

Letter from the Commissioners



Dear fellow New Yorkers,

We are proud to bring you the Vision Zero Borough Pedestrian Safety Action Plans. These documents represent the highly detailed combination of DOT and NYPD crash data and analysis, over 10,000 online comments via the Vision Zero Public Input Map, and nine public pedestrian safety workshops across the five boroughs. These borough-specific plans outline our current progress and help define the next phase of Vision Zero.

The first year of Vision Zero in New York City proved successful; after two years of increases, the city experienced the lowest number of pedestrian fatalities since record keeping began in 1910. In 2014, the city lowered its speed limit to 25 MPH, completed over 50 major safety engineering projects, and expanded traffic enforcement dramatically, with speeding summons increasing 42% and failure-to-yield summons increasing 126%. DOT and NYPD partnered to form the Vision Zero Street Team, launching a series of two-phase, two-week campaigns focused on pedestrian safety. The first phase of the campaigns included distributing traffic safety literature to the public at collision-prone locations to promote traffic safety. These weeklong efforts to educate the public were then followed by a week of focused, safety-related enforcement to address persistent violations.



With the Borough Pedestrian Safety Action Plans, we will build on this success and continue to improve the way we monitor, design, and govern our streets. The Borough Priority Maps will serve as a guide for our agencies to systematically improve streets with the highest rates of pedestrian fatality and severe injury. By coordinating our planning, engineering, education, and enforcement efforts in these areas, DOT and NYPD can make significant progress toward the vision of eliminating pedestrian fatalities across the five boroughs.

Over the past 30 years, we have made tremendous progress in traffic safety. We have seen large decreases in the number of fatal crashes, including fatal pedestrian crashes. Motor vehicles, however, continue to seriously injure or kill a New Yorker about every two hours. Each of these tragedies compels us to come together and deliver a safer future for our city. There is plenty of work still ahead of us.

Polly Trottenberg
DOT Commissioner

William Bratton
NYPD Commissioner