

VISION ZERO



NO TRAFFIC DEATHS BY 2030

**OUR PLAN TO ELIMINATE FATALITIES AND
SERIOUS INJURIES ON OUR ROADS**

BRIEFING TO MONTGOMERY COUNTY DELEGATION • 09/08/2020



To reach our Vision Zero goals, there are numerous municipal, county, and state agencies involved. The core group that receives the most funding and critical to Vision Zero’s success are shown in the dark blue inner circle. The outer light blue circle highlights the many partner departments and agencies that have a role in creating safe streets for all roadway users. All of these groups are brought together by the County Executive’s Office through the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer and Vision Zero Coordinator overseeing the initiative.



Engineering

- Design facilities that prioritize safety as the top priority
- Key Outcome: Reductions in severe and fatal collisions in High Injury Network (HIN)



Enforcement

- Encourage safe behaviors using evidence-based high visibility enforcement
- Key Outcome: Hours of dedicated enforcement for factors contributing to severe and fatal collisions



Education

- Engage the public to promote the importance of traffic laws and safe behaviors
- Key Outcome: Increased awareness of dangerous driving, biking, and walking behaviors



Traffic Incident Management

- Ensure that when a collision occurs, prompt care is provided
- Key Outcome: Maintain response times for traffic collisions with injuries based on dept. standards



Law, Policy, and Advocacy

- Improve the way traffic safety is managed by changing codes, laws, and policies that do not align with Vision Zero
- Key Outcome: Passage of significant laws and policies required to implement Vision Zero



VISION ZERO PROJECTS



MCDOT CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Scheduled for design and/or construction: Corridor Improvements:

- Bel Pre Rd
- Crabbs Branch Way
- Middlebrook Rd
- Randolph Rd
- Sam Eig Hwy

Signal Timing Modifications:

- Shady Grove Rd

Bicycle Facilities:

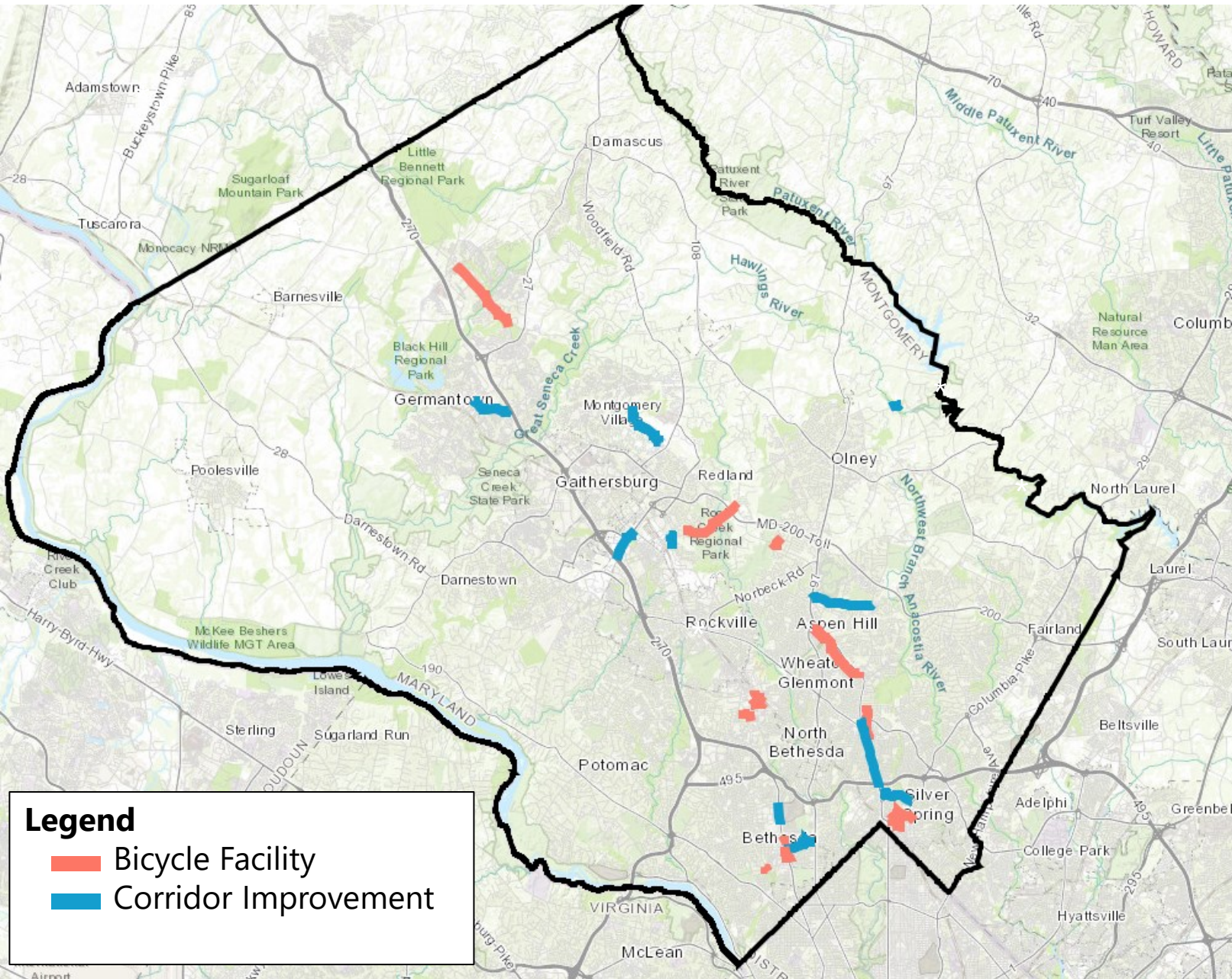
- Capital Crescent Surface Trail
- Woodmont Ave
- Marinelli Rd
- Aspen Hill Neighborhood Greenway
- Amherst Ave (in design)

