

Vision Zero and the Equity Lens

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PBOT Lunch & Learn

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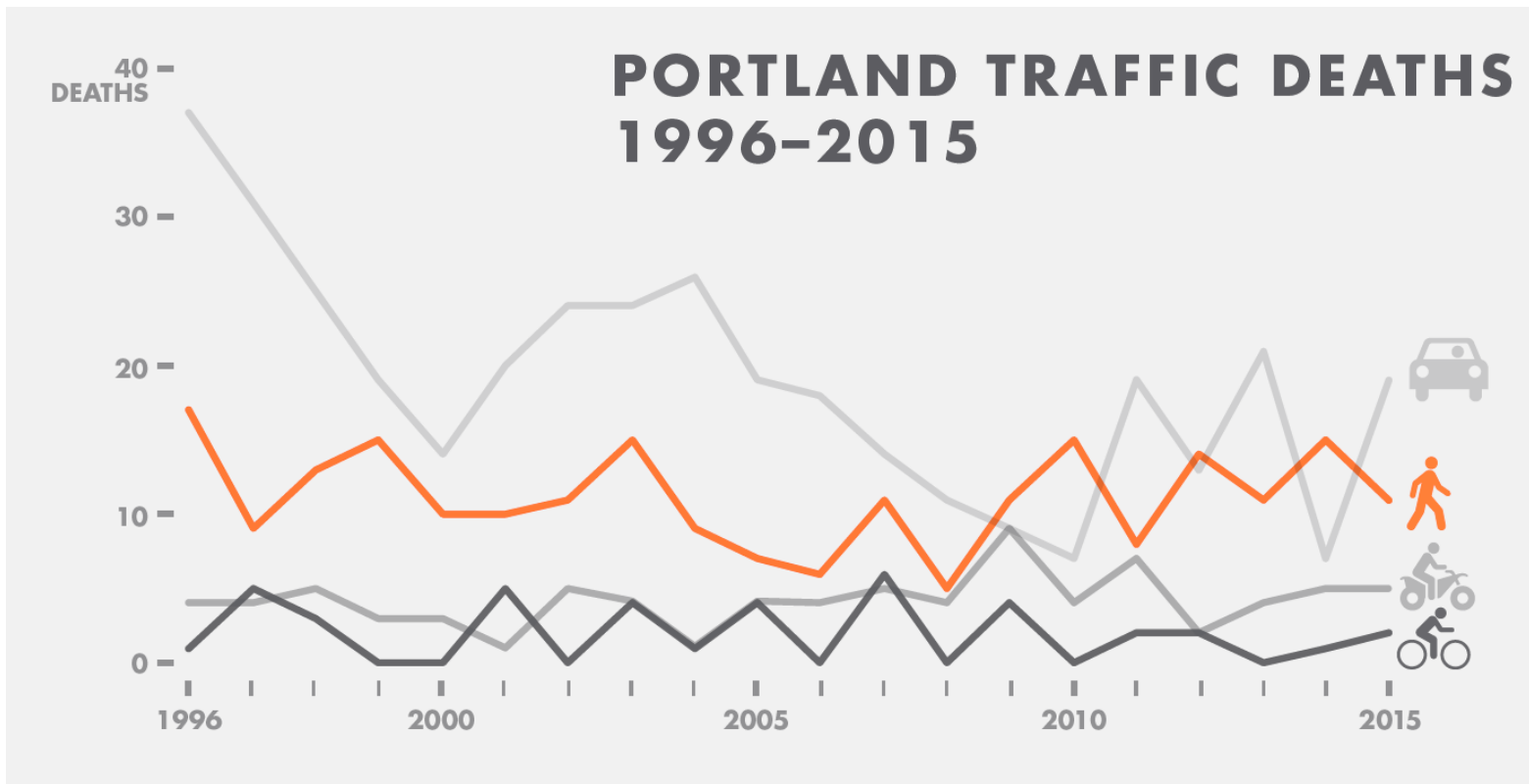
Equity lessons through Vision Zero Action Plan development:

