Speed Limits Discussion

City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission

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June 17, 2020

Past Work

01 Pedestrian Safety and Access Task Force (2015)

- Recommended 25 MPH maximum on local roads
- Recommended 30 MPH maximum on arterial/collector roads
- Work towards Citywide speed limits of 25 mph
- Lobby state government for greater local control of speed limits

02 TC – Speed Reduction Committee (2018)

- Did ***not*** recommend 25 MPH maximum on local roads
- Amend Traffic Calming program
- Public Outreach (A2BeSafe)
- Safe systems approach for roadway design

Several recommendations from both are feeding into the Transportation Plan Update

The Need

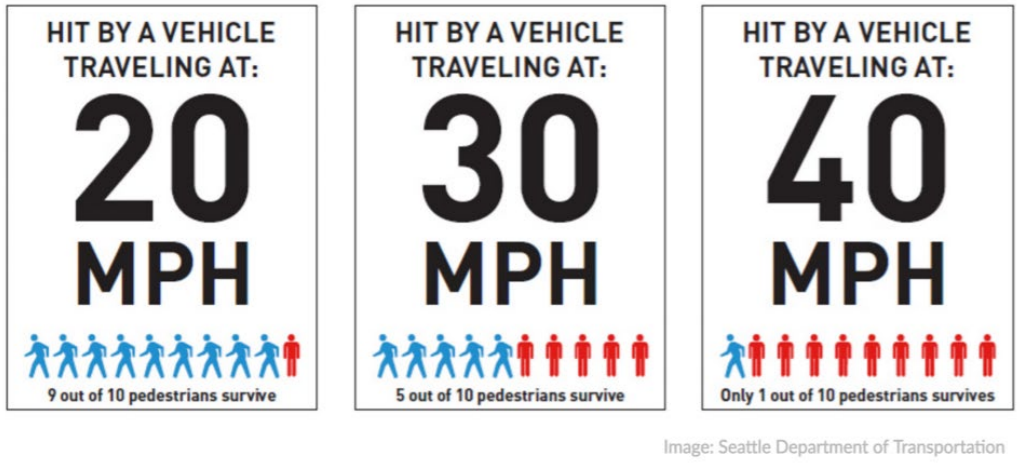

Image: Seattle Department of Transportation

ANN ARBOR MOVING TOGETHER

TOWARDS VISION ZERO

A2ZERO

EQUITABLE • SUSTAINABLE • TRANSFORMATIVE

The Desire

2018 National Citizen Survey

706 Ann Arbor residents surveyed

Which of the following statements is closest to the advice you would like to give the City as they… **consider introducing new road designs that have been shown in other cities to reduce pedestrian, cyclist, and motorist crashes?**

Community Support:

