

# West Side Signal Improvements

2023



**SAINT PAUL**  
PUBLIC WORKS

[STPAUL.GOV](http://STPAUL.GOV)



## What is happening?

- Traffic signal replacement
- Fiber-optic cable installation
- Other traffic signal improvements
- Work will take place in Summer/Fall 2023



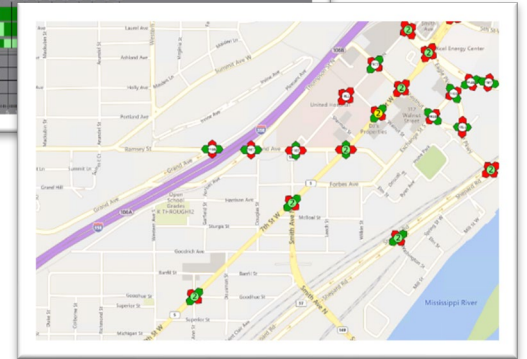
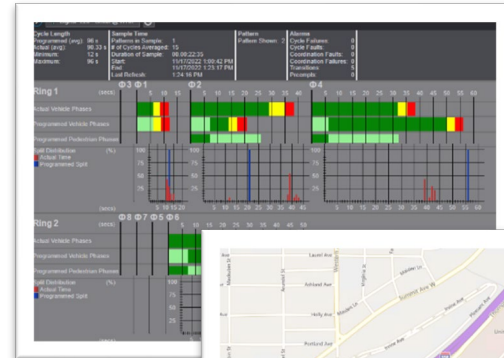






## What are the benefits of the project?

- Connecting signals along Cesar Chavez, Concord, Plato, and Smith to the City's central traffic management system
- Improving safety and operations at the intersections along Cesar Chavez at State/George and Robert
- Adding traffic cameras to help City monitor and respond to traffic issues





### **How is the project funded?**

- This project is funded through a combination of federal grant funding and the Municipal State Aid program
- There is no cost to property owners

### **Will there be any property impacts?**

- Temporary construction easements on a small number of properties may be needed
- The City's Real Estate representative will be in contact with any affected property owners



# How will travel be impacted during construction?

- Travel & parking lane closures and boulevard work along fiber-optic cable installation routes.
- Impacts at Cesar Chavez, State & George during construction:
  - Temporary traffic signal
  - Lane closures and shifts
  - Westbound George closed during replacement of the triangular island
  - Pedestrian detours during ramp work
  - On-street parking restrictions near the intersection





