We're Number 1, But Don't Want to Be! Strategies from the Greenville, NC Traffic Safety Task Force

Ellen M. Walston, MSW, ACSW, LCSW Eastern Carolina Injury Prevention Program at Vidant Medical Center April 26, 2021-Lifesavers Conference



Greenville, NC was consistently ranked #1 in the state for crashes among cities statewide with a population of more than 10,000





Creation of Traffic Safety Task Force in 2018

Task Force Members include:

- Chiefs of Police GPD, ECU, Vidant
- ► Vidant Medical Center Injury Prevention Manager and Coordinator
- City Traffic Engineers
- ► City PIOs
- Analyst
- Metropolitan Planning Organization
- ► NCDOT



Traffic Safety Task Force Update 5/16/2019

Priorities April-July 2019

- Speed reduction for high risk locations

- Crosswalks at the following: College Hill, 14th by ECU, Moye Blvd, River Bluff, Greenway (10th and Forest Hills, 10th & Anderson) - Assessment of at least 3 more high risk crash sites that need some sort of engineering change

	Time Frame	Partner Responsible, Updates, and Notes:				
	to	- Work completed during this quarter				
	Completion	- Work scheduled for this quarter but not completed				
	1, 3, 6 or 12	- Circumstances or problems preventing completion				
Action Item	months					
Enforcement Data						
Campaign Data (10/4/18)	Ongoing	Sgt. Ross				
		- Sgt. Ross to send Sue Anne campaign data after each campaign				
		- See Law Enforcement Checkpoint data from 3/16/19				
		- Traffic stops up from 500/2 weeks to 700/2 weeks (3/22/19)				
Crash Data (7/15/18)	Ongoing	Lt. Montanye				
		Pre/Post Red Light Implementation (3/22//19)				
		 27% reduction in total crashes within 150' of intersection 				
		 22% reduction in rear end collisions 				
		 23% reduction in the number of red light citations written 				
		 4% recidivism of offenders with repeat red light tickets 				
		• How to stop rear end collions? Possible solution: Raised or grooved pavement to remind				
		drivers that they are approaching an intersection (Ryan to talk to Rik)				
		How to stop failures to yield on Left Yellow Arrow? Possible solution: Removing the				
		flashing yellow lights specifically at Memorial/Arling, Charles/Fire Tower, & Arlington-County				
		Home/Fire Tower - but ideally to eliminate all over city (Ryan to talk to Rik)				
Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety						



Goal: Reduce Crashes and Injuries related to Vehicle Crashes



- Eliciting public feedback
- Education
- Engineering Solutions
- Enforcement



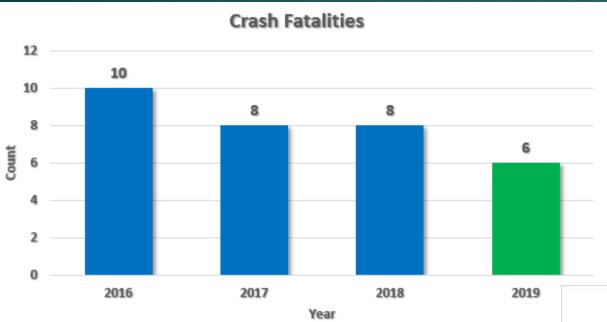
Greenville is no longer #1!

