



Austin Police Department

Pedestrian Safety Ordinance Change Proposal



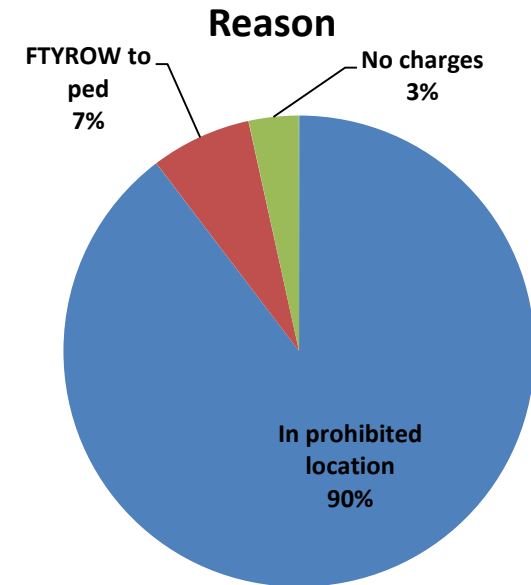
Previous Years (2013-2014):

- 22 Pedestrians died in 2013 and 15 in 2014
- 69% occurred on a highway or high-speed roadway
- 67% were crossing when/where prohibited



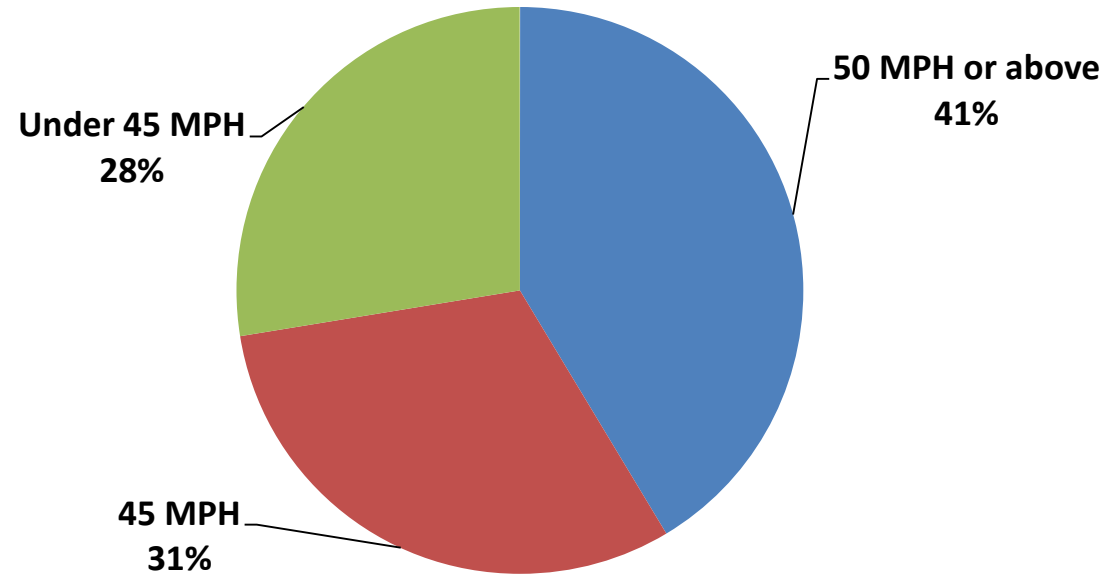
2015 Pedestrian Fatalities

- 29 incident resulted in 30 pedestrian deaths
- 26 incidents (90%) involved the pedestrian crossing or walking at a prohibited location