1. Who is sitting at the table matters
2. Be specific about what “equitable” means
3. Be data-driven and ensure that equity data is significantly embedded in the decision-making process
4. Building an inclusive, equitable plan matters more than any one particular action
5. Equity work is ongoing

Vision Zero is the bold goal to eliminate all traffic deaths and serious injuries

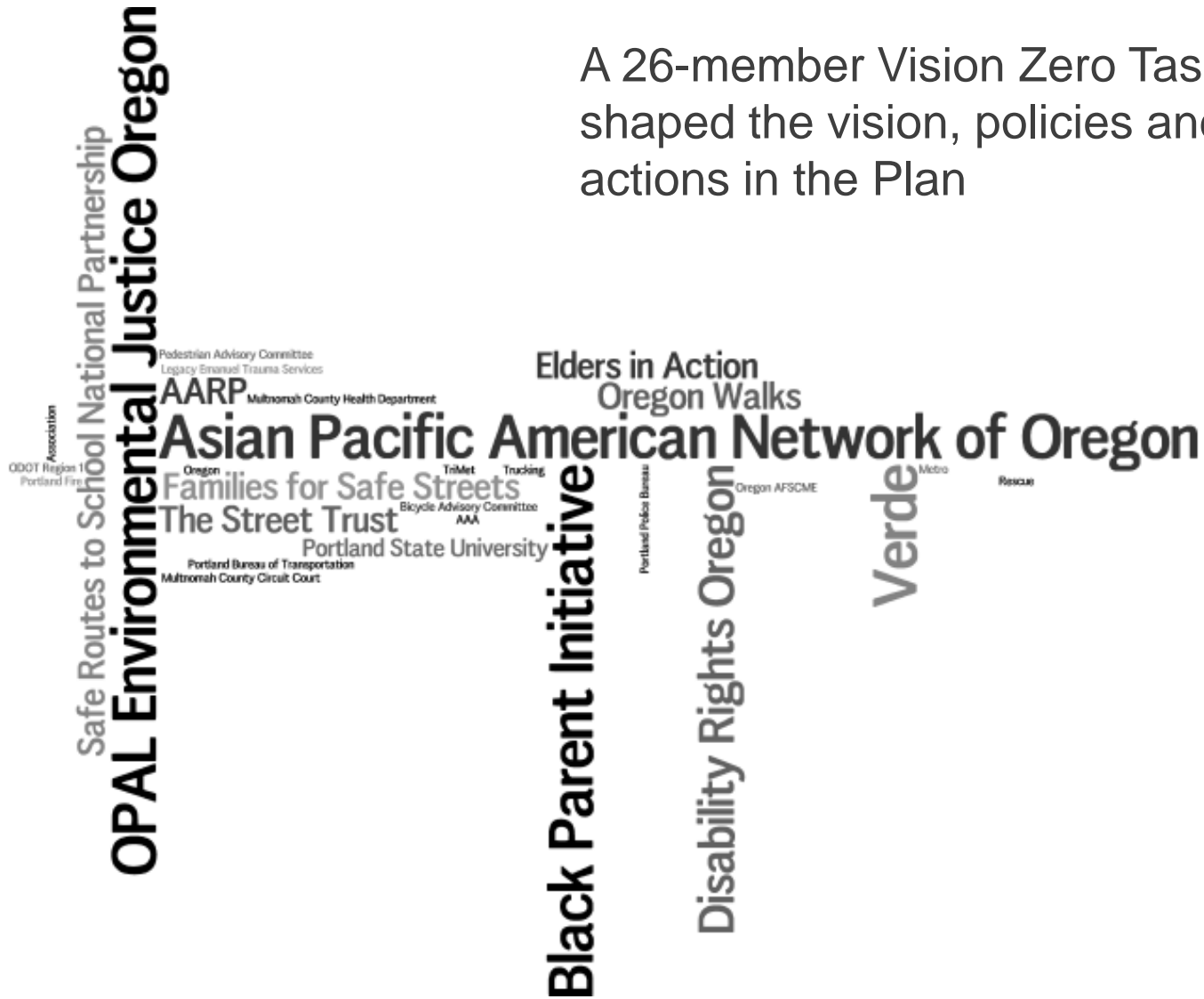


In June 2015, the Portland City Council unanimously passed a resolution committing Portland to Vision Zero.



