# **Conducting Bicycle Road Safety Audits**



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#### The Road to RSA Success



FHWA organized a scan to research international efforts to enhance highway safety through RSAs.

The National Highway Institute added an RSA course.

2006

The AASHTO Technology Implementation Group (TIG) selected RSAs as a technology to promote to member States.

FHWA published Road Safety Audit Case Studies.

FHWA created the RSA Peer-to-Peer Program.

RSAs accepted by the FHWA Resource Center as a Market Ready Technology.

Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Final Rule allows the use of RSAs at hazardous locations to develop HSIP projects.

RSAs identified as one of FHWA's nine proven safety countermeasures and a very effective tool to reduce injuries and fatalities on our Nation's roadways.

> AASHTO TIG sponsored an RSA Peer Exchange in Little Rock, Arkansas with 24 States attending.

> > RSA software developed as a tool to assist agencies with completing RSAs.

#### FHWA published Tribal Road Safety Audit Case Studies.

The first RSA Newsletter was distributed to over 1,200 subscribers. The quarterly newsletter highlights how State DOTs, local agencies, and planning organizations use RSAs to increase safety on their roadways.

FHWA began piloting the use of Design Visualization (3D models) on RSAs. Renderings are produced for use by RSA teams to perform safety examinations.

> FHWA published the Road Safety Audit Toolkit for Federal Land Management Agencies and Tribal Governments.

A review of 2011 State HSIP Reports shows 31 States using RSAs in their Highway Safety Improvement Programs (HSIP).

FHWA published Cyclist Road Safety Audit Guidelines and Prompt Lists.









FHWA published RSA Guidelines.

Highways for LIFE included RSAs as a Vanguard Technology.

The Office of Safety and Office of Infrastructure developed an RSA Marketing Plan.

AASHTO TIG sponsored an RSA Peer Exchange in Charleston, South Carolina with 30 States attending.

FHWA published Pedestrian Road Safety Audit Guidelines and Prompt Lists.

FHWA published Federal and Tribal 2009 Lands Road Safety Audit Case Studies.

> FHWA, Florida DOT, and the Florida LTAP Center sponsored an RSA Peer Exchange in Orlando, Florida with 70 attendees representing 11 states.

> > FHWA began providing training to State DOTs on the Pedestrian RSA Guidelines.

> > > FHWA produced a Telly award winning video promoting RSAs.

of RSAs to State DOTs and FHWA Division Offices.

The FHWA Resource Center has conducted over 148 RSA trainings, which have been attended by over 3,700 students.





# Topics Covered in this Presentation

- What is an RSA?
- What is the purpose of a bicycle RSA guide?
- Review bicycle RSA guide content
  - Background
  - Tools
  - Prompt Lists

# What is a Road Safety Audit?

A road safety audit is a <u>formal safety</u> <u>performance</u> examination of an existing or future road or intersection by an <u>independent multidisciplinary RSA team</u>.

### **RSA Process**



# Why a Bicycle RSA Guide?

- RSAs may not adequately consider cyclists.
- RSAs can be used to address cyclists' issues.
- Crash data typically does not tell the whole story.









Provide transportation agencies and RSA teams with a better understanding of the needs of bicyclists of all abilities in the transportation system when conducting an RSA.

# Bicycle RSA Guide Outline

- 1. Introduction
- Principles of Bicyclist Safety
- 3. Bicyclists in the RSA Process
- 4. Using the Prompt Lists
- 5. Prompt Lists



BICYCLE ROAD SAFETY AUDIT GUIDELINES AND PROMPT LISTS

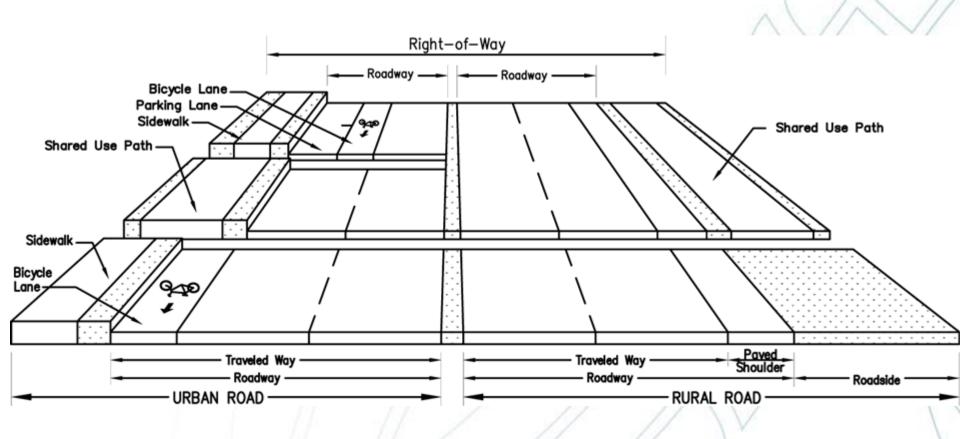






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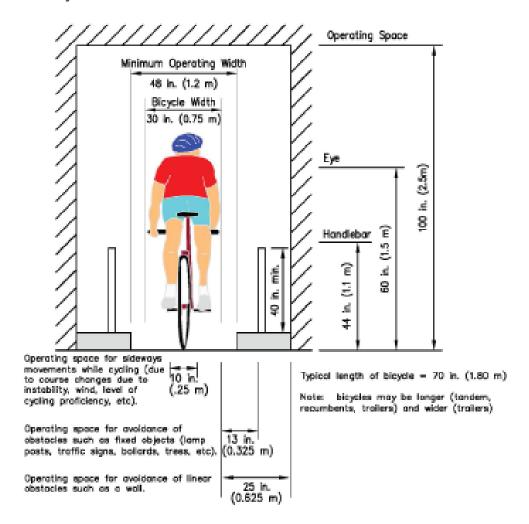
# **Principles of Bicyclist Safety**



# **Principles of Bicyclist Safety**

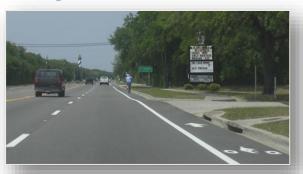
### The Characteristics of Cyclists

- Space
- Length
- Stability
- Speed
- Vulnerability



# **Principles of Bicyclist Safety**

- Surface condition
  - Impact bicyclist more than motorist
- Speed
  - Increase crash severity
- Volume
  - Make maneuvering in traffic more difficult
- Heavy Vehicles
  - Larger width
  - Bus activity
  - Pavement deterioration

