SALEM BREAKFAST ON BIKES

FROM: COUNCILOR ANDERSEN

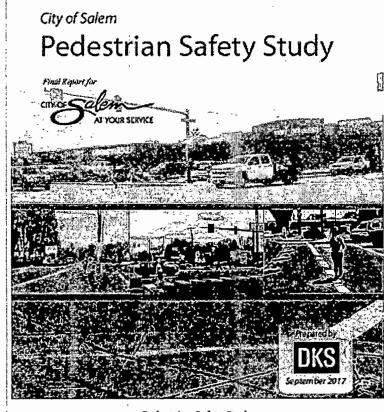
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Third Bridge - Rivercrossing

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017

With Call to Revive Jaywalking Laws, City Study Whiffs on Speed



Pedestrian Safety Study

The City has released a "Pedestrian Safety Study," but in important ways it reverts to early 20th-century patterns of blame for people on foot and even of criminalizing walking. While the recommendation to "reconsider the lack of jaywalking laws," is not itself the central and most important recommendation, it is symptomatic and a

FEATURED POST

A Century Ago: Speed Maniacs, Autoists, and the Fight over Road Space

Routinely we hear about how it is "common sense" for people on foot to "get out of the way," to wear bright clothing, to...

ABOUT SPIED MANIACE

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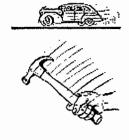
—Mits, PEARL COOPER.

FOLLOW THE ISSUES AND TOPICS

Art in Salem (43) Boise Redevelopment (49) real reflection of the study's limitations.

More than anything else, the study avoids the asymmetry in speed, power, and lethality between people in cars and people on foot.

The study ends up being more about channelizing people walking into "the right place," about getting pedestrians out of the way, and about protecting drivers from unwanted crashes and messy



DANCER INCREASES WITH SPEED!

They knew better in 1937

Address Concerning Driver and Pedestrian Behavior

The crash data and field observations confirmed a providence of regal and aggressive behavior by both divers and pedestrians. Consider implementing education comparises and targeted enforcement to reduce the incidence of unsate pedestrian crossings, aggressive driving (including speeding), and impaired travel. Additionally, the City should reconsider the lack of jaywalking laws, which may be contributing to pedestrians crossing at undesired locations?

Recommendation: Reconsider jaywalking laws

complications, than it is about making walking in Salem a delightful, inviting, and preferred choice for short trips. It assumes a baseline of driving as the preferred and prioritized choice. In this way its orientation remains fundamentally autoist and represents a reversion to 20th century norms rather than a development that supports modern, 21st century travel choice and the increasingly exigent demands for responding to climate disruption.



DON'T JAY WALK



WATCH YOUR STEP

Government safety posters risicule psystaking in the 1020s and 130s. (Net onal Safety Council/Linery of Congress)

Our earlier campaign to criminalize walking:

"The forgotten history of how automakers
invented the crime of 'jaywalking'"

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ABOUT US



SALEM BREAKFAST ON BIKES SALEM, OREGON

The Breakfast Blog is about bicycling and the built environment here in Salem, focusing mostly on transportation but with significant servings of bike fun, land use, planning, and design. And other miscellaneous stuff. Write: breakfastonbikes [at] gmail [dot] com

VIEW MY COMPLETE PROFILE

PROJECT ADVOCACY

Arts and Parks Corridor No Third Bridge Northwest Hub Salem Area Trail Alliance



Hopefully we are not heading towards requirements for Pedestrian Safety Equipment

The historical perspective is not a matter of trivia. Just as we navigated a tremendous shift in the 1910s - 1930s in vehicles, road design, and planning, the transition to autonomous vehicles looms similarly large. Manufacturers and the larger auto-industrial complex, including engineers and consultants, probably would like to engineer as much predictability for pedestrians as possible, even to the point of requiring reflective gear or transponders. What if you had to have a smart phone or RFID chip to walk anywhere? Software and liability law could totally impose that requirement on people. It is important to note we are at, or approaching close to, something of an inflection point, able to choose one way or another.