PARTNERSHIPS

A 26-member Vision Zero Task Force shaped the vision, policies and actions in the Plan



Lesson #1

Who is sitting at the table matters

U.S. CONTEXT

I was alarmed that a pillar of Vision Zero was increased police enforcement of traffic violations, in the same year that multiracial groups were filling streets across the United States to call attention to the deadly effects of racial profiling in policing.

Adonia Lugo
“Unsolicited Advice for Vision Zero”
UrbanAdonia.com
September 20, 2015

VISION STATEMENT

Working together, we will take **equitable** and **data-driven** actions that will **eliminate deaths and serious injuries** for all who share Portland streets by 2025.



Lesson #2

Be specific about what “equitable” means

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

These principles will guide the actions and performance measures of the Vision Zero Action Plan.

EQUITABLE

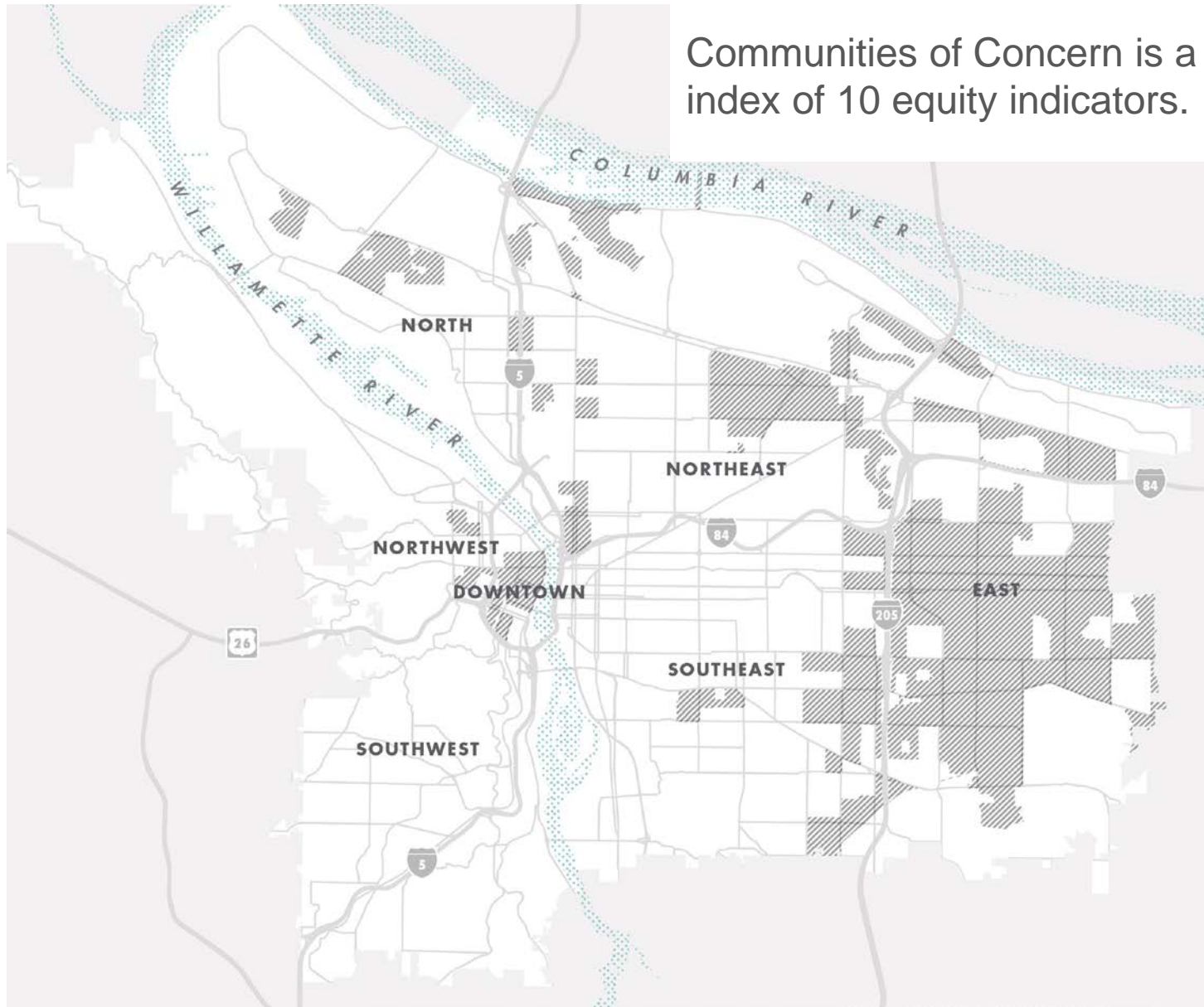
DATA-DRIVEN

ACCOUNTABLE

The plan will:

- Address disproportionate burden of traffic fatalities on communities of concern
- Will prioritize filling gaps in infrastructure in communities of concern
- Will not result in racial profiling
- Will use equity data (demographics, risk factors, traffic enforcement data, infrastructure gaps) to prioritize needs in communities of concern
- Measure and report on investment in communities of concern

Communities of Concern is a composite index of 10 equity indicators.