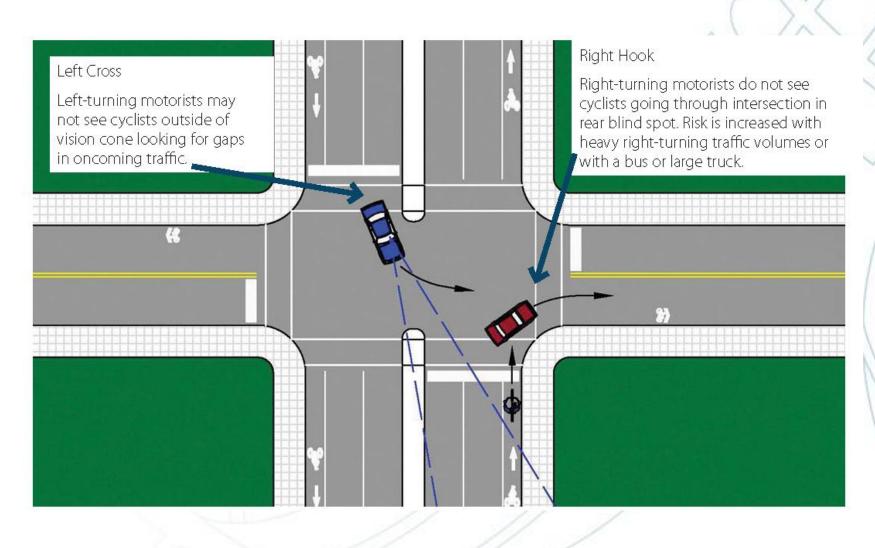




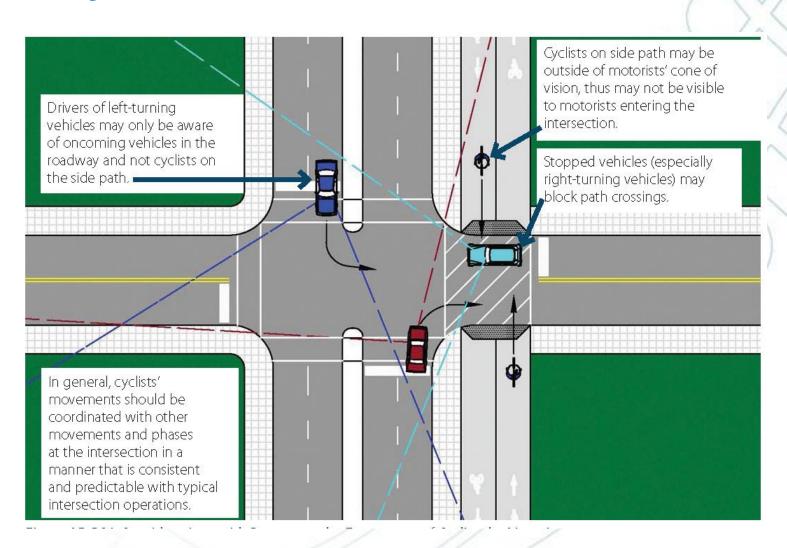




# Factors That Contribute to Bicycle Crashes



# Factors That Contribute to Bicycle Crashes



# **Master Prompt List**

				1
RSA Zones				
A. Street or Path	B. Structures	C. Intersections, Crossings, and Interchanges	D. Transitions	E. Transit
1. Presence & Availability				
Are cyclists accommodated?				
2. Design & Placement	t			
Are design features present that adversely impact the use of the facility by cyclists?	Does th of the c accomn impact	esent th	Are transition areas designed with logical after the logical at adversary of the logical at a distribution at a logical at a distribution at a logical at a logic	sely
impact the use of the				
Are there suitable provisions for given the characteristics of the path (speed, volume, traffic, and classification)?  facility by cyclists  ed				
Do access management practices detract concern for other modes? from cycling safety?				

cyclists?

### **Detailed Prompt List**

A.2.2: Are there adequate cycling provisions on both sides / directions of the roadway?



On-road accommodations: Accommodations for cyclists are needed on both sides of a two-way roadway and certain one-way roadway pairs to accommodate desire lines of cyclists. Aside from issues of connectivity conflicts arise when two-way accommodations for cyclists are not present. This roadway has a shoulder on one side of the road only. There are several potential issues associated with this cross-section:

- 1) cyclists are encouraged to ride against traffic;
- 2) cyclists and pedestrians are subject to conflicts on the shoulder;
- 3) cyclists approach intersections and driveways from the right, creating an expectancy conflict with motor vehicle traffic; and,
- 4) connectivity to destinations on the opposite side of the road is not provided, potentially resulting in unpredictable maneuvers by cyclists.

Off-road accommodations: Separated bicycle facilities should provide bi-directional access for cyclists. However, a side path may cause several issues with driver expectancy. Crash risks can increase when a driver making a right turn from the major approach or the minor approach, looking for oncoming traffic from the left, does not see a cyclist approaching from the right.

These Guidelines emphasize considering the context of the cycling environment from a "behind the handlebars" perspective.



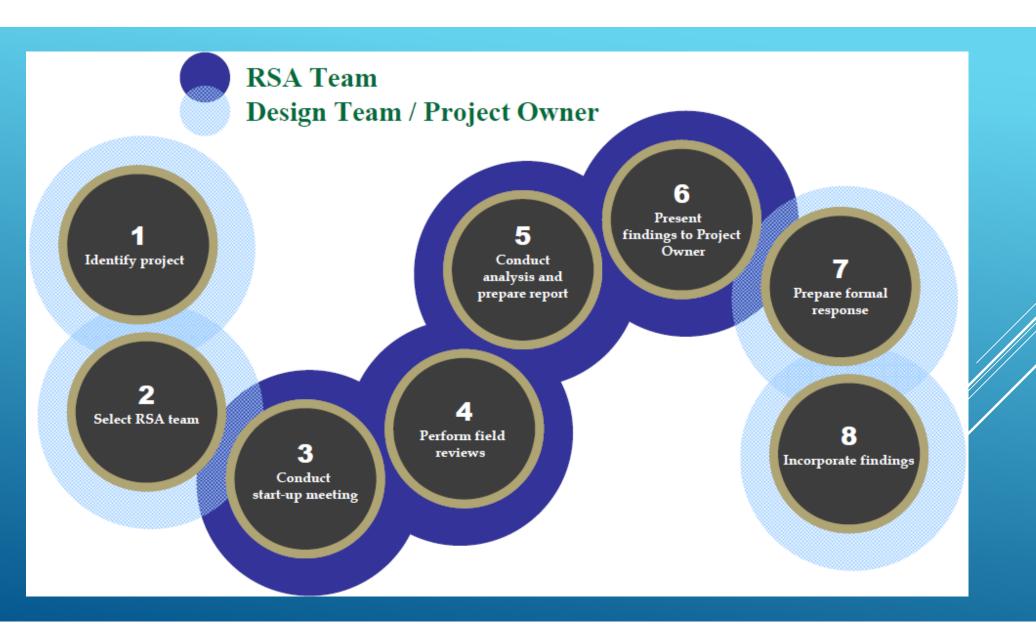
https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsa/

# Questions?

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# HOW TO CONDUCT A ROAD SAFETY AUDIT



- ▶ Who is initiating the assessment?
- ▶ Who is the project owner?
- ▶ In what stage of its life is the project?
- What is the scope of the assessment?

**IDENTIFY THE PROJECT** 



- Range of expertise
- Key stakeholders
- Decision-makers for debrief

**SELECT RSA TEAM** 

- Design
- > Traffic
- Safety
- Planning
- Maintenance
- ▶ DOT staff
- City staff
- Emergency response
- Bicycle advocate
- School district



- Explanation an RSA and expectations
- Information to bring and be prepared to discuss
- Resources needed
- Meeting space
- > Agenda for meeting



### PRE-MEETING COMMUNICATION

#### Information

- As-builts or other survey showing curb-to-curb width of roadway
- Crash reports with location and narrative
- Planning documents
- Design documents

#### Resources

- ▶ Transportation to site
- Vests and hard hats
- > Tape measure or wheel
- Notepads and clip boards
- Digital cameras/video
- ▶ Bikes?

