DESIGNING FOR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



Module 1

Logistics

- Health and safety (emergency exits, procedures for evacuation, etc.)
- Please silence your cell phones/pagers
- Breaks (when, restrooms, snacks)
- Lunch arrangements
- Other site-specific issues

Self Introductions

- Please tell us:
- Your Name and Title
- Your employer
- What is your ONE pedestrian safety issue?

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This is a workshop: Expect to do some work!



- Ask questions and issues as you have them
- May be covered in course material or
- Will be placed on the "Park Bench" for later
- Exercises, questions, and discussions –
 YOU provide the answers!
- Field trip: Assess the situation, apply the principles, and make recommendations
- Identify and prioritize potential policies and procedures

Designing for Pedestrian Safety Workshop Outcomes

- \Box At the end of this workshop, you will be able to:
- Describe the influence of planning factors: land use, street connectivity, access management, site design, and level of service.
- Describe how pedestrians should be considered and provided for during the planning, design, work zone, maintenance, and operations phases.
- Describe how human behavior affects the interaction between pedestrians and drivers
- Identify good practices and effective solutions to enhance pedestrian safety and accessibility.

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Overview of Pedestrian Safety Problem

- Annually more than 5,000 pedestrians are killed in traffic crashes, representing about 15% of all traffic deaths.
- Nearly 70,000 pedestrians are injured each year
- Most crashes occur when the pedestrian crosses a road
- Most fatalities and serious injuries occur on roads designed with little attention for pedestrian safety.
- Pedestrians are less likely to be killed in walkable environments.



Designing for Pedestrian Safety - Introduction

Pedestrian Fatalities by Year U.S. Data



Pedestrian Injuries by Year U.S. Data



GHSA Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities by State 2017 Preliminary Report



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Table 2Pedestrian Fatalitiesby State per 100,000Population, 2016

Source: State Highway Safety Offices and U.S. Census Bureau

Table 2 shows the rate of pedestrian fatalities per 100,000 population by state for 2016, based on the number of pedestrian fatalities reported by the states

Sorted by State				
State	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100K Population - 2016	State		
Alabama	2.51	New IV		
Alaska	1.62	Florida		
Arizona	2.85	South		
Arkansas	1.64	Arizon		
California	2.43	Delaw		
Colorado	1.52	Nevad		
Connecticut	1.73	Louisi		
Delaware	2.83	Alaba		
DC	1.32	Texas		
Florida	3.22	Califo		
Georgia	2.25	Vermo		
Hawaii	2.24	Oklah		
Idaho	0.71	Georg		
Illinois	1.15	Hawai		
Indiana	1.28	North		

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Sorted by Fatality Rate

State	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100K Population - 2016
New Mexico	3.45
Florida	3.22
South Carolina	2.96
Arizona	2.85
Delaware	2.83
Nevada	2.76
Louisiana	2.73
Alabama	2.51
Texas	2.44
California	2.43
Vermont	2.41
Oklahoma	2.32
Georgia	2.25
Hawaii	2.24
North Carolina	2.00

Crash Factor - Lighting

1-EX-11

Table 4 States Where <a>80% Pedestrian Fatalities Occurred in the Dark (2014-2016)

State	Total Pedestrian Fatalities with Known Light Levels	Pedestrian Fatalities that Occurred in Dark	
		#	%
New Mexico	201	169	84%
South Carolina	373	309	83%
Texas	1,695	1,356	80%
Delaware	89	71	80%
Louisiana	334	266	80%

ffic Fatalities

Source: FARS

Agenda overview

- Planning factors: land use, street connectivity, access management, site design, and level of service
- □ Walking along the road: Effectiveness of sidewalks
- Street crossings: Human behavior, midblock crossings, crosswalks, medians, signals, over/under-crossings
- Pedestrian-friendly intersections: Geometry, radii, curb extensions, islands, crosswalks
- □ Signalized Intersections: Making them better for pedestrians
- □ Interchanges: Providing pedestrian safety and accessibility
- Roundabouts: Making them work for pedestrians
- □ Transit: Stop locations & pedestrian crossings
- Road diets: Making room for pedestrians
- □ Field Exercise: Apply what we have learned
- Policy Discussion Optional based on time

Why is it important to accommodate pedestrian safety and accessibility?



Because we are all pedestrians

Why?

1-14



Because many people do not drive

Why?



Because other modes depend on walking

Why?

1-16



Because it's good for business – people walk into stores

Why?

1-17



Because pedestrians use and belong on streets and highways

Why?



Because walking is healthy exercise

Why?

Because it will make roads safer for all road users

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Why?