Back in January 2016, City Council received a report from Public Works and the Police on people killed while walking in Salem. (Notes on the first version here, and on a slightly revised version here.) This led the City to commission a more detailed report from an outside consultant. That report has been published and the City will hold a brown bag open house on it November 13th at noon in the Library as well as present more formally the findings to Council that evening in a work session before the Council meeting proper. (See the City facebook for the event announcement.)

Where is a discussion of speed?

One of the biggest, maybe outright the biggest period, omission is a map or table of posted speeds where the crashes occurred.

LOCAL CLUBS AND FUN

Capitol Velo Racing Club Half Penny Cycling Just Walk Salem Salem Bicycle Club Salem Sunday Streets Selle Salem Womens Cycling Willamette Valley Vintage Bicycle Club

OUR BIKE SHOPS

Northwest Hub Santiam Bicycle Scott's Cycle South Salem Cycleworks The Bike Peddler

OTHER USEFUL LINKS

Bike Commuting in Salem Cherriots Rideshare How Not to Get Hit by Cars on Bicycle Oregon Bicycle & Pedestrian Program

THE REFERENCE LIBRARY

Reference Library Page Salem River Crossing Reference

LOCAL BICYCLE BLOGS

BikePortland.org » Front

Keeping an eye on opposition to street updates on Lincoln and Willamette 16 hours ago

Doug's Transportation Ramblings

Salam Padagbian Salay Staty DKS

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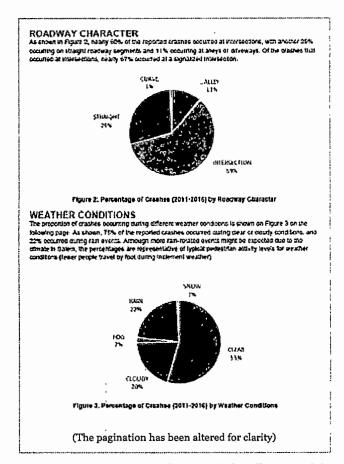
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Know what's missing? Posted Speed.

The study correlates all kinds of variables, but not the posted speed on the roadway.

Here for example is a pie chart for roadway character and for weather.



There's a chart on gender, but the disparity is hardly noticed for more discussion. We know men are more aggressive drivers, but it's also

Legislature Addresses Suspended Driving 4 years ago

Portland Bicycle Transportation Alliance

Holiday Party: Come kick it with The Street Trust squad! 23 hours ago

Ride Bikes, Drink Coffee

Back to the Gorge for a Longer Ride

2 years ago

The Upright Cyclist

Blocked Arterial 1 month ago

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▼ November (6)

With Call to Revive Jaywalking Laws, City Study Wh ...

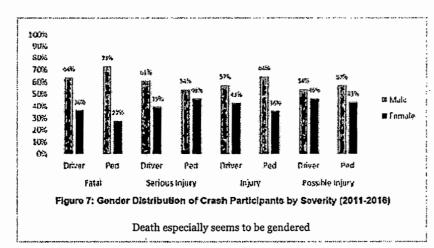
Budget, Transit, Age-Friendly Committees to Meet t...

Don't Forget about the Exclusion Laws in the Newly...

Old Leslie Junior High Possibly at Risk in Propose...

Eugene Releases Draft Vision Zero Action Plan, Sal...

possible they are more assertive street-crossers. Conversely, because of harassment and safety concerns, fewer women walk and they are likely to be less assertive about crossing mid-block or at unmarked crosswalks. There is almost certainly a full sidewalk ethnography of social and cultural factors that shapes our choices to walk or not to walk, and even if that wasn't the primary thrust of the study, it might usefully have been given more room. (A full treatment of safety for people walking will at least include mention of the specific problem of safety for women walking alone; for, of course, if they are not even on the sidewalk, they will never try to cross the street.)



But there is nothing in the analysis on speed itself.