PRE-MEETING PREPARATION

### Making the choice

- ▶ Characteristics of site
- Capabilities of participants
- Availability of bikes
  - ▶ Bike share
  - Outreach organization
  - Bike rental shops

### Preparing for ride

- Rules of the road
- Lead and sweep
- Rally point
- > Route
- ▶ Time of day

TO BIKE OR NOT TO BIKE



- Near the site
- Available for duration
- Projector and screen
- ► Internet connection
- ► Flip charts, markers, tape
- Seating arrangement



### MEETING SPACE

- Day One
  - Introductions
  - Instruction on RSA process
  - Review/Discussion of Process
  - Site visit (walking)
- Night One
  - Site visit (car)

### MEETING AGENDA

- Day Two
  - Discussion of first insights/reactions
  - Continued site visit
  - Identify positive features
  - Identify opportunities
  - Selection of recommendations
- Night Two
  - ► Facilitators compile information
- Day Three
  - Finalize presentation
  - Presentation to decision-makers

- > Introduction
- Project Team
- Project History
- Observations
- Opportunities

- Next Steps
  - ▶ Short term/long range
  - Funding sources
  - Partners
  - Project owner response

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

# What's Working

- Multiagency coordination and support for projects
- \$26 million construction project (\$41 million total project cost)
  - Continuous sidewalk
  - Continuous bike lanes with markings
  - Drainage
  - Signal interconnection
  - Good faith effort to address work zone concerns
- Center turn lane (TWLTL)
- Snow removal
- Connectivity planning

# Opportunities for Improvement

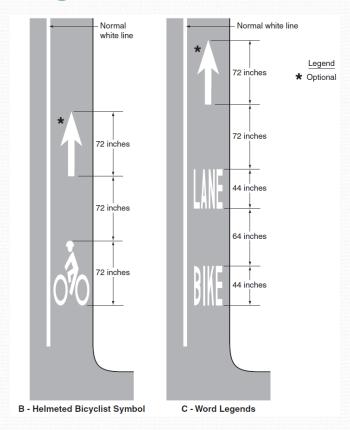
- Signing and Striping
  - Wayfinding to intersecting trails and alternate routes
  - Advance signs
    - Street names
    - Warning for pedestrian and bicyclist crossings
  - Bike lane marking
    - Symbol rather than text
    - Interval
    - Directional arrow
    - Buffers
  - Bike lane signs
  - Durable striping materials

# Illuminated Street Signs





# Bike Lane Marking



### **Bikeway Signing**









R7-9

R7-9a







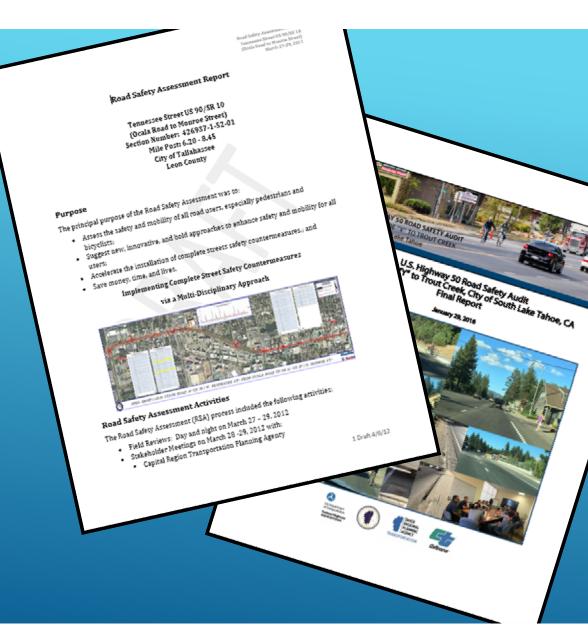






- Facilitators write the report
- Participants review
- Submit report to decision-makers
- Project owner/decision-maker
  - Respond to recommendations
  - Act on selected recommendations.

**FOLLOW-UP** 



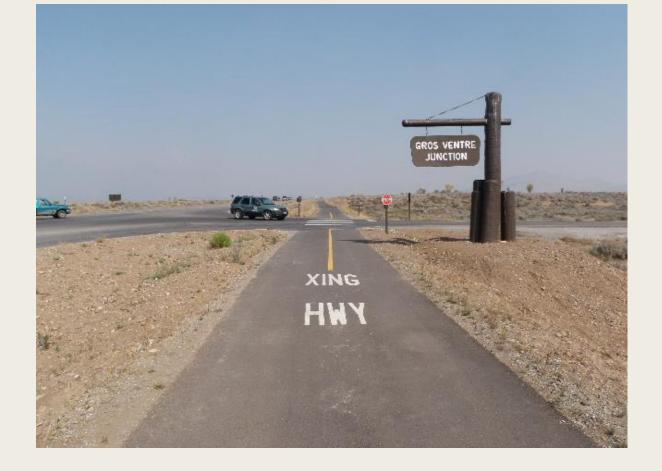
# Bike RSA Examples





# Grand Teton National Park









Road Safety Assessment
Gros Ventre Junction
Grand Teton National Park
September 19, 2012

### Safety Concerns

Road user interaction

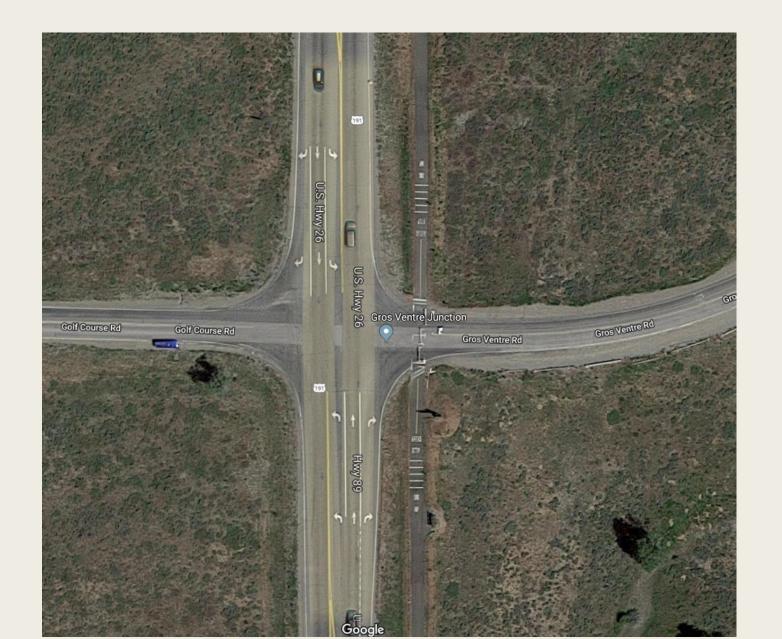
### Bike Path

- **★** Bicycle not stopping, should they stop?
- **★** Numerous turning movement onto Gros Ventre