COMMUNITIES OF CONCERN

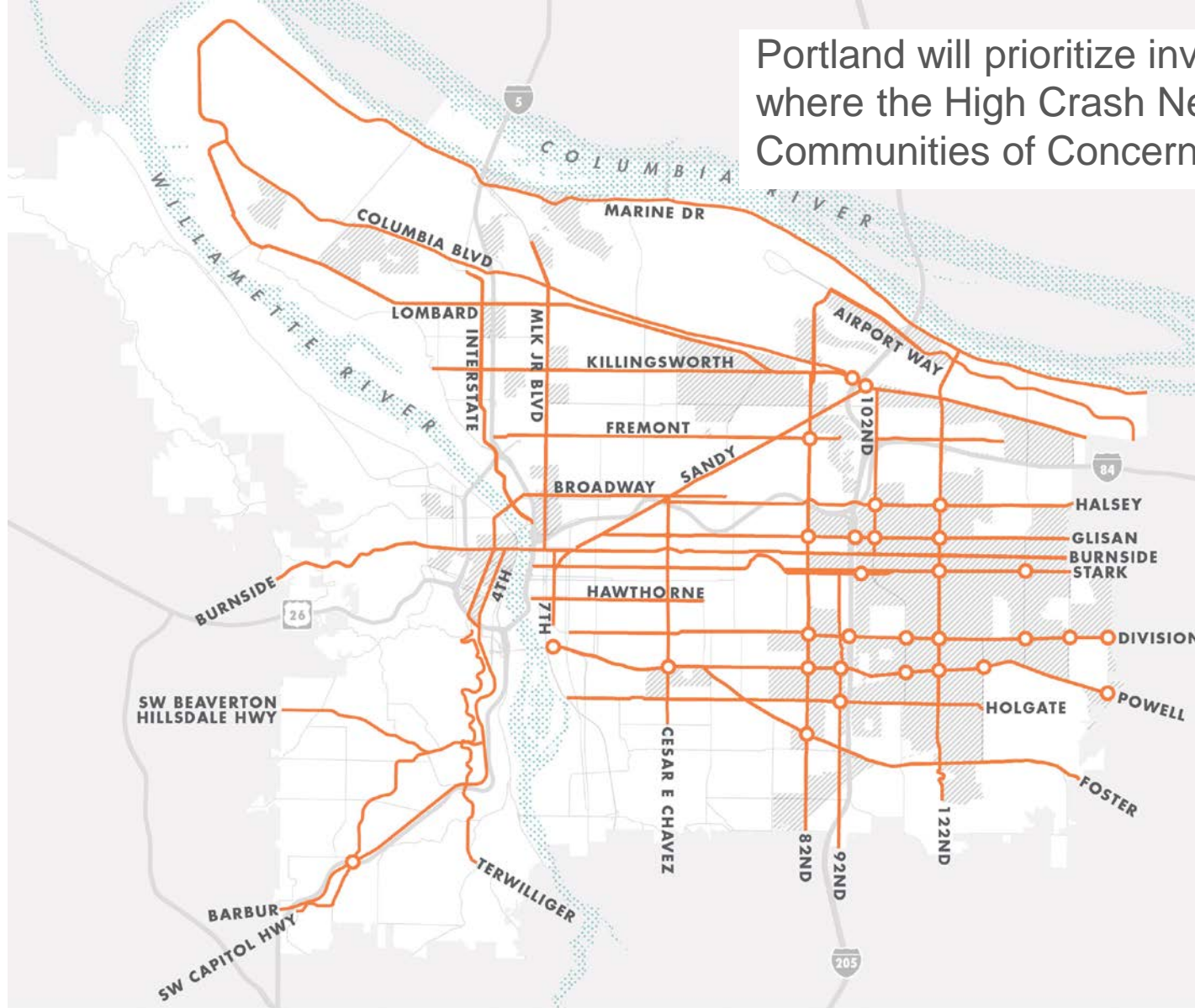
Source: TriMet Equity Index

 = COMMUNITY OF CONCERN

Lesson #3

Be data-driven and ensure that equity data is significantly embedded in the decision-making process

Portland will prioritize investments where the High Crash Network and Communities of Concern overlap.



HIGH CRASH NETWORK

Composite of motor vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian high crash networks
Source: PBOT