- Myth: Accommodating pedestrians increases liability
- Fact: ignoring a problem increases liability
- A good solution is to identify the problem and have a plan to address it.

"A Circuit Court civil jury ... awarded \$3.3 million to relatives of a woman killed by a motorist as she walked on a stretch of Pennsylvania Avenue that did not have a sidewalk or guard rails. The jury found the state of Maryland liable in the wrongful death lawsuit, and voted to award \$2.5 million to Kayla Martin, the daughter of Kelay Smith, who was struck and killed by a motorist on Aug. 12, 2008."

--Washington Post; March 11, 2011

To reduce liability

Why?

1-21 Sisters OR



AASHTO: "Because of the demands of vehicular traffic in congested areas, it is often extremely difficult to make adequate provisions for pedestrians. Yet this should be done, because pedestrians are the lifeblood of our urban areas..."

(2011 edition, AASHTO Green Book, page 2-78)

Why?

- USDOT Policy Statement on Bicycle & Pedestrian Accommodation (Announced March 15, 2010)
- Every transportation agency, including DOT, has the responsibility to improve conditions and opportunities for walking and bicycling and to integrate walking and bicycling into their transportation systems

It's also been Federal Policy since ISTEA (1991)



Former U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx

Why?

- USDOT Policy Statement Actions to integrate nonmotorized modes into future projects:
- Consider walking and bicycling as equals with other transportation modes;
- Ensure convenient choices for people of all ages and abilities;
- □ Go beyond minimum design standards;
- Collect data on walking and biking trips;
- Set mode share targets for walking and bicycling
- Maintain sidewalks paths, including snow removal
- Improve non-motorized facilities during maintenance projects.

Resources

ACHIEVING MULTIMODAL NETWORKS APPLYING DESIGN FLEXIBILITY & REDUCING CONFLICTS



Highway Safety Manual

Science-based technical approach for safety analysis

AASHTO HSM Website:

www.highwaysafetymanual.org

□ FHWA HSM Website:

<u>http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsm/</u>

- TRB Highway Safety Performance Committee Website:
 <u>www.safetyperformance.org</u>
- FHWA RC HSM Webinar Series
 - <u>http://www.highwaysafetymanual.org/Pages/FHWAResour</u> <u>ceCenterHSMWebinarSeries.aspx</u>



Calculating Reduction in Number of Crashes

Crash Modification Factor (CMF): factor used to compute the expected number of crashes after implementing a given countermeasure.

Crash Reduction Factor (CRF): % fewer crashes experienced on a road with a given countermeasure than on similar road without the countermeasure

Relationship between CMF and CRF:

CMF = 1 - (CRF/100)

 $CRF = 100^{*}(1 - CMF)$

CMF/CFR Clearinghouse: www.cmfclearinghouse.org

CMF - Important Concepts

- May apply to all crashes, or crash specific subsets (e.g., run-off-road, night, wet weather, multi-vehicle, etc.)
- Same treatment in different contexts or highway types may have different effects and different CMF values



A crash modification factor (CMF) is a multiplicative factor used to compute the expected number of crashes after implementing a given countermeasure at a specific site. The Crash Modification Factors Clearinghouse houses a Web-based database of CMFs along with supporting documentation to help

Recently Added CMFs

CMF: 0.9

Physical channelization of left-turn lane on major road	
CMF: 0.73	CMF: 0.87
CRF: 27	CRF: 13

Planning elements that affect pedestrian safety:

- 1-28
 - Land Use
 - Street Connectivity
 - Access Management
 - Site Design
 - Level of Service



Why do we have cities?



To minimize travel & maximize exchange (to be closer together)

How have we built our urban roadway system?



To facilitate travel over longer distances

Reducing travel demand is best achieved through <u>Land Use</u> policies that bring destinations closer together

- The problem:
- Commercial activities concentrated in autodominated corridors.
- Segregated land uses
- Result: long travel distances, not conducive to walking

Potential solutions?

- 1. Allow small-scale retail in neighborhoods
- 2. Create neighborhood parks
- 3. Site school closer to residences & parks





1-33 Madison WI

Neo-traditional development: destinations are close to residential areas

1-34

Street Connectivity





- Connectivity creates a walkable street system by:
- Reducing walking distances;
- Offering more route choices on quiet local streets;
- Dispersing traffic reducing reliance on arterials for all trips

You live here, your child wants to visit a friend who lives not far away; how do you get there?

1-36 Phoenix AZ

Cul-de-sac patterns increase walking distances & increase reliance on arterials


Can you increase connectivity with paths, greenways?