Source: https://www.a2gov.org/news/pages/article.aspx?i=523

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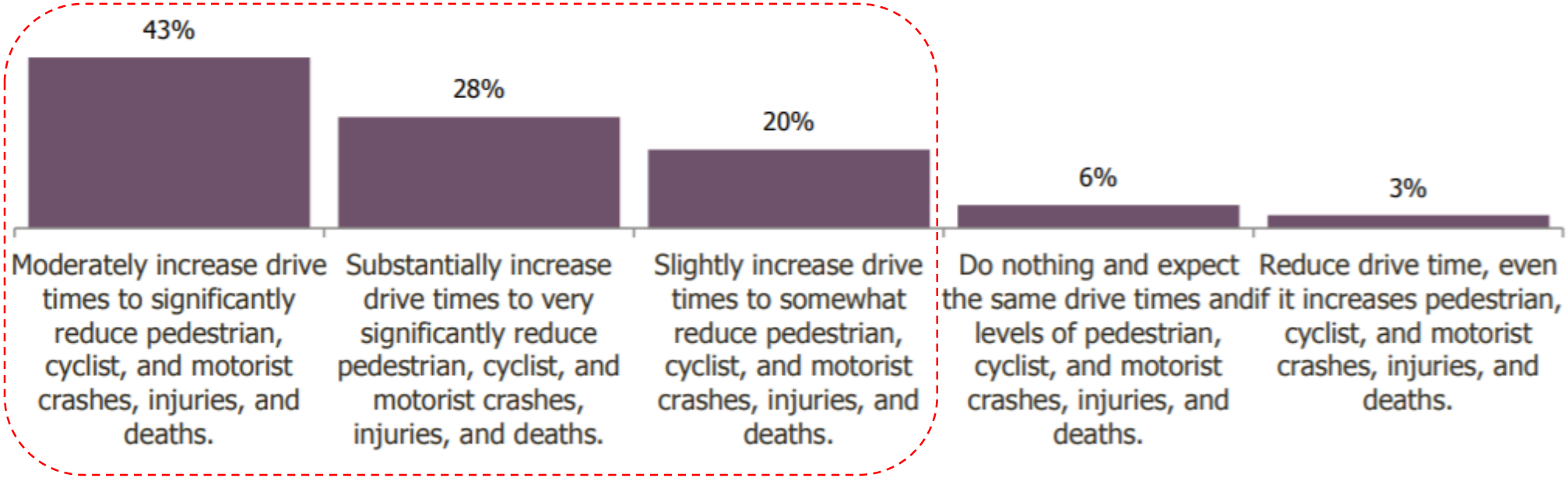
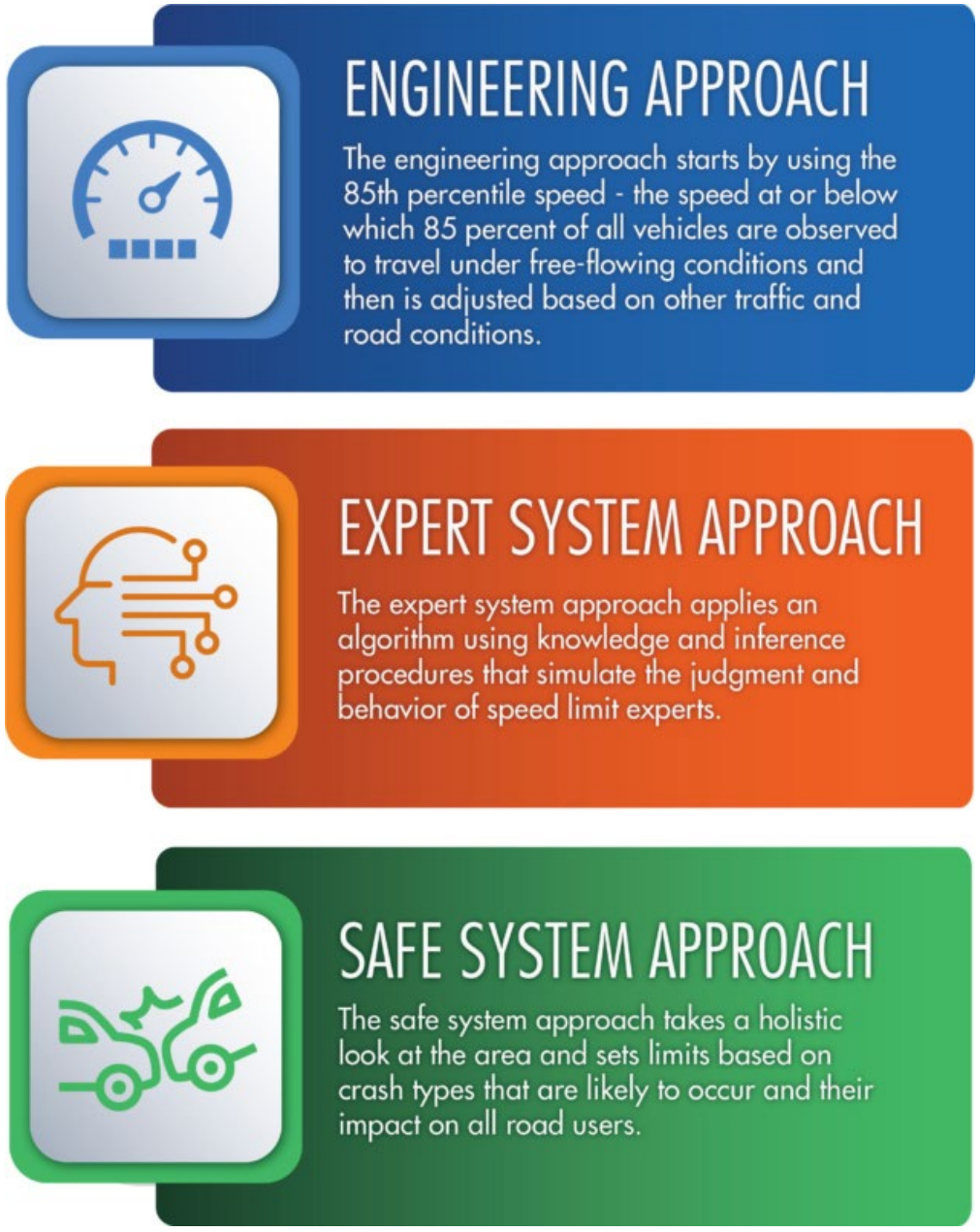


Community Support:

91% support increased drive times as a tradeoff to reduce traffic crashes, injuries, and deaths