Bus Stop Improvements:

- Wheaton Triangle

Trail Crossings:

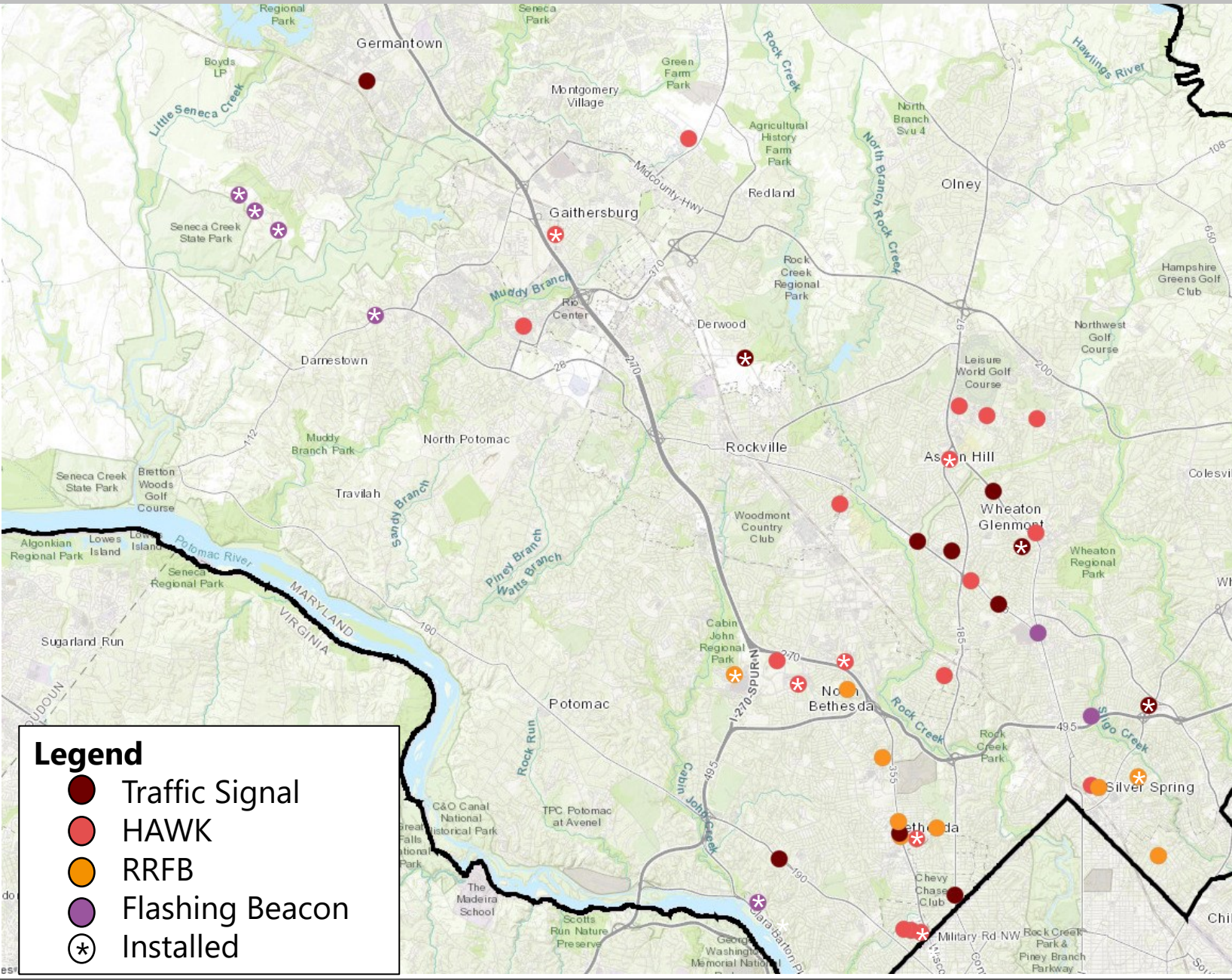
- 15 additional upgrades



HIGH INJURY NETWORK PROJECTS

HIN Roadway	Status	Notes
Bel Pre Rd	On Schedule	Upgrading RRFBs to Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons.
Crabbs Branch Way	On Schedule	Data analysis and studying design alternatives underway.
Middlebrook Rd	Under Construction	Quick build project for protected bike lanes and road diet is under construction and scheduled to be completed in October. Signal construction at Wisteria & Crystal Rock on schedule to be installed by October.
Randolph Rd	Delayed due to COVID-19	Delayed due to suspension of collecting ped/bike/motor vehicle traffic volume. Study has resumed this month.
Sam Eig Hwy	On Schedule	Data analysis and studying design alternatives underway
Shady Grove Rd	Delayed due to COVID-19	Delayed due to suspension of collecting ped/bike/motor vehicle traffic volume. Study has resumed this month.