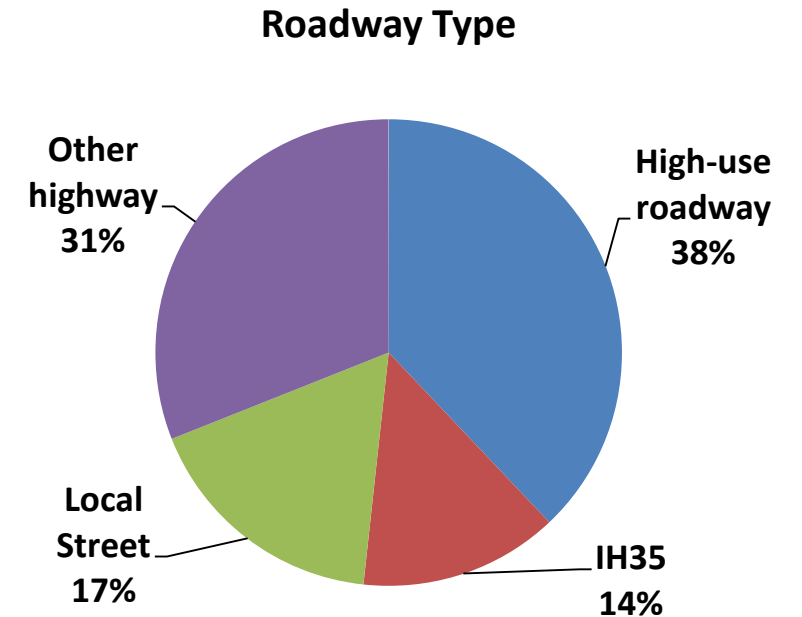
Speed Limit At Location of Fatal Crash





Roadway Types

- A majority (83%) of incidents occurred on roadways other than local streets.
- High-use roadway refers to roads such as Lamar, Congress, Parmer, etc.





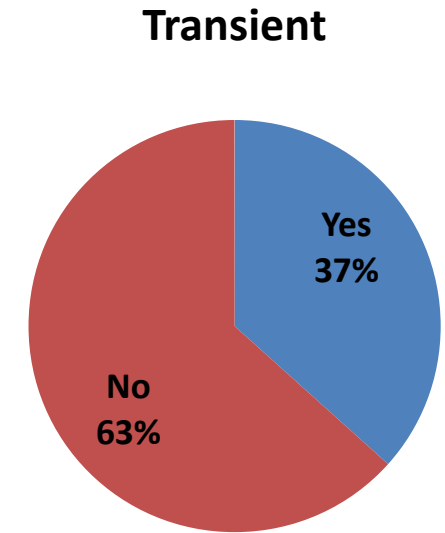
Pedestrian Characteristics

- **Gender:**
 - 70% Male
 - 30% Female
- **Race**
 - 43% White
 - 40% Black
 - 17% Hispanic
- **Age:** 50% between 40 and 60



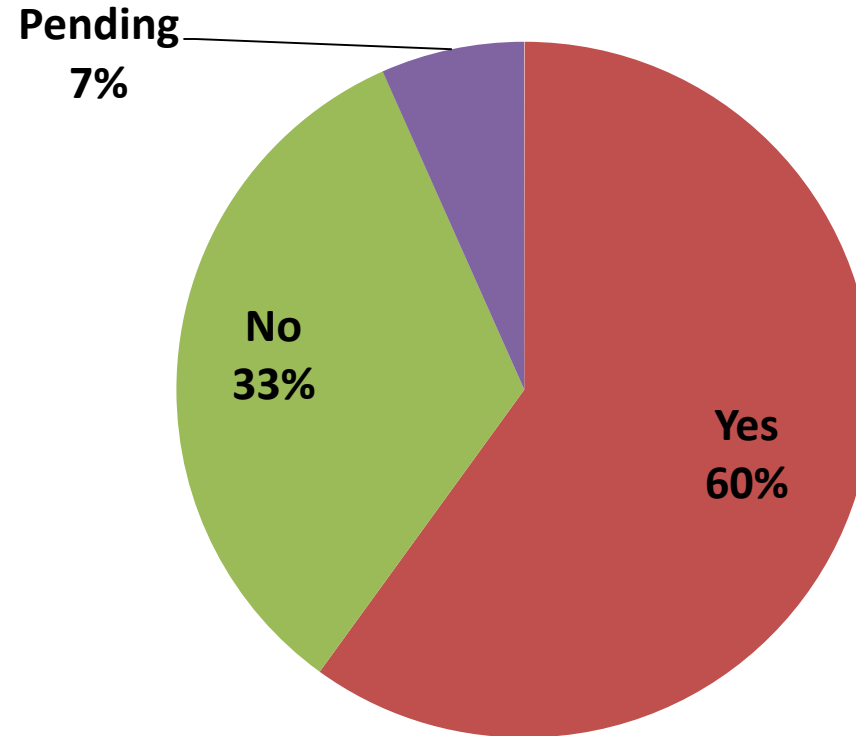
Homelessness and Mental Health

- 37% of pedestrian victims were homeless
- 27% were identified as emotionally disturbed





