM?

Tactical urbanism is an approach to neighborhood building using short-term, low-cost, and scalable interventions to catalyze long-term change. These projects use low-cost materials to experiment with and gather input on potential street design changes. While road diets and major redesigns might be the best solution for many cities' most deadly roads, tactical urbanism is another example of how low-effort, low-cost actions can influence awareness and engage the community at large.



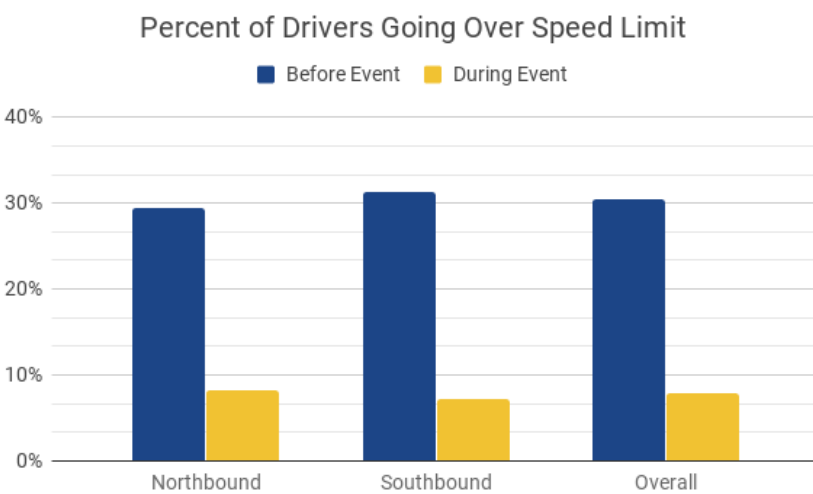
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SPEED DATA COLLECTION

Vehicle speed data was collected both before and during the event to measure any effects of the pop-up. Speed management is a critical component of Vision Zero because it is one of the most influential factors in crash severity and frequency.



The percent of **drivers going over the speed limit** dropped dramatically from **30%** before the event to just **8%** during the event

PEDESTRIAN SURVEY RESULTS

Feedback from pedestrians passing by was overwhelmingly positive. Of the 41 people who took our survey (75% of whom live in the area), the vast majority said they felt that bulbouts, medians, and protected bike lanes would make it safer and easier to travel along Federal Blvd and 50th Ave.



82%

said curb extensions, or "bulbouts," would make it feel safer to cross Federal

89%

said medians or pedestrian refuges would make it feel safer to cross Federal

85%

said protected bike lanes would make it feel safer to walk and bike in the area