Veirs Mill Rd	On Schedule	SHA has committed to a full signal with pedestrian signal at Norris & MD 586; MCDOT has committed to a HAWK with pedestrian signal at Andrew & MD 586, design underway.
Wheaton Triangle Bus Stop Audit	On Schedule	Work underway includes partnering with WMATA and SHA to finalize the draft report and recommendations.

NEW SIGNALS AND BEACONS



Recently completed and scheduled for install:

Traffic Signal:

- East Gude Dr & Men's Shelter*
- Wisteria Dr & Crystal Rock Dr
- Randolph Rd & Bushey Dr
- MD 586 & Norris Dr (SHA)
- Colesville Rd & Lanark Way*
- Connecticut Ave & Lenox St (SHA)
- Wisconsin Ave & Middleton Ln (SHA)

HAWK Beacons:

- Willard Ave. & The Hills Plaza*
- Democracy Blvd. & Walter Johnson HS (2x)*
- Twinbrook Pkwy and Recreation Center
- Summit Ave & Brookfield Dr
- Bel Pre Rd (upgrade 3 existing RRFBs)
- MD 586 & Andrew St (County/SHA)
- Muddy Branch & Muddy Branch Square Shopping Center
- Spring St and 1st Ave
- 6705 Rockledge Dr
- Layhill Rd & Greenery Ln (SHA)