## Project Contact

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Traffic Engineering

Department of Public Works

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CITY OF SAINT PAUL

# Saint Paul Traffic Safety

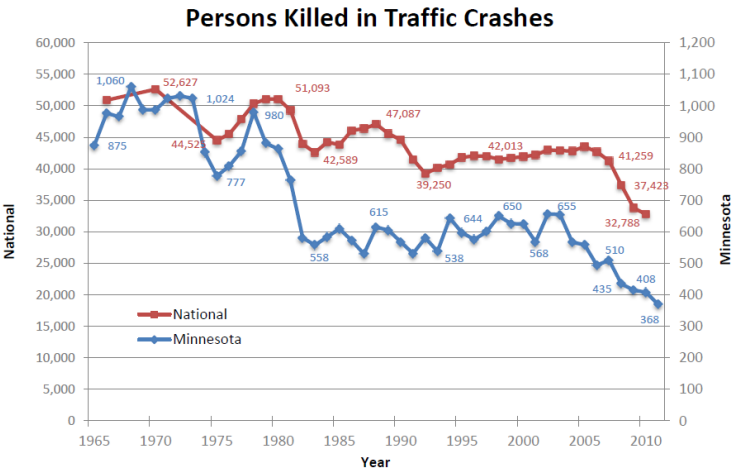


## Framing the Issue

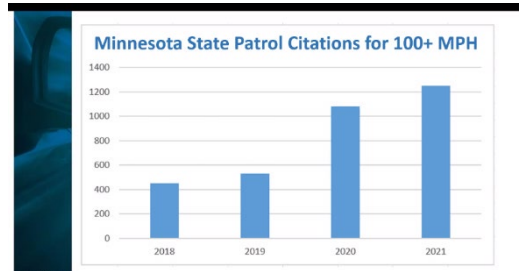
- We are continually challenged by motorists driving aggressively and at excessive speeds which put the members of our community at unnecessary risks. This is a citywide issue.
- Over the last couple of years we have witnessed a noticeable increase in excessive speeding and aggressive driving.
- Our resources for traffic enforcement have been reduced. We do not have an active Police Traffic Enforcement unit.
- Physical improvements are expensive and funding resources are limited.
- Continuing concern that we are not doing enough to address these safety issues.



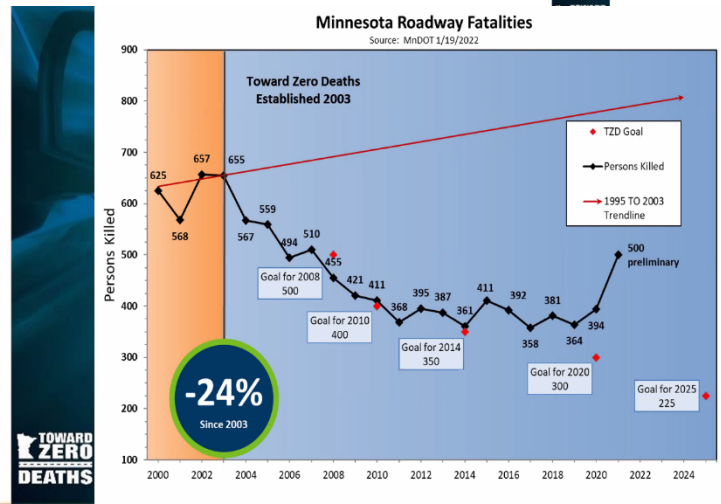
# Traffic Safety Data - Minnesota



**Figure 1-2**  
Trend in Traffic Fatalities in United States and Minnesota



2022 data: 33 citations (1/25/22)





# Common Traffic Safety Complaints – Public Works

- Speed
  - Complaints on every type of roadway in every part of Saint Paul. This is an issue and concern every where in the City
  - Growing concern regarding the outliers (excessive speeders)
- Pedestrian Crossing / Pedestrian Safety
  - Concern with safety of crossing roadways (typically higher volume)
  - Requests for crosswalks or enhanced crossing treatment (RRFB, traffic signals, etc.)
- Schools
  - Safety and congestion management (school arrival and departure)



## What are we doing - Programs

- Implemented citywide speed limit changes
- 20 is Plenty signs
- Paint the Pavement program
- Temporary Dynamic Speed Signs
- In-street pedestrian signs
- Stop for Me (Police)





## What are we doing - Design

- Our standards have changed and we are building roadway differently than we have in the past (narrower lanes, less lanes, tighter curb radii, constructing bump outs and medians)
- Prioritizing pedestrian and bicyclists in our decision making and our designs
- Making design decision to help encourage slower speeds
- Including pedestrian level improvements as part of our annual mill and overlay program (MnDOT and County doing the same)
- Focusing on decreasing pedestrian exposure (crossing distance) and vehicle speeds



## Prioritize Collector and Arterial Streets

- Priority for our limited financial and staff resources is on our collector and arterial network.
  - These are our busier streets that also include state and county roads.
  - 91% of our severe crashes on 21% of roadway mileage
- Limited (if any) tangible physical improvements that we can offer on residential streets
  - Limited measurable need
  - Typically would not prioritize expenditures over improvements on collector and arterial roadways



# Comprehensive Approach to Traffic Safety

Comprehensive Approach – 3 E's of Traffic Safety

- Engineering
- Enforcement
- Education

3 Legged stool - Without all legs the stool fails







# Transportation Safety Action Plan

- Initiating work on a Transportation Safety Action Plan
- Plan expected to include the following:
  - Citywide crash review and safety evaluation of all modes
  - Develop a prioritized list of safety projects
  - Review and update policies with the goal of balancing best practices, community expectations, and our funding realities
  - Allow City to apply for implementation funding

## TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ACTION PLAN

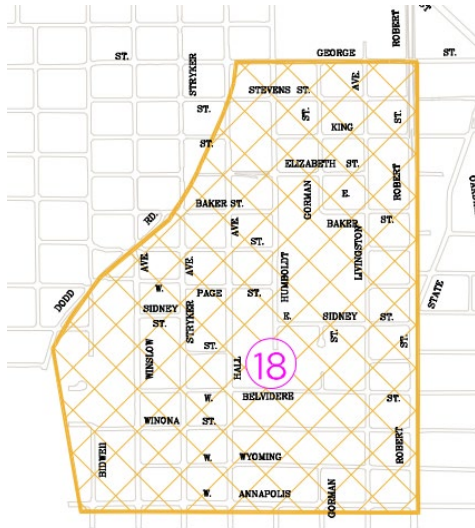






# Future Projects

Saint Paul Streets - Page / Hall  
Tentatively Scheduled 2029/2030

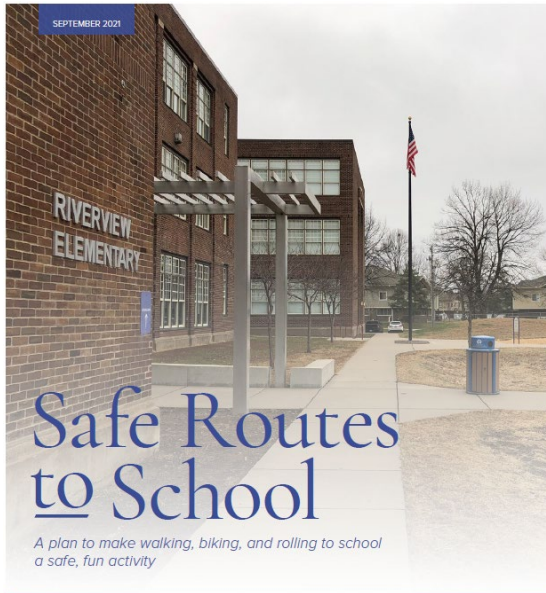


MnDOT Robert Street – 2026/2027  
Annapolis to Filmore





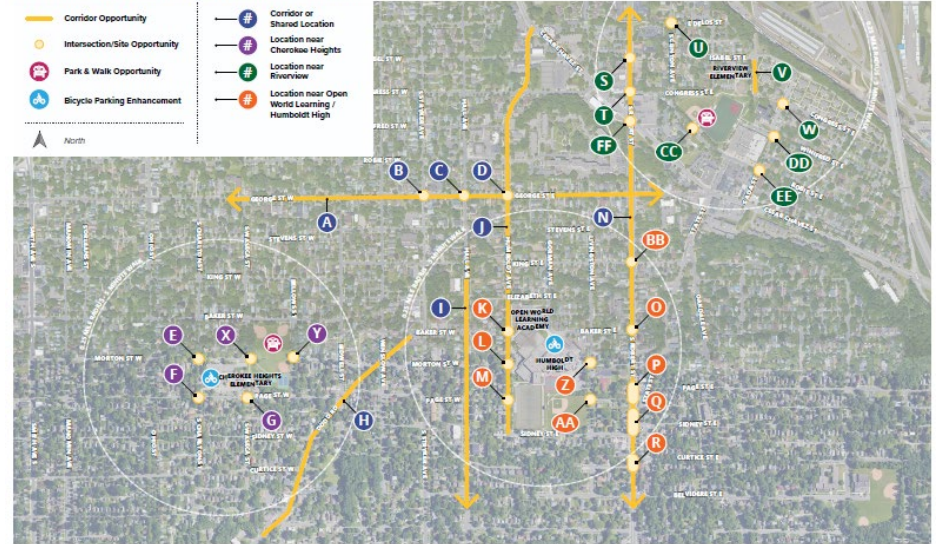
# Potential School Safety Projects



SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS - WEST SIDE  
CHEROKEE HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY  
RIVERVIEW WEST SIDE SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE  
OPEN WORLD LEARNING COMMUNITY  
HUMBOLDT HIGH