- = TOP 30 HIGH CRASH STREETS
- = TOP 30 HIGH CRASH INTERSECTIONS
- ▨ = COMMUNITY OF CONCERN

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO PORTLAND TRAFFIC DEATHS

STREET DESIGN 57%

IMPAIRMENT 56%

SPEED 47%

OTHER DANGEROUS BEHAVIORS 51%

STREET DESIGN

57%
OF DEADLY
CRASHES ARE ON

8%
OF PORTLAND
STREETS



NO STREET LIGHTING

LONG DISTANCE BETWEEN SIGNALS

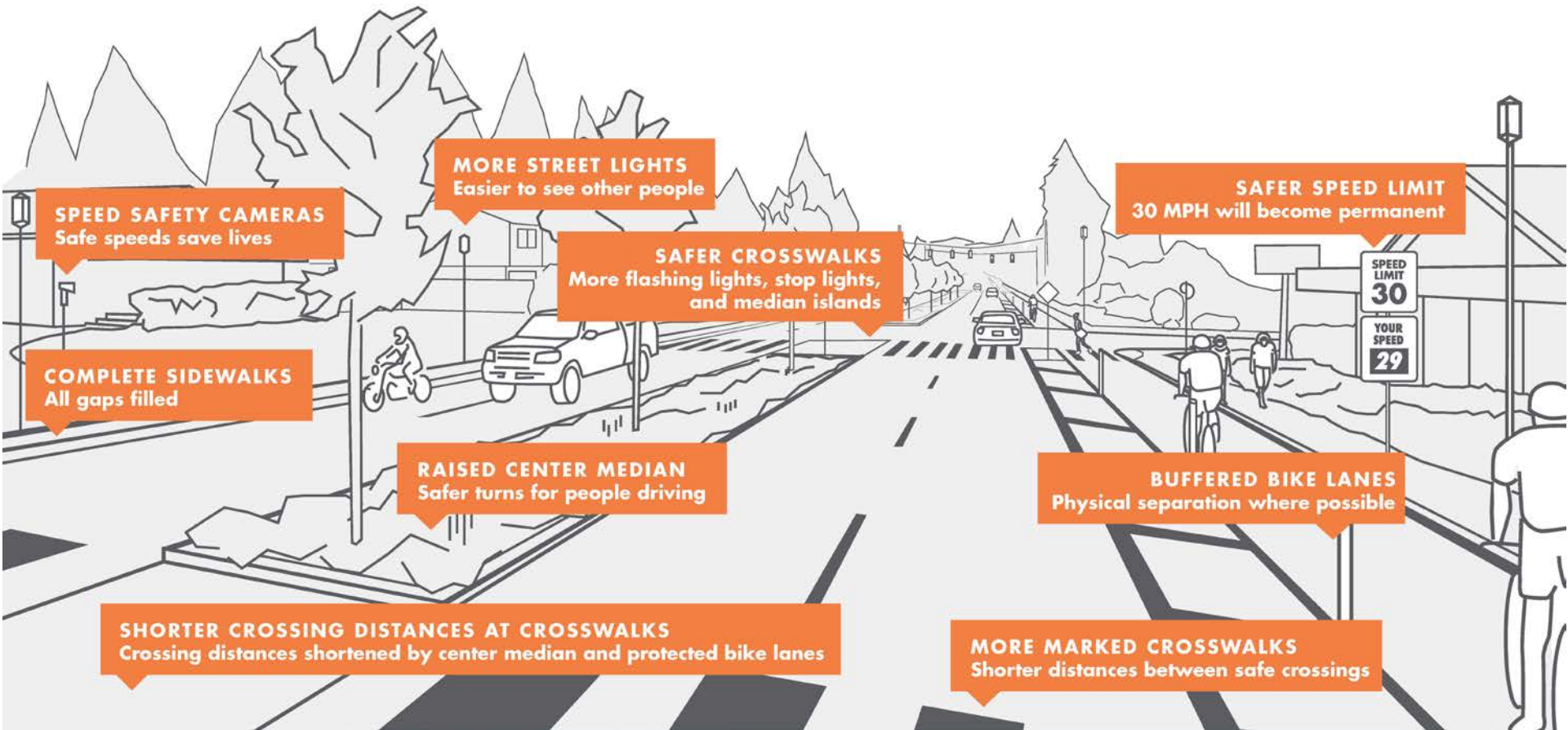
UNPROTECTED CROSSINGS

FAST MOVING TRAFFIC

UNPROTECTED BIKE LANES

WIDE STREET

STREET DESIGN



SPEED SAFETY CAMERAS
Safe speeds save lives

MORE STREET LIGHTS
Easier to see other people

SAFER SPEED LIMIT
30 MPH will become permanent

SAFER CROSSWALKS
More flashing lights, stop lights,
and median islands

COMPLETE SIDEWALKS
All gaps filled

RAISED CENTER MEDIAN
Safer turns for people driving

BUFFERED BIKE LANES
Physical separation where possible

SHORTER CROSSING DISTANCES AT CROSSWALKS
Crossing distances shortened by center median and protected bike lanes

MORE MARKED CROSSWALKS
Shorter distances between safe crossings



ZEROING IN ON ACTIONS



No actions should be included in Portland's Vision Zero Action Plan that call for:

- Increased penalties or fines, or
- Increased enforcement by officers

Lesson #4

Building an inclusive, equitable plan matters more than any one particular action

Actions should be included in Portland's VZ Action Plan that:

- Lead with street design
- Expand access to traffic education classes
- Support increased access to drug and alcohol treatment services
- Ongoing collection and analysis of data to ensure prioritization of needs of communities of concern
- Annual reporting on investments and traffic safety outcomes for communities of concern