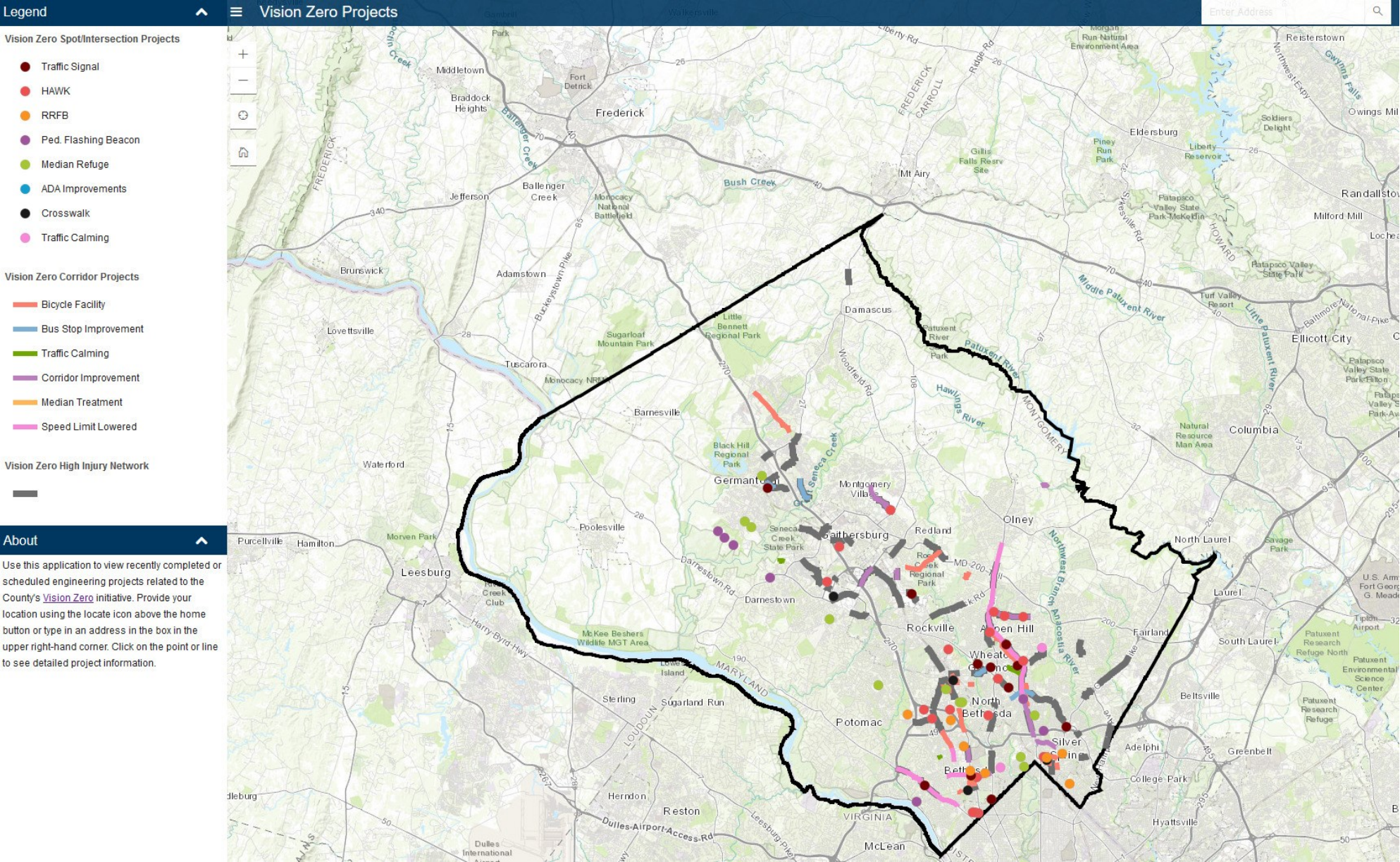
Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons:

- East West Highway & Edgevale St (SHA)
- MD 410 & Takoma Park Library (SHA)
- Dale Drive & Dartmouth Ave*
- West Cedar Lane & Cedarcrest Dr*
- Wisconsin Ave & Commerce Lane / Avondale Street (SHA)
- Grosvenor Ln & Fleming Ave
- Georgia Ave & Fenwick Lane

Flashing Beacon:

- MacArthur Blvd & Dunrobbin Dr*
- Georgia Ave & Veirs Mill Rd (turn lane)

VISION ZERO PROJECT MAP



MCDOT and CountyStat developed an interactive project map to highlight Vision Zero related projects happening across the county.