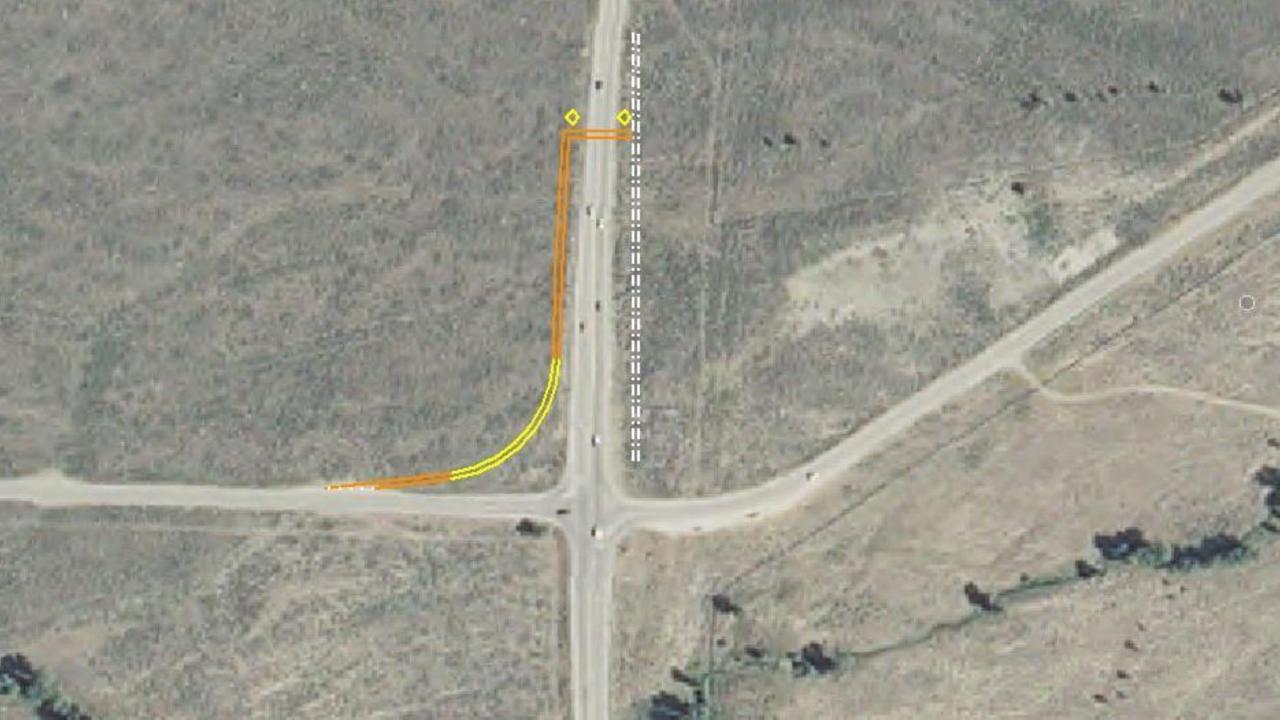
### Highway 89

- **★** Road width 5 lanes
- **★** High speeds
- **★** Local, visitors, commercial
- **★** Potential severity