## West Side Infrastructure Recommendations

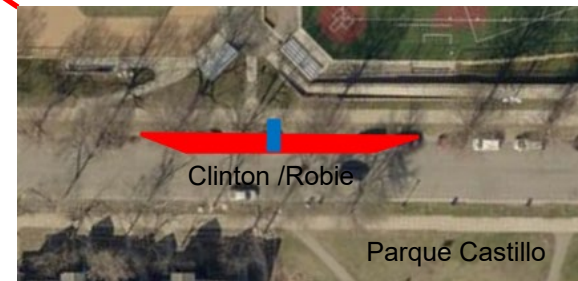
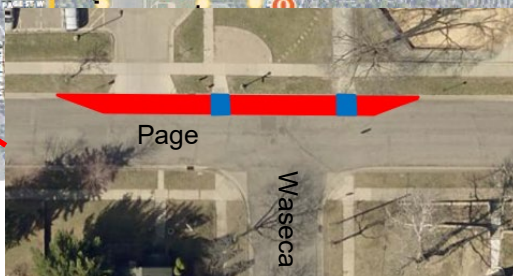
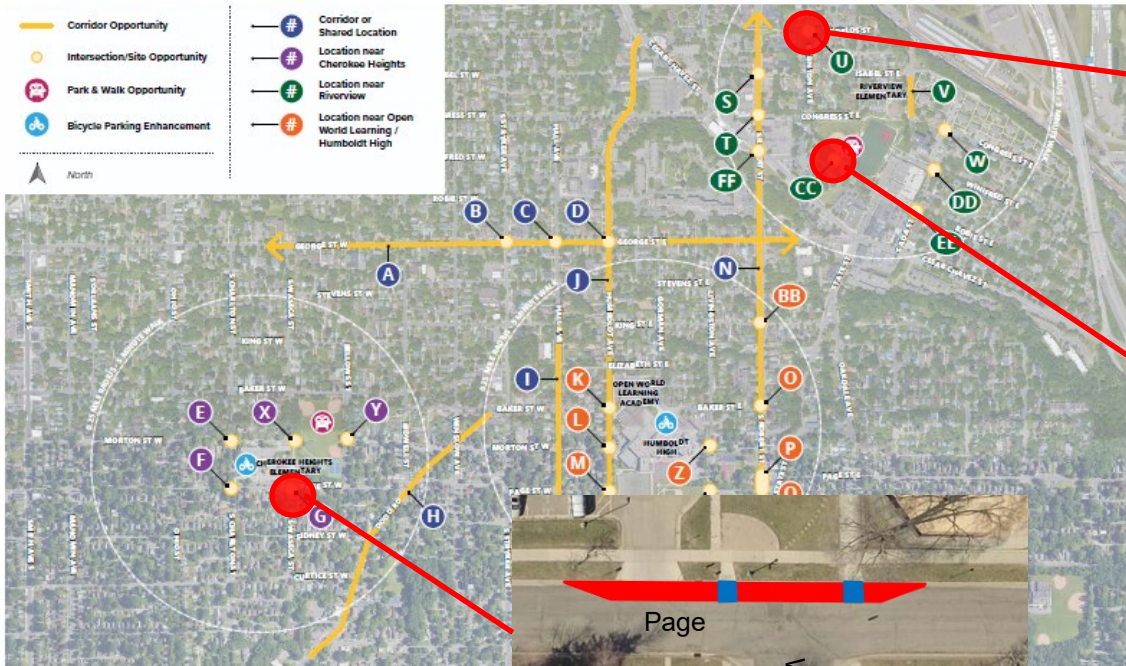




# Potential School Safety Projects

## West Side Infrastructure Recommendations

- Corridor Opportunity
- Intersection/Site Opportunity
- Park & Walk Opportunity
- Bicycle Parking Enhancement
- Corridor or Shared Location
- Location near Cherokee Heights
- Location near Riverview
- Location near Open World Learning / Humboldt High



Parque Castillo



# Questions and Discussion

