

San Francisco Department of Public Health

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 26, 2017

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Health Department Releases Updated Map of San Francisco's High-Injury Network

Map is Important Tool to Reach City's Vision Zero Goal to Eliminate Traffic Deaths First U.S. City to Map Hospital and Police Data for Most Complete Picture to Date

San Francisco, CA – The San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) today released an updated San Francisco High-Injury Network Map in support of the citywide Vision Zero initiative to eliminate all traffic deaths. First developed in 2015, the Vision Zero High-Injury Network Map plays a pivotal role in helping inform city agencies about where traffic safety improvements can be prioritized to save lives of people walking, biking and driving in San Francisco. The 2017 High-Injury Network Map for the first time utilizes data from Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, in addition to SF Police Department collision report data, yielding the most comprehensive analysis of severe and fatal traffic injury in the city to date. San Francisco is the first city in the United States to create such a resource.

"Any death or serious injury on our city streets is one too many," said Mayor Ed Lee. "The High-Injury Network Map is an important tool for our citywide Vision Zero Strategy. It embodies our data-driven approach to preventing severe and fatal traffic crashes in San Francisco, and represents collaboration between city agencies to use the best available data to make improvements that save lives."

There were eight traffic deaths on San Francisco streets in the first half of 2017, through the end of June, compared to 19 in the same time period in 2016. Since adopting Vision Zero as a policy in 2014, the High-Injury Network Map has helped guide the city's work to eliminate traffic deaths and reduce severe injuries. Investments to increase public safety have included more than 40 miles of street safety improvements, including 1,600 separate installments of engineering treatments on San Francisco streets annually, and a recently-launched anti-speeding enforcement and education campaign focused on High-Injury Network streets with high rates of speeding and speed-related injury. The updated map highlights more areas in the City's southeastern communities, including South of Market and the Bayview.

"Approximately 50 percent of the patients seen each year at Zuckerberg San Francisco General's Level I Trauma Center are people injured in traffic crashes," said Barbara Garcia, Director of Health. "San Francisco is leading the nation with this new analysis. For the first time in the United States, a major city is linking hospital data with police collision reports and mapping the most severe injuries to inform targeted injury prevention efforts by city agencies including the Municipal Transportation Agency and Police Department."

The mission of the San Francisco Department of Public Health is to protect and promote the health of all San Franciscans. We shall ~ Assess and research the health of the community ~ Develop and enforce health policy ~ Prevent disease and injury ~ ~ Educate the public and train health care providers ~ Provide quality, comprehensive, culturally-proficient health services ~ Ensure equal access to all ~ National research shows that not all traffic collisions are reported to law enforcement authorities. But people who are severely injured still go to the hospital. By combining the data we can show a clearer picture that helps City public health professionals, planners, engineers and law enforcement officers to understand crash patterns and create targeted solutions to prevent severe and fatal traffic crashes. Linking medical data is also important because hospital records provide a clinical assessment of injury severity, so that we can prioritize locations where the highest concentrations of severe injuries happen.

"Through the hard work of San Francisco's Department of Public Health, we know that 75 percent of San Francisco's severe and fatal traffic injuries are focused on just 13 percent of the city's streets," said Ed Reiskin, director of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. "This valuable data helps us focus our efforts to upgrade street safety where our improvements can have the greatest impact and save lives."

"As first responders, SFPD is proud of our continued collaboration with the Health Department and Transportation Agency to improve the timeliness and quality of data used to inform Vision Zero efforts. Data is core to our City's approach to saving lives on our streets." said San Francisco Police Chief, William Scott.

The <u>new map</u> and a <u>summary</u> of the High-Injury Network update are available online.

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Vision Zero is the city's commitment to creating safer, more livable streets with the goal of eliminating all traffic fatalities and reducing severe injuries.

In 2014, the City and County of San Francisco adopted Vision Zero as a policy and is working hard to support and develop safe streets, safe people, and safe vehicles.

Lean more at <u>www.visionzerosf.org</u>