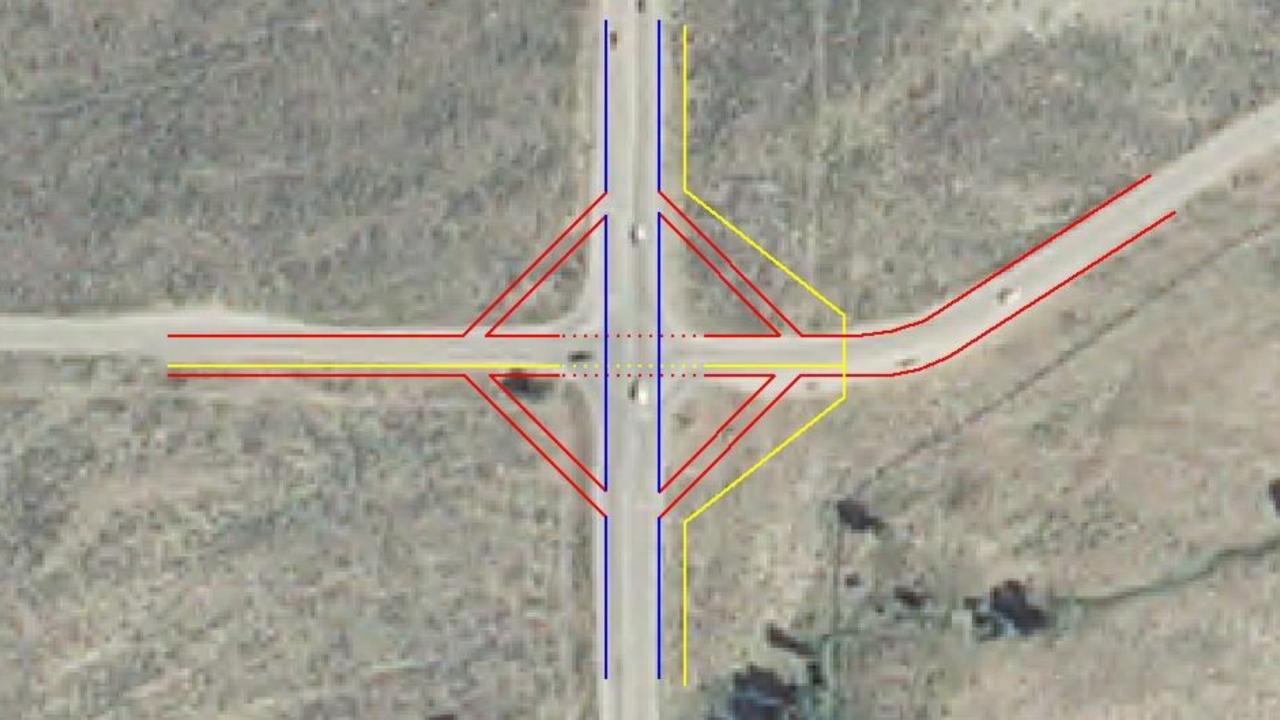






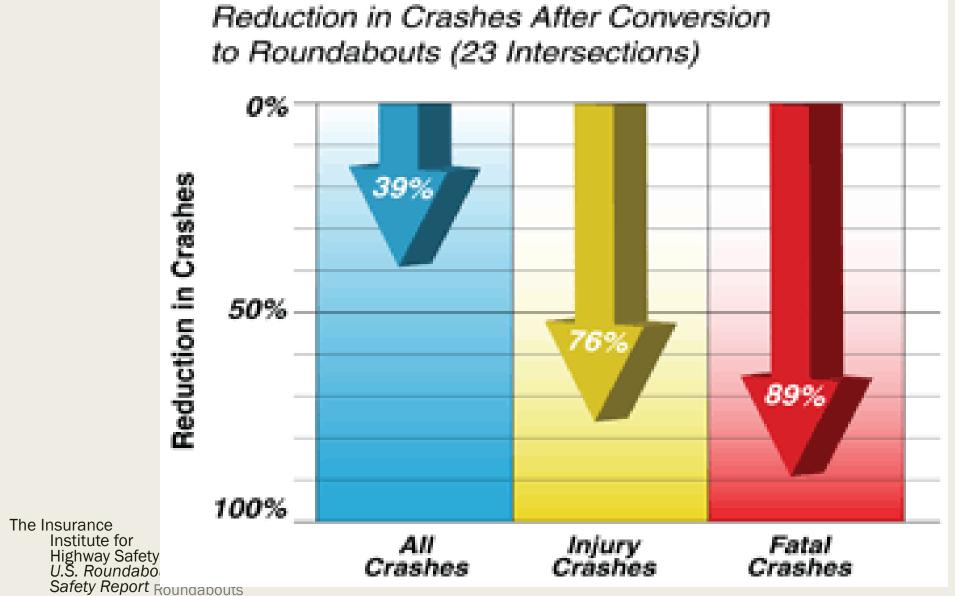




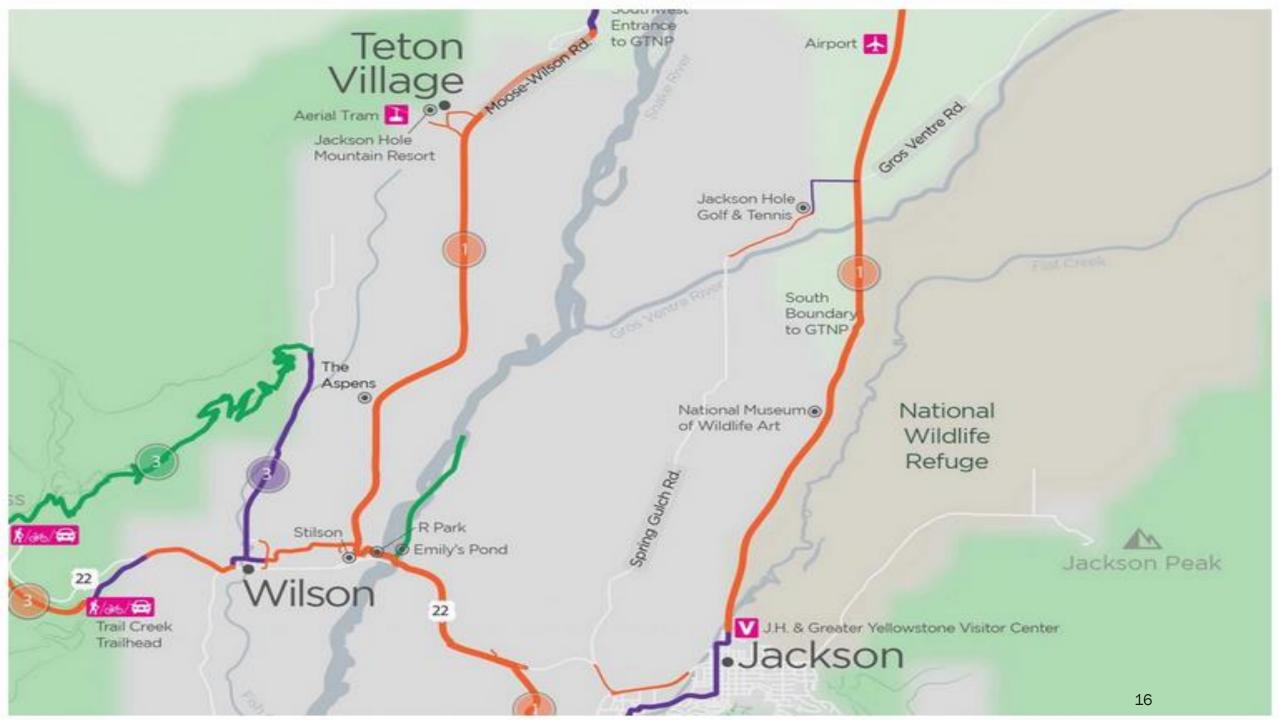


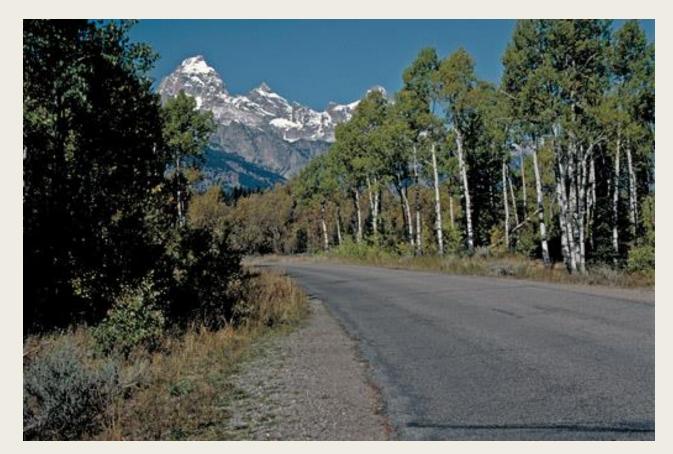


### Safety Improvement





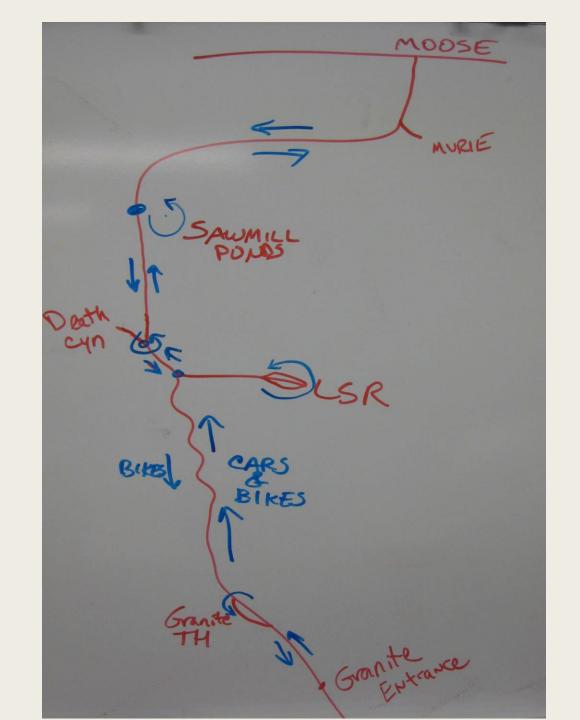






Moose Wilson Adaptive Management Strategy (AMS) Review of One Way Option Grand Teton National Park September 20, 2012

### experience Overview





### INITIATIVES TRAILS AND PATHS EVENTS ABOUT US

#### COMMENT ON MOOSE-WILSON ROAD PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

Time is short – if you don't want the Moose-Wilson Road to be closed or gated – Act Now for safe public access and a complete pathway!

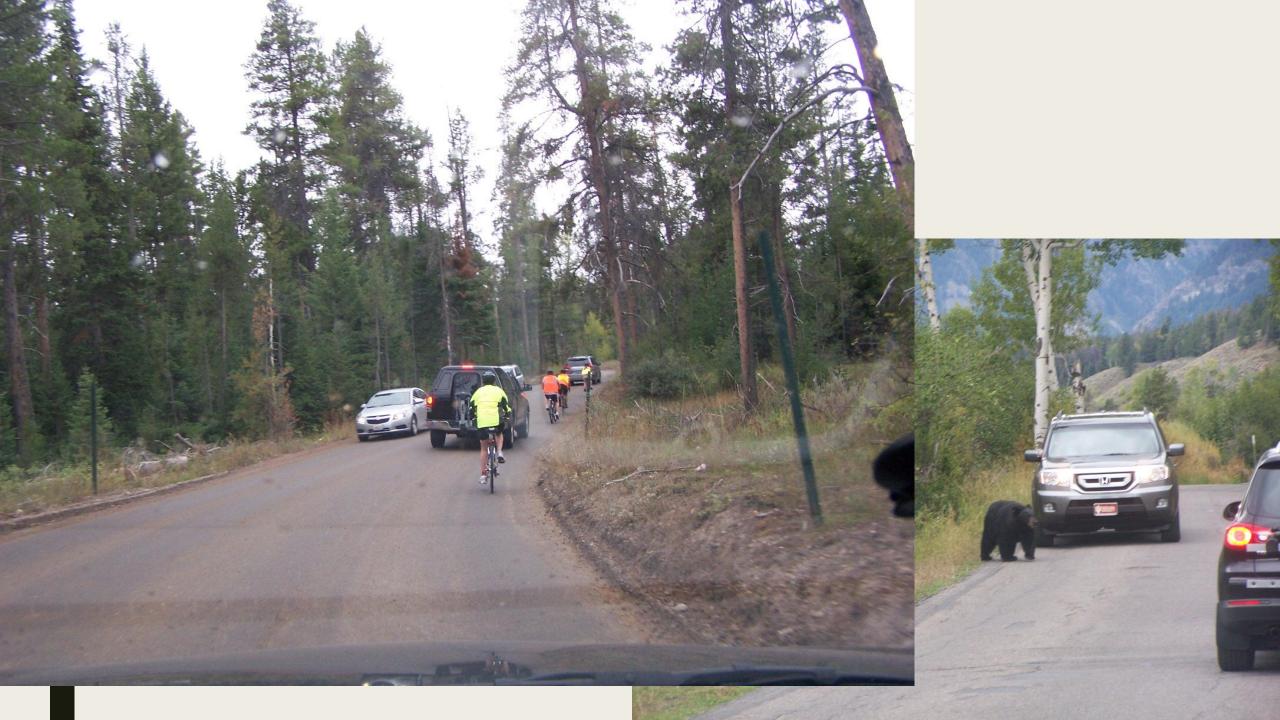
Until September 15<sup>th</sup>, the Public Comment period is open for the Grand Teton National Park Moose-Wilson Road and Pathway.

Please comment today to support public access on the Moose-Wilson Road with reduced traffic and a safe pathway.