Instead, the section on behavior dwells oddly on "illegal," "distracted," or "impaired" walking, and crucially relies on a fabricated category that has no basis in City of Salem statute or code. It is hard not to think it is fundamentally premised on impugning and marginalizing "bad behavior" by people on foot. There is a real bias here.

DRIVER AND PEDESTRIAN BEHAVIOR

The most commonly reported contributing factor to pedestrian crashes during the study period was the driver's failure to yield (53%). Other reported factors well do: pedestrian indeptly in the readway (30%), pedestrian not visible (14%), driver disregarding a traffic signal (11%), and inattention (3%). Although introaction was not listed as a combinating factor in the CQOY crash database, a review of the poscereport narrotives indeptled that four of the 13 fatal crashes and three of the 29 senious argury crashes involved a pedestrian that was likely impaired (alcohol, daugs, or both).

It should be noted that all Oregon crash data is maintained by the State of Oregon, and thus references to "flegal" behavior (such as "pedestrian iflegally in roadway" or "pedestrian violation") are categorized based on State taws. Such "filogal" behaviors unclude podestrians crossing at unmarked mid-block locations, pedestrians crossing against signate or signs, pedestrians laying or standing in the roadway, and pedestrians entering the roadway subsepectedly. In the City of Salem, however, there are no jaywalking laws and it is legal for pedestrians to cross a roadway at any location. Because it is difficult or even impossible to isolate the exact behavior that warranted the "filegal" categorization, there is no way to re-categorize the crashles based on City of Salem laws. Therefore, the terms "podestrian illegally in roadway" and "pedestrian violation" are still referenced in this report, even though a subset of the behaviors may not actually be illegal in the City of Salem.

From the report:

The most commonly reported contributing factor to pedestrian crashes during the study period was the driver's failure to yield (53%). Other reported factors include: pedestrian illegally in the roadway (30%), pedestrian not visible (14%), driver disregarding a traffic signal (11%), and inattention (3%). Although intoxication was not listed as a contributing factor in

"Truck hits bicycle path" -Where's the Driver?

- ▶ October (21)
- September (16)
- August (17)
- ▶ July (14)
- ▶ June (25)
- ► May (22)
- ► April (20)
- ► March (21)
- ► February (19)
- ▶ January (23)
- **2016 (313)**
- ▶ 2015 (301)
- 2014 (296)
- **2013 (321)**
- **2012 (361)**
- 2011 (285)
- **2010 (224)**
- **2009 (196)**
- **2008 (35)**

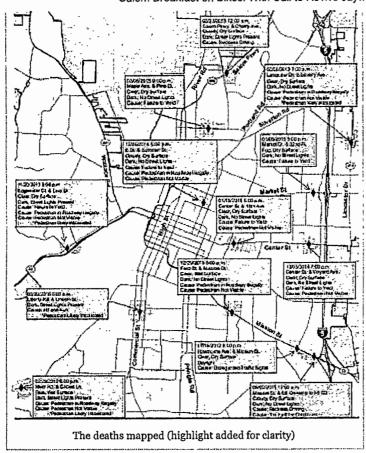
the ODOT crash database, a review of the police report narratives indicated that four of the 13 fatal crashes and three of the 29 serious injury crashes involved a pedestrian that was likely impaired (alcohol, drugs, or both).

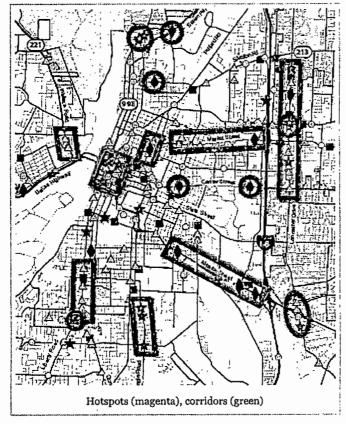
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Hotspot and Corridor Assessment

There are several maps that usefully locate crashes, but the one that specifically lists fatalities is hampered by the way it erases the identity of the dead. Without names or photos, we abstract them into statistics and rob them of essential human dignity. It is not to be ghoulish to think we should more squarely face the human cost of our roadways and autoism. Additionally, the lack of names and personhood makes it easier to blame them for "illegal" walking. This is a rhetorical move that supports autoism. (See below on Mission Street for more on this.)