Since the initial launch of the map, SHA projects have been included such as speed limit reductions on major highways and signal projects.

The map can be found on the [Vision Zero homepage](#).

POTENTIAL SCORECARD CRITERIA RECOMMENDED BY EQUITY TASK FORCE:

- **Crash data:** rank projects based on need as evidenced by the high injury network
- **Current state of physical infrastructure:** adequacy of existing sidewalks, bike infrastructure, bus stops, lighting
- **Modal priority:** Prioritize vulnerable transportation modes (walking, biking, scooting, persons using mobility assistive equipment)
- **Location:** prioritize areas such as school walksheds, high vulnerability population such as seniors, equity emphasis areas
- **History of funding:** Review prior engineering and maintenance projects performed in recent years.



STREETERIES & GREENWAYS

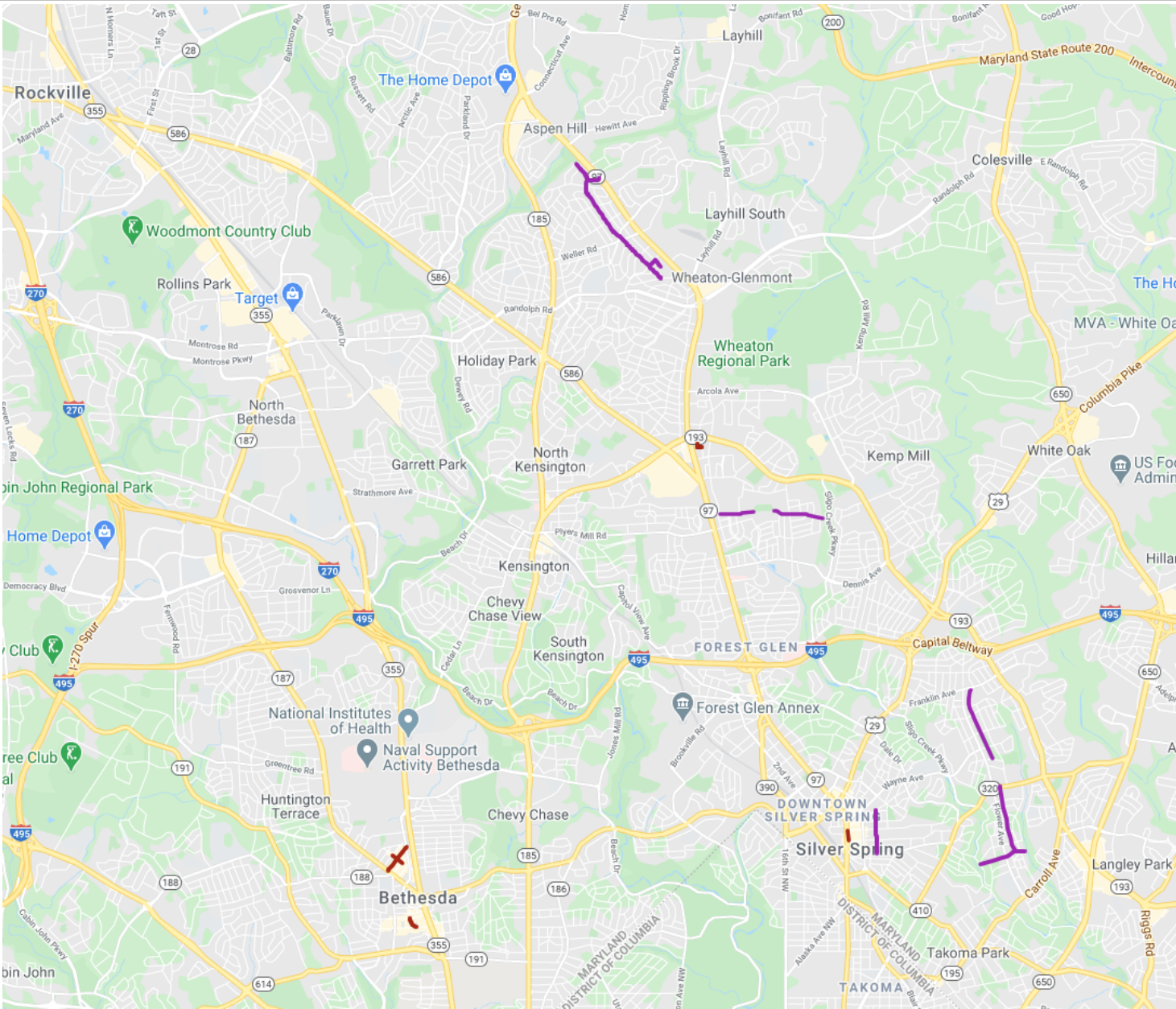


OUTDOOR DINING AREAS (STREETETERIES)



Since the beginning of the pandemic, City, County, and State Government have been expanding options for safe recreation and outdoor dining. To support restaurants and their patrons, MCDOT has set up 44 temporary “Curbside Pickup” zones in 4 areas of the county and allowed on-street dining by closing streets and lanes in Wheaton, Silver Spring, and Bethesda. BlackRock Center for the Arts has created an outdoor dining area in Germantown, Rockville has closed Gibbs Street, and Takoma Park closed a block of Laurel Ave.

TEMPORARY CLOSURES TO THRU TRAFFIC



Map Legend

-  Shared Street
-  Streetery

Since the beginning of the pandemic, City, County, and State Government have been expanding options for safe recreation and outdoor dining. To support recreation, the Parks Department has closed portions of parkways from Friday – Sunday to relieve trail traffic. MCDOT closed 7 roads in Silver Spring and Wheaton to through traffic for safer walking and biking routes. Residents can also request short-term block closures at the [MCDOT Shared Streets website](#).



VISION ZERO EDUCATION & ENCOURAGEMENT



SOCIALLY DISTANT BIKE RODEOS & COURSES