Thanks to many public comments in the EIS Scoping (the initial planning step) the National Park Service included open public access to the Moose-Wilson corridor and a safe pathway in one of the draft alternatives – Alternative D. At this step in the NPS planning process, we need to request that Alternative D be studied as the preferred alternative.

We need you to submit a comment for this next phase of the EIS by September 15 at the link below.















Redwood City
June 12-14, 2018

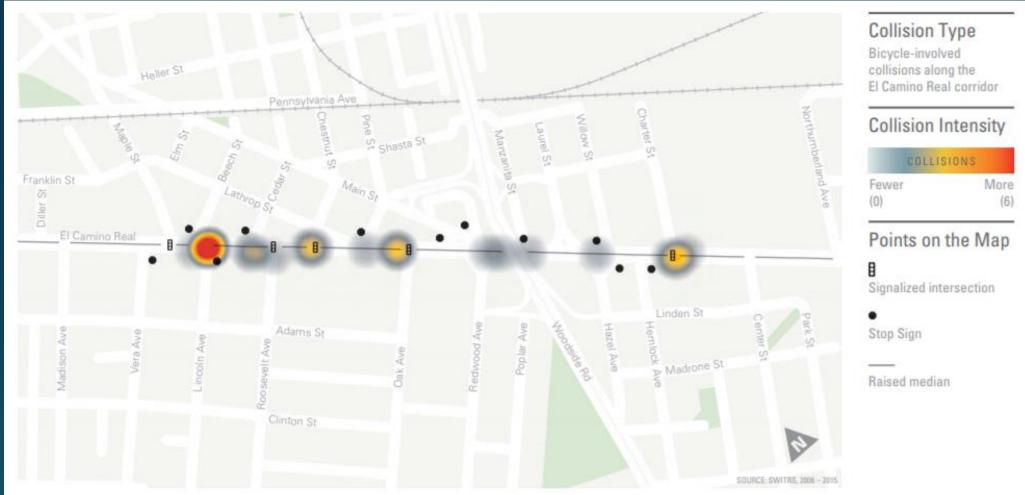
# Bicycle Road Safety Audit

### ThankYou



## Bicycle Crash Profiles





### Bicycle Collison Profiles



### What Do We Know about These Collisions?

#

25

Total collisions

**889** 

28%

Broadside at signal

1

20%

Exiting side streets and driveways 14

16%

Full access unsignalized intersections +

12%

At complex intersections

•••

40%

Other factors

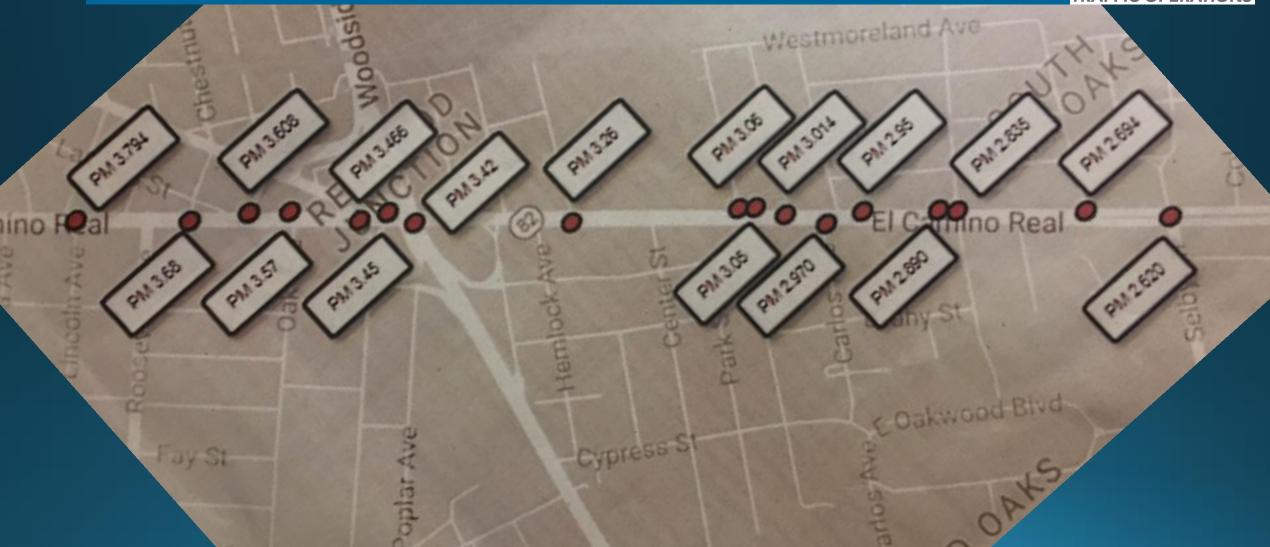
- High traffic speed and shared travel lane
- · Right hook
- Wrong way bicycling