Crucially, none of the deaths happens on a neighborhood "local street" or even a "collector street." One death is on a "minor arterial," and all the others on "major arterials" or greater. It's not just traffic volumes that are higher on these streets! Speeds are higher also, and speed, not count of cars, is what kills people. Count of cars might be an important ingredient in the probability of a crash - more cars, more people, more opportunities - but the lethality of the crash is largely determined by speed.





Significantly, the most general set of "citywide observations" leads with speeding and the behavior of drivers. It doesn't lead with "illegal" walking. It follows this with barriers people on foot encounter like long distances between signalized crossings. Then there is a paragraph

about "illegal" walking.

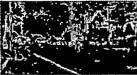
CITYWIDE OBSERVATIONS

At several of the field study locations, increased conflicts were observed where importraffic flows and popular pedestrain travel paths intersected. In addition, vehicles were often seen speeding, difwig aggressively, and falling to yield to pedestrate.

Increased levels of misblock conflicts were observed on roadways with <u>fyldercross</u> sections (four or more lanes), long distances between signalized crossings (up to 3,000 feet) and unique



Pedestrans crossing High Street N



Pedestrian crossing mid-block on

midblock dibactions such as Postains protein transit stops, convenience stores, and resiaurants

Many pedestrians were seen crossing mid-block or crossing against the pedestrian signal. This frond is supported by the crash data that indicates 05% of non-intersection pedestrian croshos involved pedestrians illegally in the readway.

Speeding, aggression, non-yielding

There is a bit of a shift in the "corridor observations," which do not dwell on speed. The pattern I see here road design that discourages walking: inadequate lighting, conflict points, aggressive driving, few gaps in traffic, long distances between signalized crossings. There is a little about speeding, but nothing about posted speed. Mostly it's about the formidable barriers, physical and psychological, people on foot encounter.

CORRIDOR OBSERVATIONS

- Mission Street SE from 22rd Street to 1.5 Southbound: High vehicle volumes along entire consider, pedestrian usage is highest west of Airport Road. High density of driveways west of 25rd Street which creates more conflict points for pedestrians and vehicles. Night observation revealed that several lights along conflict were non-functioning?.
- Summer Street NE from Market Street NE to D Street NE: Limited and obscured street and intersection Eghting.
- Market Street NE from 14th Street NE to I-5 Southbound: High vehicles speeds, aggressive driving, and frequent pedostnan activity. Long distances between signalized crossings and few gaps in traffic resulted in limited pedestrian crossing opportunities.
- Lancaster Drive NE from Devonshire Avenue NE to Center Street NE: Frequent
 pedestrian activity, high vehicle volumes, high vehicle speeds, aggressive driving, and a
 wide roadway cross section. Long distances between pedestrian crossings and the lighting
 on west side of roadway appeared to be in poor condition.
- Pringle Road S from Fairview Avenue SE to Madrona Avenue SE: High vehicle speeds and limited sidewalk facilities create an uncomfortable environment for pedestrians. Several transit stops along the comidor, no midblock crossing locations. Very dark at night with intermittent lighting.
- Wallace Road NW from Glen Croek Road NW to Taggart Drive NW. High vehicle volume and speeds, wide roadway cross section can be a barrier to pedestrian crossings.
 Pedestrians observed darting across Wallace Road NW midblock.
- Commercial Street SE from Rural Street SE to Fairview Avenue SE: Permissive left turn
 phasing with long side street delays causes aggressive vehicle turning movements through
 crosswalks along Commercial Street. Frequent pedestrian activity and high vehicle volumes
 in this area. Long pedestrian crossing distances. High driveway density along corridor
 creates more conflict points for pedestrians and vehicles.
- Marion Street NE from Commercial Street NE to High Street NE: Pedestnan visibility is reduced due to on-street parking and adjacent trees along Marion Street. High valuide speeds and turning volumes.
- High Street NE from Union Street NE to Court Street NE: Unique redblock altractions (mail, transit center, parking, Wednesday market) generate increased pedestrian demand.