VIRTUAL EVENTS

All this Week Monday, May 4th–8th



With the continuation of virtual classrooms, we are retooling our education and encouragement activities. This spring, we moved our Safety Day event to a Safety Week where kids could do fun activities at home. We are currently working with the Department of Recreation to develop on-bike education activities that can be done while meeting social distancing and other safety guidelines.

Recommendations from Equity Task Force:

- **Culturally competent messaging:** develop materials that are specific to the experiences and issues of our different communities. Ensure materials are in multiple languages and accessible to persons with disabilities.
- **Find and remove barriers to engagement:** Examine barriers that deter and minimize the likelihood that vulnerable populations to contacting the County to report issues or provide project input.
- **Prioritize education around schools:** Messaging can reach the child and their parents/guardians.
- **Bike safety education:** Provide on-bike education in MCPS.



VISION ZERO ENFORCEMENT



Recommendations from Equity Task Force:

- **Use judiciously:** always use in conjunction with engineering and education efforts.
- **Account for roadway design:** Incorporate the built environment for high visibility enforcement campaigns.
- **Focus on most dangerous behaviors:** Enforcement should be focused on curbing known dangerous behaviors instead of lower risk violations.
- **Use data to track and improve traffic enforcement:** Examine crash and traffic violation data regularly to improve consistency with decision making and guidance to patrol officers.
- **Alternative punishments:** Provide alternatives to paying fines.
- **Implicit Bias Training:** Train officers on implicit racial and ethnic bias as it relates to traffic enforcement.

In addition to the Equity Task Force recommendations, the “Reimagining Public Safety” task force will be making additional recommendations for improving traffic enforcement. County Police will also work continuously with the new Police Advisory Commission.