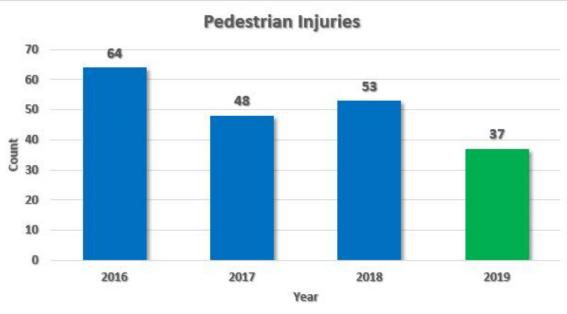
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Crash Comparisons - E-Crash State Submissions												
	2018			2019			Percent of Change					
Month	Rpt	Non	Both	Rpt	Non	Both	Rpt	Non	Both			
January	409	32	441	352	28	380	-14%	-13%	-14%			
February	371	41	412	326	33	359	-12%	-20%	-13%			
March	400	30	430	366	37	403	-9%	23%	-6%			
April	396	32	428	309	27	336	-22%	-16%	-21%			
May	386	35	421	336	31	367	-13%	-11%	-13%			
June	328	37	365	315	32	347	-4%	-14%	-5%			
July	318	22	340	257	32	289	-19%	45%	-15%			
August	407	33	440	354	37	391	-13%	12%	-11%			
September	376	41	417	348	51	399	-7%	24%	-4%			
October	450	41	491	375	33	408	-17%	-20%	-17%			
November	439	44	483	397	32	429	-10%	-27%	-11%			
December	366	36	402	357	40	397	-2%	11%	-1%			
Totals	4646	424	5070	4092	413	4505	-12%	-3%	-11%			
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December	366	36	402	357	40	397	-2%	11%	-1%			
November	439	44	483	397	32	429	-10%	-27%	-11%			

Dropped to #5 spot • 11% drop in crashes from 2018-2019 GPD responded to 500 fewer crashes







VIDANT HEALTH

Enforcement

- Shift changes for traffic officers to accommodate high crash times
- Refocused GPD Traffic Safety Unit – some specifically assigned to enforcement, while others assigned to crash investigations
- ECU PD providing increased enforcement around ECU



Red Light Cameras

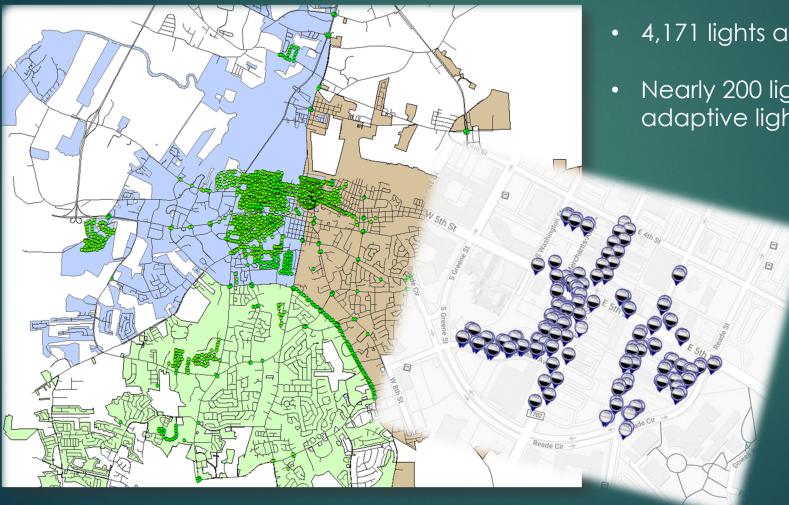


> Year One:

- 27% reduction in total crashes within 150' of intersection
- 22% reduction in rear end collisions
- 23% reduction in the number of red light citations written
- 4% recidivism of offenders with repeat red light tickets



Lighting



- 4,171 lights across the city converted to LED
- Nearly 200 lights downtown have the adaptive lighting controls installed.



Crosswalk Installations/Improvements

- Rapid Flashing Beacons
- Modular Medians
- High Visibility Block
- Advanced Warning
- Paddle Boards
- ► Flexiposts



Delineator/Curbing Systems



- Charles & Smythewyck
- Charles & Oakmont



Education

- Advocacy
- Public Input
- Social Media-Traffic Tuesdays
- Partner Worksheet





Accolades

- Greenville Traffic Safety Task Force received the 2019 GHSP Community Collaboration Award
- ECIPP at VMC (in partnership with GPD) received the 2019 GHSP Richard Sales Award for the PittCo Teen Safe Driving Program





Takeaways

- Partner Identification
- Key Stakeholders
- Effective Countermeasures
- ► Funding
- Social Media
- Media Relationships
- Accountability
- Make It Your Favorite Meeting!





For more information: Ellen M. Walston, MSW, ACSW, LCSW <u>ewalston@vidanthealth.com</u> 252-847-8532