A little about speeding, but nothing about posted speeds

Recommendations

Overall the recommendations focus on countermeasures to channelize

or guide people on foot to the right time, manner, and place for walking. They don't talk at all about reducing speed for drivers.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

DISS traditioned a set of recommendations that can be applied to improve pediestran sately across the Cty of Sahim and at specific study locations. These recommendations are based on the clash patients and behaviors identified turnings the crash data analysis and field occurrations and motion recommendations actioned in the PEDSAFE document to address the occarried risk types.

CITYWIDE STRATEGIES

Limit Spacing between Protected Crossings

The Institute of Transportation Engineers' Designing Wandape Littles (Indisorphises: A Contest Sensitive Approach suggests that pedestrians should not be expected to travel miss than 400 feet out of direction to utilize a controlled intersection, with a recommended maximum spacing of 650 feet. This to of particular importance in locations where unique attractions and pedestrian generators exist motiock and entourage pedestrans to cross believen intersections. Consider installing enhanced motiock crossings with median islands, 2-chaped crossings, and rectargular rapid fashing beacons. (RRFB) or penestran myorid beatons (PHB), where appropriate based on City guidelines.

Limit Conflicts between Pedestrians and Turning Vehicles

At alguaized microsotone, consider restricting permissive and overalp have (little or ngm) when pedestrians are present at locations, where appropriate based on City guidelines. Attemptively, delayed overlap phasing and leading pedestrian hiervals can provide additional projection for pedestrian crossings during these phases. Where appropriate for vehicle and periestrian volumes, proteoned his turn phasing can also be impremented to time these types of contress. These types of signal timing adjustments can be permanent or can be trusted to specify trues of day.

Improve Roadway and Intersection Lighting

lizary of the text soury coservators indicated that sighting at intersections and along compets old not meet standards. Consider upgrazing existing sights and installing additional lights to improve visibility of pedestrians and crossing locations at right.

Consider Pedestrian Paths at the Planning Level

incorporate the concept of pedication "docks thes" into land use, aming, and eavercoment excellens to avoid wrating environments where the surrounding land use encourages codestrians to cross at breations where no crossing facilities are present. This includes creating quidelines for the site glan tenew process mat aim to any nenhanced crossings with pedostrian access to desembly this.

Address Concerning Driver and Pedestrian Behavior

The crash data and field observations combined a prevalence of Begal and aggressive behavior by beth govers and pedestrans. Consider imprementing education caregargus and largeles enloyeems to reduce the analogness of unitate percentain processings, aggressive storing (naturing specific), and impaired travel. Additionally, the City should reconsider the lace of Jayaraking take, which may be contributing to pedealinana crossing all undestred locations.

Nothing about posted speeds or design speeds

The "site-specific" analysis and recommendations for countermeasures are generally better. There is less to quibble with here. But significantly, while they accurately highlight the problems, they don't dwell enough on the cause.

They mention "speeding," "aggressive driving," "pedestrian delays," "few gaps in traffic," "feels unsafe," etc. But the root cause here is that we have prioritized auto through-put. The cars and their speeds are the problem - not distracted, impaired, or otherwise improper walking.

SITE-SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENTS

In addition to the strainger described in the provious section that are intended to treast application. (NOS has also developed pro-assection economicalistics to express the solidly conformance of the 19 shally feedborn included in the field observation inflort. The key faylings of the field observations and potential countermeasures are shown for study observations and consider in Table 4 and Table 5.

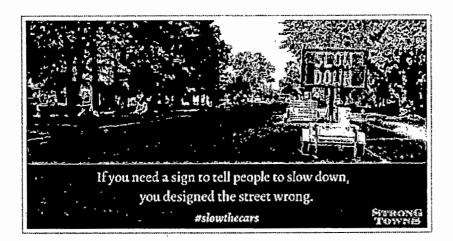
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The Study concludes with a call to "reconsider the lack of jaywalking laws." It puts the burden for safety on people on foot, not people in cars.