HIGH VISIBILITY ENFORCEMENT



Distracted
Driving



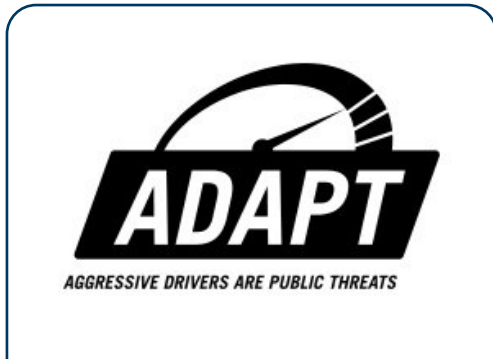
Seatbelt
Use



Impairment



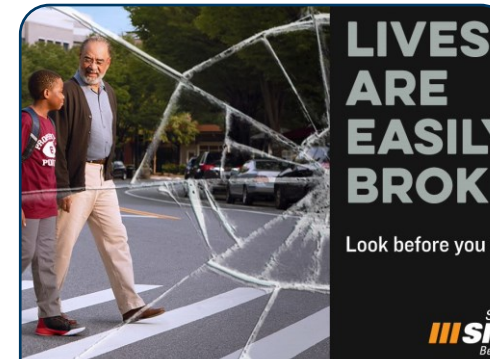
MCPD utilizes the Maryland Highway Safety Office's high visibility enforcement (HVE) calendar to perform regular stepped up enforcement all year round. MCPD utilizes analyses from MHSO, Traffic Division data analyst, and CountyStat to identify hotspots for crashes.



Aggressive
Driving



Speeding



Pedestrian
Safety



Enforcement is typically tied with education to inform residents of the dangerous behaviors, ways to curb the behaviors, and explain why we perform high visibility enforcement.

WHY ENFORCEMENT? CAN IT WORK?

Dangerous Behavior	Enforcement Activity	Effect on Crashes
Drivers not yielding to pedestrians at crosswalks	Targeted driver enforcement at crosswalks	↓ 23% pedestrian crashes
Impaired driving	Publicized sobriety checkpoints	↓ 17% alcohol related crashes
Driver excessive speeding	Automated speed enforcement	↓ 19% reduction in severe collisions

Sources: [FHWA Toolbox of Countermeasures](#), [NHTSA Countermeasures that Work, 8th Edition](#), [IIHS](#)

If all U.S. communities had speed-camera programs like the one IIHS studied in Maryland's Montgomery County, more than **21,000 fatal or incapacitating injuries would have been prevented** in 2013.

-- IIHS Study of Montgomery County Automated Enforcement





10-YEAR STRATEGY



10-YEAR PLAN DEVELOPMENT

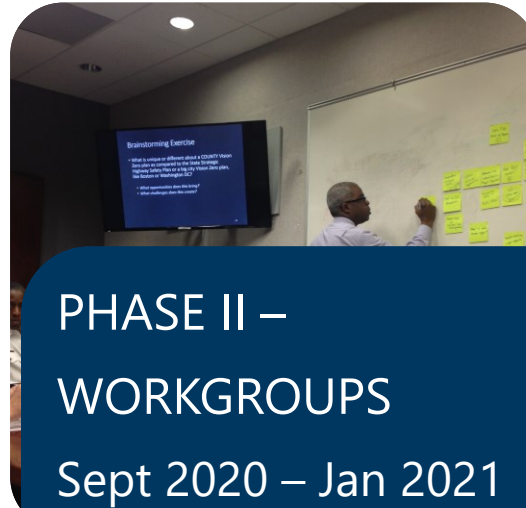


PHASE I –

FACT FINDING

June – Aug 2020

- Community survey
- Community letters
- Community meetings
- Targeted outreach
- Updated data analysis and leading practices research
- MCG surveys and interviews
- Deliverable: Background packets for workgroups



PHASE II –

WORKGROUPS

Sept 2020 – Jan 2021

- 3 workgroups
- Meet 5 times
- Develop objectives, strategies, action items, and performance measures
- Co-chairs supported by contractors to build on progress each meeting
- Deliverable: Working draft of 10-year strategy and 2-year action plan



PHASE III –

COMMUNITY REVIEW

Feb – May 2021

- Facilitated reviews
- Continued outreach to traditionally underrepresented communities
- Iterative drafts
- Deliverable: Final draft of 10-year strategy and 2-year action plan

THANK YOU!



Group photo of County employees involved in designing and building the 2nd/Spring protected intersection.