Note: Percentages do not add up to 100% due to overlapping collision types

Middlefield Rd

# Bicycle Crash Profiles



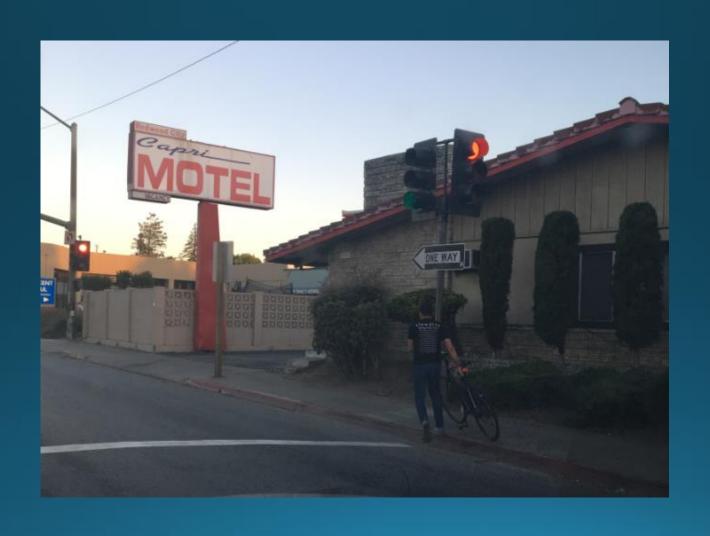










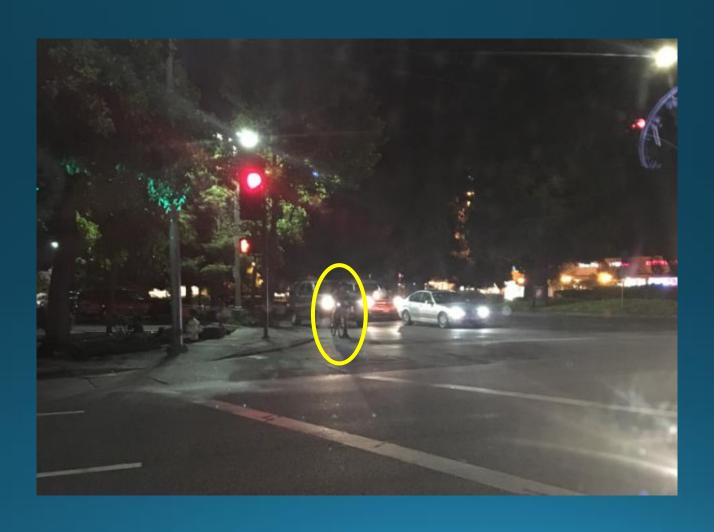






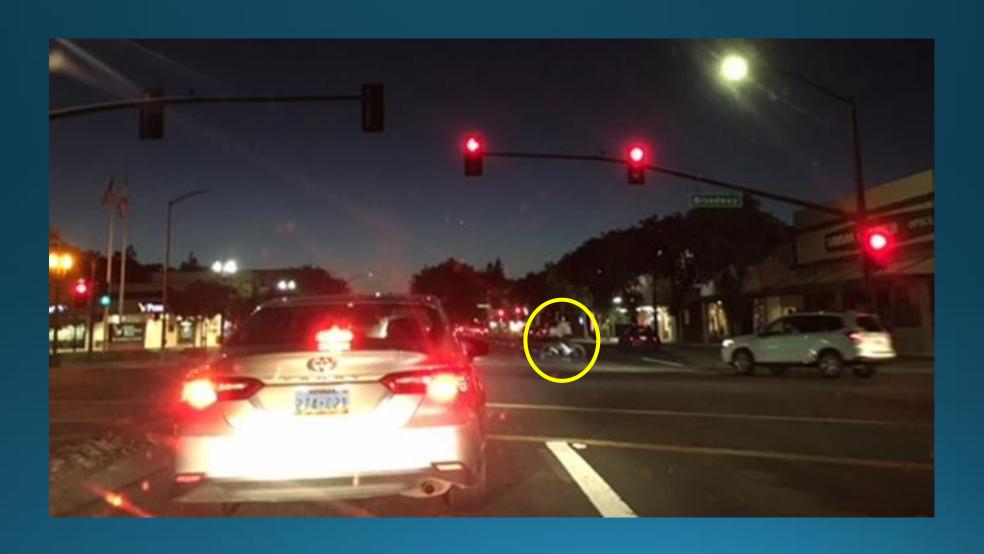


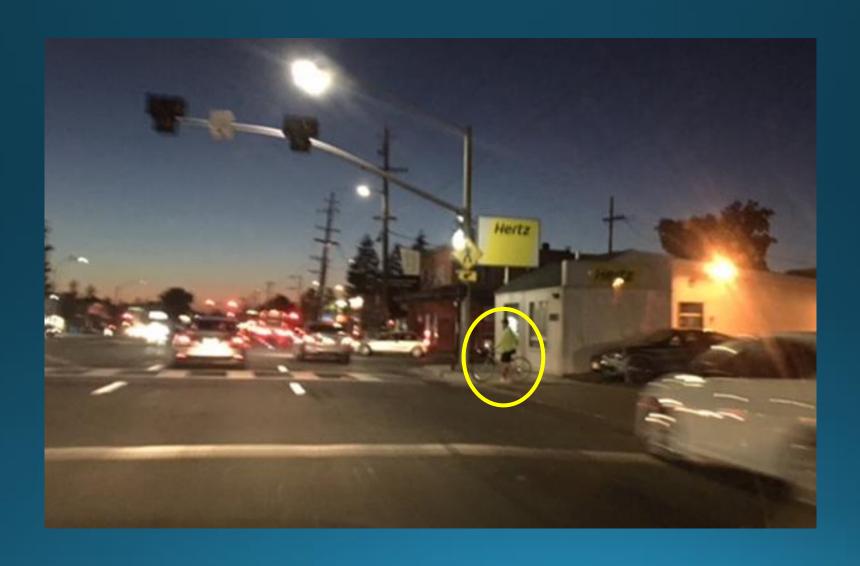


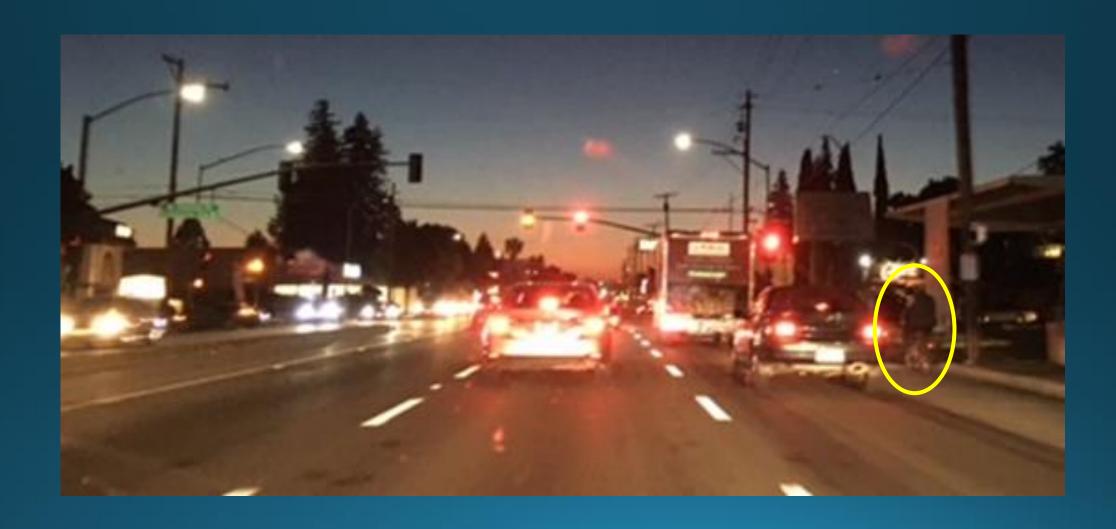


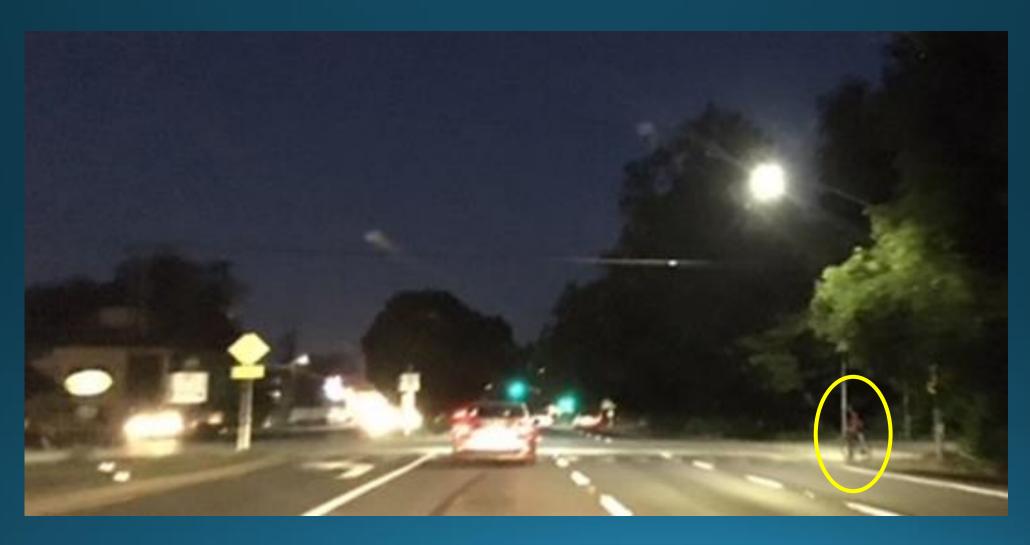


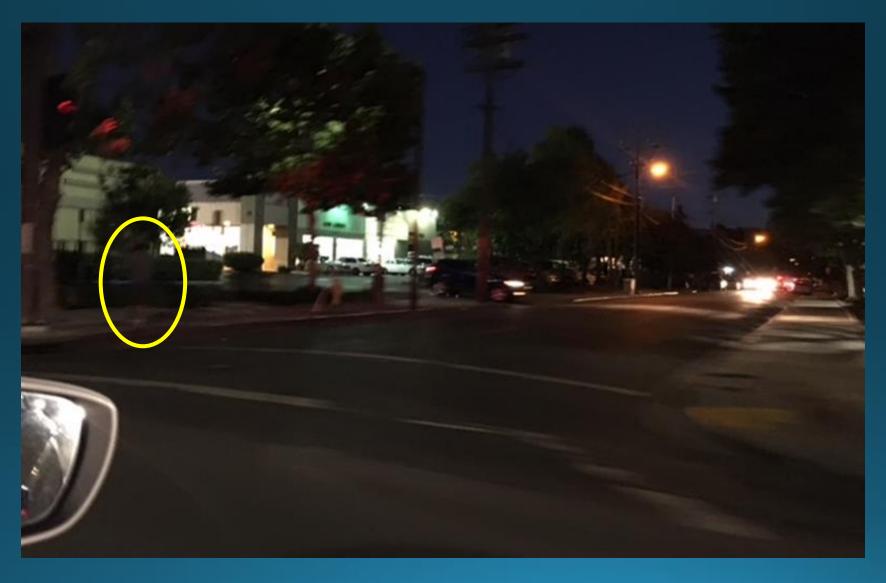










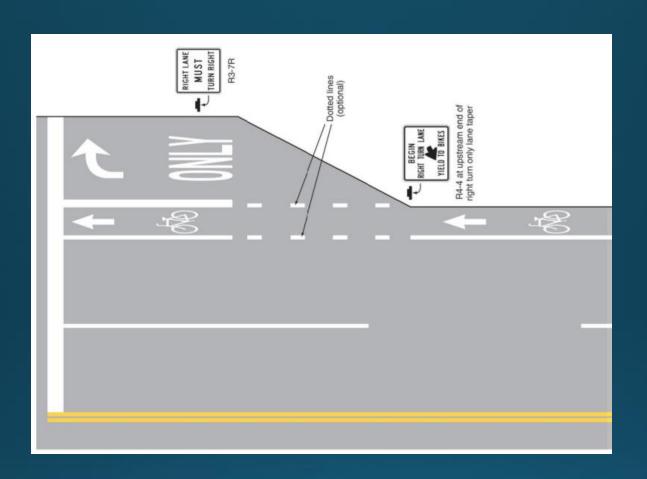


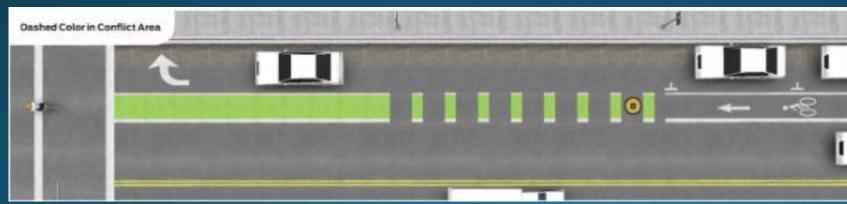




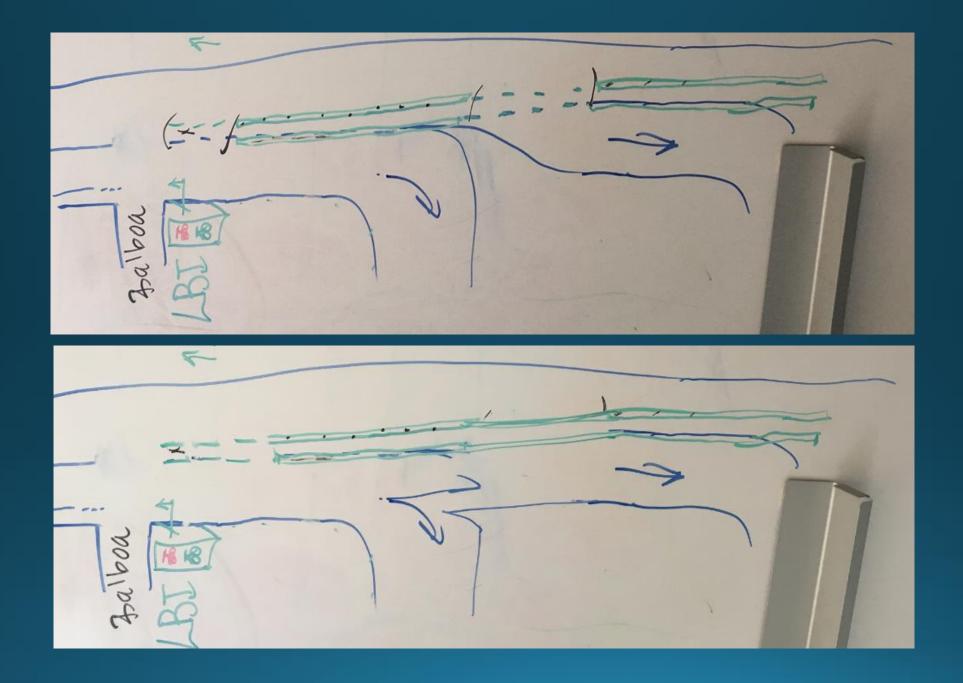
Newport Beach June 5-7, 2018

# Bicycle Road Safety Audit













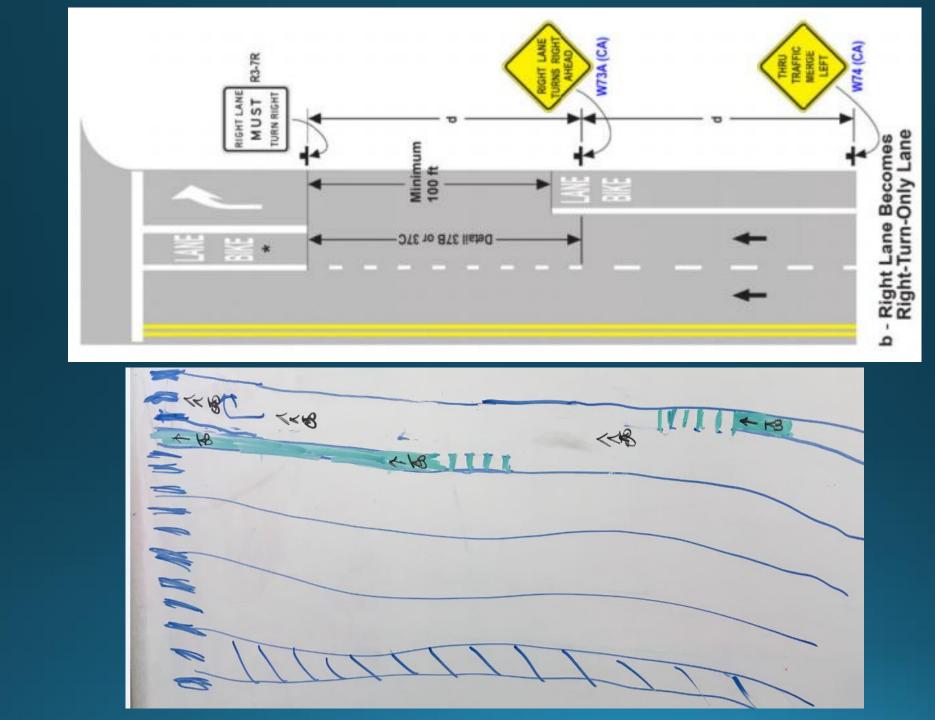














# Next Steps

- Working meeting with design team for 010 project at PCH and Superior Ave.
- Go Human demonstration project
  - two-way contra-flow bike lane at Riverside
  - sidewalk extension at Riverside
  - armadillos at PCH Newport Boulevard interchange weave areas

#### **Discussion**

⇒ Send us your questions



- ⇒ Follow up with us:
  - ⇒ Becky Crowe <u>rebecca.crowe@dot.gov</u>
  - ⇒ Elissa Goughnour <u>egoughnour@vhb.com</u>
  - ⇒ Brooke Struve <u>brooke.struve@dot.gov</u>
  - □ Craig Allred <u>craig.allred@dot.gov</u>
  - **⇒** General Inquiries <u>pbic@pedbikeinfo.org</u>
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