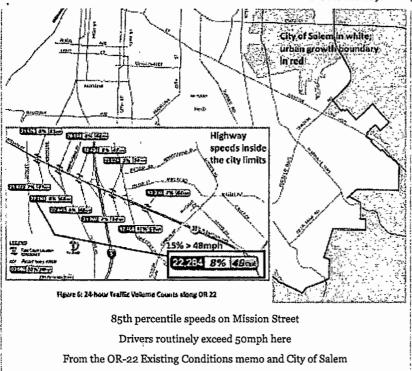
The City might instead think more about jaydriving, about posted speeds, design speeds, and even a "twenty is plenty" approach to urban speed.

Until we grapple more seriously with driving, drivers, and road design, our "solutions" will be cosmetic at best.

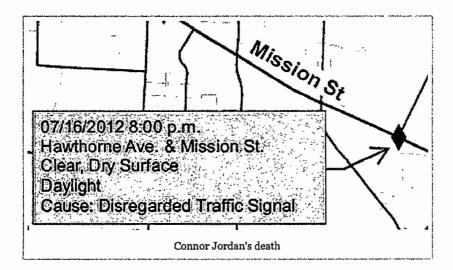


Speed and the Mission Street and Commercial Street Corridors

Let's drill into a couple of the most problematic corridors. The first one is a State Highway and is posted for highway speeds.



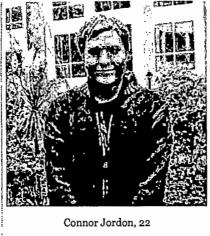
As it happens, the consultant also conducted the OR-22/Mission Street Corridor study that just completed, and it is interesting that their comment here on Mission Street says nothing about the posted speed, which if followed lawfully still guarantees lethality in a crash. And if you look at 85% speeds - so that means 15% of drivers exceed that speed! - west of I-5 they're pretty much at 45mph or more.



One of the deaths in the study is Connor Jordan. He was lawfully crossing Mission Street in a marked crosswalk with the light, but James Sinks blew the light and killed him. Sinks was not speeding, but the 85% speed of 48mph on Mission at that intersection guarantees lethality. There is no forgiveness in the road design for people on foot if they make an error or if a driver makes an error.

About Mission Street, the study says only:

> High vehicle volumes along entire corridor, pedestrian usage is highest west of Airport Road. High density of driveways west of 25th Street which creates more conflict points for pedestrians and vehicles.



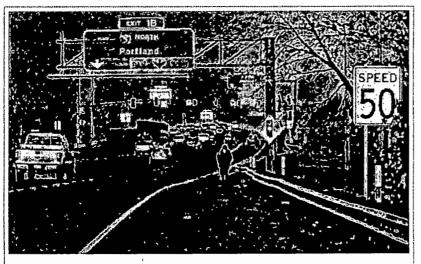
via The Province

Night observation revealed that several lights along corridor were non-functioning.

CORRIDOR OBSERVATIONS

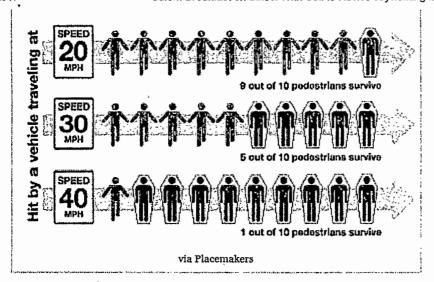
Mission Street SE from 22rd Street to I-6 Southbound: High volicio volumes along entire comdor, pedestrian usage is highest west of Airport Road. High density of driveways west of 25" Street which creates more conflict points for pedestriums and vehicles. Night observation revealed that several lights along constor were non-functioning?

But this misses the nut of the problem. The painted lines of a crosswalk won't protect you from death when you are struck at 50mph.