<- 1 mile square ->	School
Market	
7.5	5
	5 6
Lollipop pattern	

1-37

- Reduces walking distances: YES
- Offers more route choices: YES
- Disperses traffic: NO



1-38 Davis CA

Dedicate R.O.W. to link cul-de-sacs with linear parks
Land Use & Connectivity: Schools next to parks.

High Connectivity



Moderate Connectivity



Low Connectivity



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Travel Lanes Required









1-40 Las Vegas NV

Lack of connectivity => overly wide streets



1-41 Albuquerque NM

Lack of connectivity => few but large intersections

Access Management

1-42 Atlanta GA



Every driveway is a potential conflict



1-43 Portland OR

Drivers and pedestrians must make choices:
Walk in front or in back? Pull forward or back up?

Access Management => fewer conflicts at driveways 2 techniques: (1) median (no left turns) (2) consolidate driveways





Which has greater crash reduction factor:(1) Median (no left turns) or(2) consolidate driveways?





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1-46 Salem OR

Driveways can be closed for safety

Severing public streets not a desirable access management technique

1-47



Available crossings and movements before access control

Available crossings and movements after access control

This limits people's ability to walk or bicycle





1-49 Salem OR

Severed street can be reconnected for pedestrians



Bringing Buildings closer to the Street

Creates a street
where drivers know
to expect
pedestrians





1-52 Albuquerque NM

Parking between sidewalk and building is not pedestrian-friendly



1-53 Doylestown PA

Building at back of walk: pedestrian-oriented design



1-54 Sweet Home OR

Fast food typically favors drive-thru over walk-ins
Pedestrians must cross drive-thru lane



1-55 Portland OR

Alternative design: Direct pedestrian access is provided with no vehicular conflicts



1-56 Portland OR

Parking and drive through are still provided



Even a gas station / convenience store can be built with pedestrian friendly design, at back of walk



1-58 Wheaton IL

Pedway retrofitted from sidewalk to building through parking



Same principles apply to large-scale developments:
Direct, safe & convenient access is provided



1-60 Eugene OR

Poor Design: Drivers use sidewalk for backing

Do your local ordinances support pedestrian-oriented planning and design?



These goals are achieved by local ordinances, which must be enforced.

1-61

They are beyond the scope of road designers, yet contribute greatly to the safety, comfort and aesthetics of the walking experience

1-62 Rethinking The Role of Urban Streets



A "complete street" accommodates many uses and provides for all purposes of a street:

- Mobility (all modes)
- Access to destinations
- Thriving businesses
- Beauty



Transforming a street



1-65 S. Pasadena CA

Narrow lanes; add bike lanes, median, trees, texture



1-66 S. Pasadena CA

Bring in buildings that face the street



1-67 S. Pasadena CA

More buildings: Infill



1-68 S. Pasadena CA

The street now has life and is safer for pedestrians

1-69 Level of Service

The impact of LOS standards on street design and pedestrian safety



1-70

- \square HCM 2000: ped LOS = F; too many peds!
- □ New HCM 2010: considers quality and density for peds

HCM 2010 Approach

Interactions

- Multimodal evaluation for urban streets
 - Emphasizes combined evaluation of auto, bike, and transit modes



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Source: FDOT Quality/Level of Service Handbook

Pedestrian LOS

- LOS model determined from research on pedestrians' perceptions
- LOS models are provided for:
 - Urban street segments
 - Signalized intersections
 - Two Way Stop Controlled (TWSC) intersections
 - Roundabouts
 - Off-street facilities


Pedestrian LOS

Urban street segments

- Density of pedestrians and comfort / perceived exposure
- Signalized intersections
 - Pedestrian delay and perceived exposure



A= actual sidewalk width E= effective sidewalk width

Pedestrian LOS

1-74

TWSC intersections
 Average pedestrian delay crossing major street
 Off-street facilities
 Affected by bicyclists







1-75

Why are pedestrians at high risk on this street?
 Multi-lane roadway, high speeds





1-76 Vancouver BC

Why are pedestrians at low risk on this street?
Narrow roadway, low speeds, busy



What does the driver see that says "slow down, watch for pedestrians"?

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1-78 Portland OR

- Reinventing the roadway:
- □ Transform a 5-lane commercial strip to ...





1-79 Portland OR

- …a safer road for everyone
- Discussion: 1. What changed?
- Discussion: 2. What didn't change?



Let's Recap

- Why is it important to accommodate pedestrian safety and accessibility?
- How does the street environment influence drivers' and pedestrians' expectations and interactions?
- Where is the information?
- What planning factors influence pedestrian safety and accessibility?



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