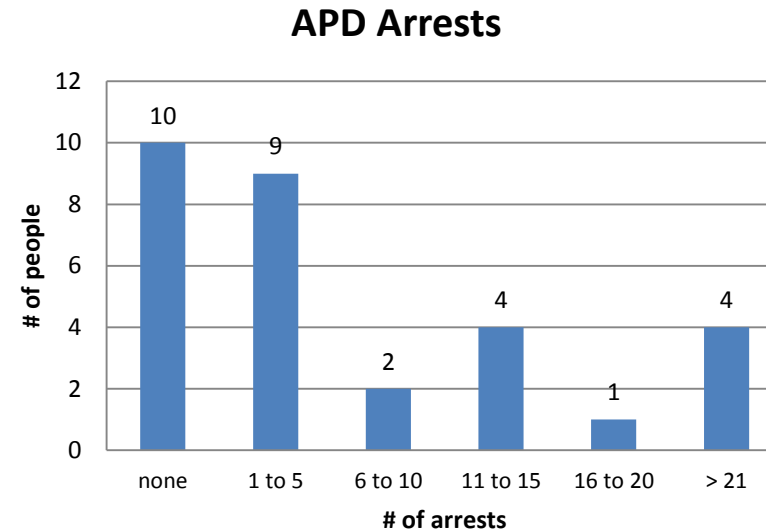
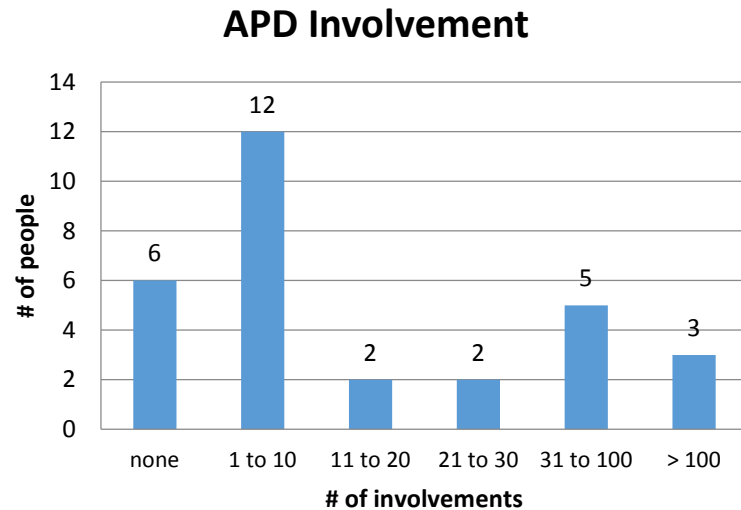
Impairment Involved





APD Involvement and Arrests

- 80% had prior involvement with APD
- 67% had previously been arrested by APD





Proposed Changes to City Ordinances

Existing City Ordinance:

§ 12-1-26 - PEDESTRIANS ON CERTAIN ROADWAYS.

(A) A pedestrian may not stand in a roadway to:

- (1) solicit a ride from the driver of a vehicle; or
- (2) linger, loiter, or remain on a roadway for any purpose.

(B) A pedestrian may not cross the following roadways except on an overpass or underpass that crosses the roadway:

- (1) IH-35;
- (2) Loop 1 (MoPac Expressway);
- (3) U.S. Highway 290 (East) from IH-35 to the east city limits; or
- (4) U.S. Highway 183 (Ed Bluestein Boulevard) from U.S. Highway 290 (East) to Farm Road 969 (Webberville Road).

Source: 1992 Code Section 16-1-11; Ord. 031204-13; Ord. 031211-11.



Proposed Changes to City Ordinances

Define “High Speed Roadway”

§ 12-1-1 Definitions.

(Add the following definition under this title)

(7) HIGH SPEED ROADWAY: means that portion of a street or highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel at speeds equal to or exceeding 45 miles per hour, in addition to the shoulder, median, curbs, frontage, feeder roads, ramps and areas adjacent to the roadway that are not designed for pedestrian use.



Proposed Changes to City Ordinances

§ 12-1-26 - PEDESTRIANS ON CERTAIN ROADWAYS.

(A) A pedestrian may not stand in a roadway or [high speed roadway](#) to:

- (1) solicit a ride from the driver of a vehicle; or
- (2) linger, loiter, or remain for any purpose.

(B) A pedestrian may not cross the following [high speed](#) roadways except on an overpass, underpass, or designated pedestrian crossing that crosses the high speed roadway:

- (1) IH-35;
- (2) Loop 1 (MoPac Expressway);
- (3) U.S. Highway 290
- (4) U.S. Highway 183
- (5) [US Highway 71](#)
- (6) [SH130](#)
- (7) [SH45](#)
- (8) [Toll 183a](#)
- (9) [Capital of Texas Highway \(Loop 360\)](#)

[\(C\) It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under subsection 12-1-26\(A\) \(Pedestrians on Certain Roadways\) that a person is standing 20 feet or more from any part of a high speed roadway that is improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel.](#)



Proposed Pedestrian Educational Segment

- **90 day pre-enforcement educational Campaign:**
- **Media announcement with key partners:**
 - **Pedestrian Advisor Committee, ECHO, Vision Zero, Walk Friendly Austin**
- **Social Media Campaign to help educate public on dangers of lingering and loitering on high-speed roadways**
- **Progressive Enforcement Campaign**
 - **Educate, Warn, Enforce (EWE)**