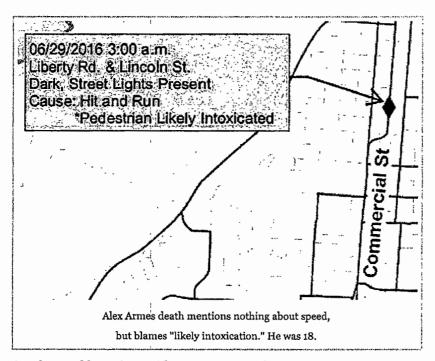


If you are struck at 50mph here on Mission St, you are dead (These two photos are from the ODOT project site)

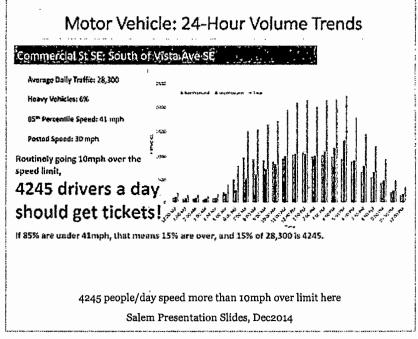
The corridors where people have died mostly all have posted speeds that are too high. Remember, at 30mph, survival is basically a 50/50 coin flip. At 40mph, death is a near certainty.



The total silence in the study on posted speeds, design speed, and 85% speed is a serious defect in the study.



Another problematic corridor is Commercial Street. The consultant also studied a segment of it as part of the Commercial-Vista Corridor Study.



They also found that 85% speeds were a great problem, especially for people on foot.

Commercial Street SE from Rural Street SE to Fairview Avenue SE: Permissive left turn
phasing with long side street delays enuses aggressive vehicle turning involuments through
crosswalks along Commercial Street. Frequent pedestrian activity and high vehicle volumes
in this area. Long pedestrian crossing distances, High driveway density along comdor
creates more conflict points for pedestrians and vehicles.

Nothing about speed here

But in the current study, although the corridor assessment included mention of "aggressive vehicle turning," it does not talk about the basic fact of posted speeds and 85% speeds. As with Mission Street, there is no forgiveness for people on foot if they make a mistake or if a driver makes a mistake.

Even if Alex Armes was intoxicated and underage, he did not deserve to die. Since it was a hit-and-run, we do not know if the driver's lights were on

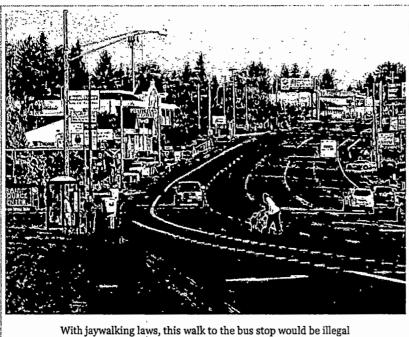


Alex Armes obituary

or if the driver was themself intoxicated. Moreover, an elderly person or a young child crossing the road in the morning or early evening might make similar errors of judgement or perception, but they are not intoxicated and also do not deserve censure. A safe roadway system operates for the young and old as well as a person walking home from a bar or party (who might have made the right choice instead of driving).

In a foundational way, the study misses the centrality of lethal posted speeds and 85% speeds on roads where drivers have killed people walking. It also blames victims, shifts too much responsibility to people on foot, and absolves drivers, engineering, and road design too quickly.

The balance is wrong and Council should not accept this study as-is.



For more see:

- "Before Jaywalking: In 1914 Street Crossings Belonged to Pedestrians"
- "Cars Rule, Walkers Drool! Othering the Person on Foot"
- "Why so much Acceptance for Traffic Cone Theory of Walking?"
- "Jay Driving deserves Revival as Term of Opprobrium!"
- "Conflicting Narratives about Walking Jostle in Story on Memorial to Crosslands"
- "Why Pedestrian Rights themselves may not be Sufficient"
- "Before Jaywalking: Pedestrian Rights and a Dangerous Instrumentality in 1921"

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