Source: https://www.a2gov.org/news/pages/article.aspx?i=523

The Challenge



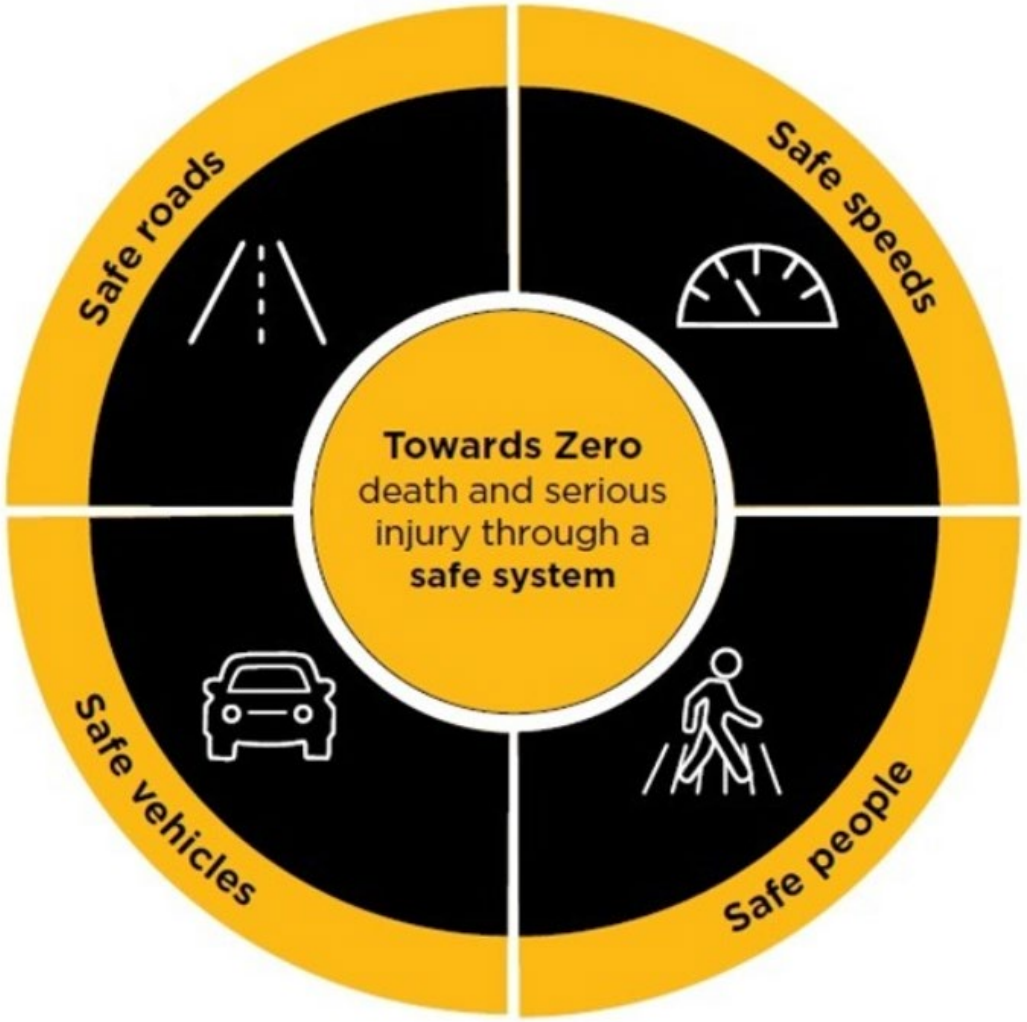
Current Practice

01 FHWA identifies 3 specific methods

02 Engineering/Expert System Approach: USLIMITS2

- 85th percentile typically used, in 5 mph increments
- 50th Percentile in certain conditions
  - Density of signals, driveways
  - Pedestrian/bike activity
  - Parking activity
- Other considerations
  - Significant crash history
  - Minimum length

03 Transitioning to Safe Systems

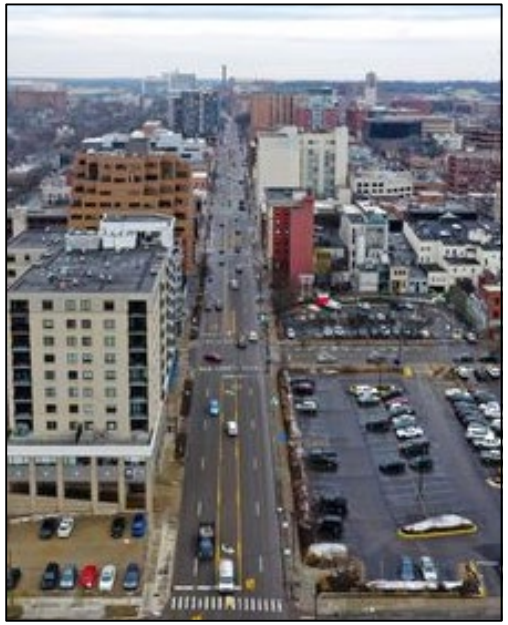


Safe Systems

- Moving towards a “safe system” approach
- Speed limit change would accompany road design change
- NACTO: City Limits

State Law Constraints

Minimum Speed Limits



State Trunklines

Automated Enforcement

Recent Examples

Washtenaw

45 MPH speed limit

Newport

25 MPH speed limit

Geddes

25 MPH speed limit

Advisory Speeds

- Sight distance concerns
- Curves: maximum g-force exerted
- Different road classifications

Recommended Speed

Not Enforceable

What If?

- A Vision Zero Transportation Network
  - What changes are required to achieve?
  - What is the role of speed limits?
  - Changing driver behavior
- Transportation Plan Update
  - Vision Zero
- Traffic Calming 2.0?
  - Major Streets

THANK YOU