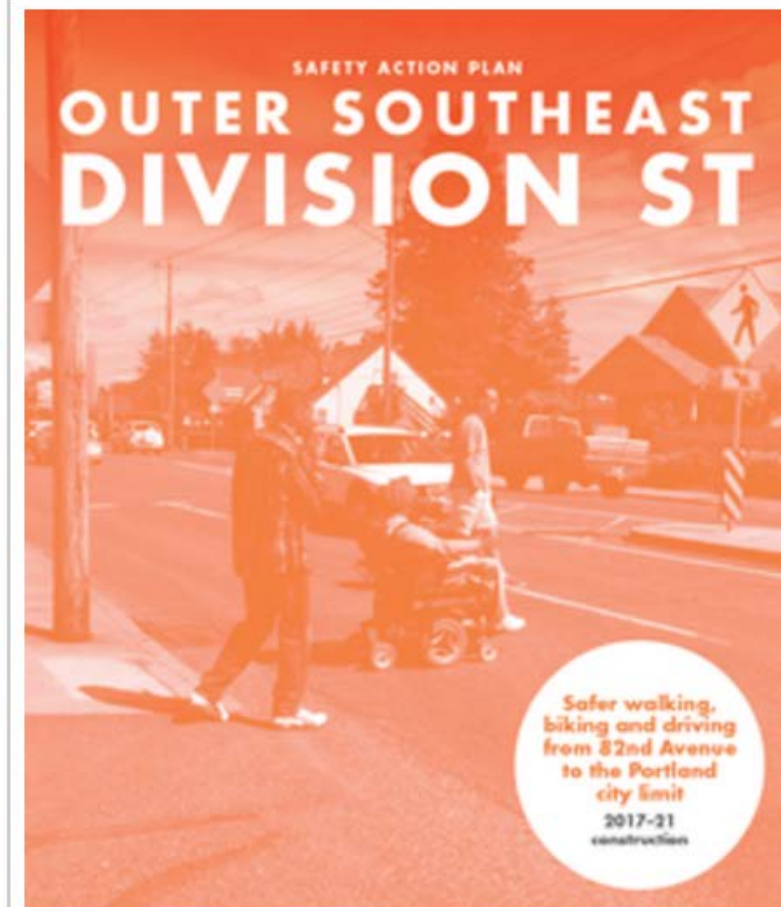
Working toward equitable communities

“Vision Zero’s guiding principles and actions prioritize infrastructure investment on our most dangerous streets in traditionally under-invested communities. The enforcement actions in this plan are limited in order to reduce the possibility of racial profiling and disparate economic impacts.”

Portland Vision Zero Action Plan, p.5

Operationalizing Action Plan direction:

- Funding for street design and multicultural, multi-lingual outreach
- Vision Zero budget package to fund street design & education
- Supporting legislation on Speed and Distracted Driving



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Operationalizing Action Plan direction, cont.

- Enforcement actions:
 - Speed safety cameras
 - Education classes w/ cameras
 - Existing enforcement focus on most dangerous behaviors on most dangerous streets, spread around Portland

Our traffic laws help keep us safe

Key traffic safety laws in Oregon:

Stop for people crossing (State law 811.028)

People crossing have the right of way at all intersections and marked crosswalks, except against a green light.

If you *must* use a device, go hands-free (811.507)

Driving safely requires our full attention.

State law allows hands-free devices, but even these are unsafe.

Look before turning and opening doors (811.490)

Check mirrors, crosswalks and bike lanes.

Look for people biking before opening your car door.

Keep clear of the bike lane (811.440)

Yield to people biking when turning or parking.

Solid bike lanes are not right-turn lanes.

Signal before turning (811.335)

100 feet or more before turning is required by law



visionzeroportland.com

Lesson #5

Equity work is ongoing

EQUITABLE IMPLEMENTATION WORK AHEAD

Proposed Task Force meeting topics:

- Citation fine structure in Oregon
- Expanding access to traffic education classes
- Examining Police traffic stops data
- Locations of Vision Zero enforcement missions
- Minority hiring procedures and opportunities

Annual reporting:

- Investments in communities of concern
- Engagement with people in communities of concern
- Safety outcomes in communities of concern

EQUITY INTEGRATED INTO PORTLAND'S VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN

Vision Statement

Guiding Principles

Actions

Performance measures

Language in the Plan



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KEEPING EQUITY AT THE HEART OF VISION ZERO





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