



City
of
Clarksville

Michael Ziarnek <michael.ziarnek@cityofclarksville.com>

January 2026 e-News: New Year's Lessons & Top 10 Ways States Can Step up Safety Progress

1 message

Leah Shahum <info@visionzeronetwork.org>
Reply-To: Leah Shahum <info@visionzeronetwork.org>
To: michael.ziarnek@cityofclarksville.com

Tue, Jan 13, 2026 at 9:01 AM



January 2026 Vision Zero e-News

Happy New Year! As we step into 2026, we're energized to continue working with you to advance meaningful change for safe streets and more livable communities for all.

Help us spread ideas and inspiration this year by sharing this newsletter with others who care about safe streets and strong communities. You can invite others to [sign up](#) and explore our [resources](#).

Doubling Down on What Works: Vision Zero in 2026



Our latest post looks at how Vision Zero gains momentum in 2026 by doubling down on what's already working in communities across the nation. From street redesigns to simple traffic calming additions, we see proven strategies leading to significantly reduced speeding and traffic injuries and deaths. We don't have to look further than Columbus and Orlando to find on-the-ground examples of recent progress. The question now is: Will cities scale up what works?

Read [Vision Zero in 2026: Why the Next Phase Matters More Than Ever](#) to see signs of success in communities of all size across the nation and to learn why local action matters more than ever.

[Read our New Year's Blog](#)

Top 10 Ways States and Cities Must Act Together for Safe Streets

TOP 10

Too often, the streets with the highest risks for people walking, biking and driving are state-owned arterials running through local communities — yet locals often lack the authority or funding to address these well-known problems.

In this fourth installment of our Top 10 Anniversary series – [Top 10 Ways States and Cities Must Act Together for Safe Streets](#) – we share examples of how Illinois, Nevada, Ohio, and other states are working with local agencies to better align funding with risk, treat speed as a systemic safety issue, redesign legacy arterials, and leverage pilots for quicker improvements.

If you work in transportation, safety, planning, or advocacy, this piece is a call to engage at the state–local intersection where lives are on the line.

[Read the full post](#) and check out more in our [Vision Zero Network anniversary series](#) about what we're feeling most encouraged by from the past decade and what needs change in the years ahead.

Read the latest in our Anniversary Top 10 Series

Vision Zero 101 Webinar: From Fundamentals to Real-World Results



Join us January 20th for a webinar: [Vision Zero 101: From Fundamentals to Real World Results](#). We'll highlight the elements of a strong foundation for safe streets, along with on-the-ground examples. Whether you're just starting your Vision Zero planning or transitioning to implementation, this session will offer practical ideas and inspiration that your community can leverage to develop an effective Safe System approach. We especially recommend those working with a [Safe Streets & Roads for All \(SS4A\)](#) planning grant join -- and bring your partners -- to build stronger understanding and buy-in among your team.

[Register for the Webinar](#)

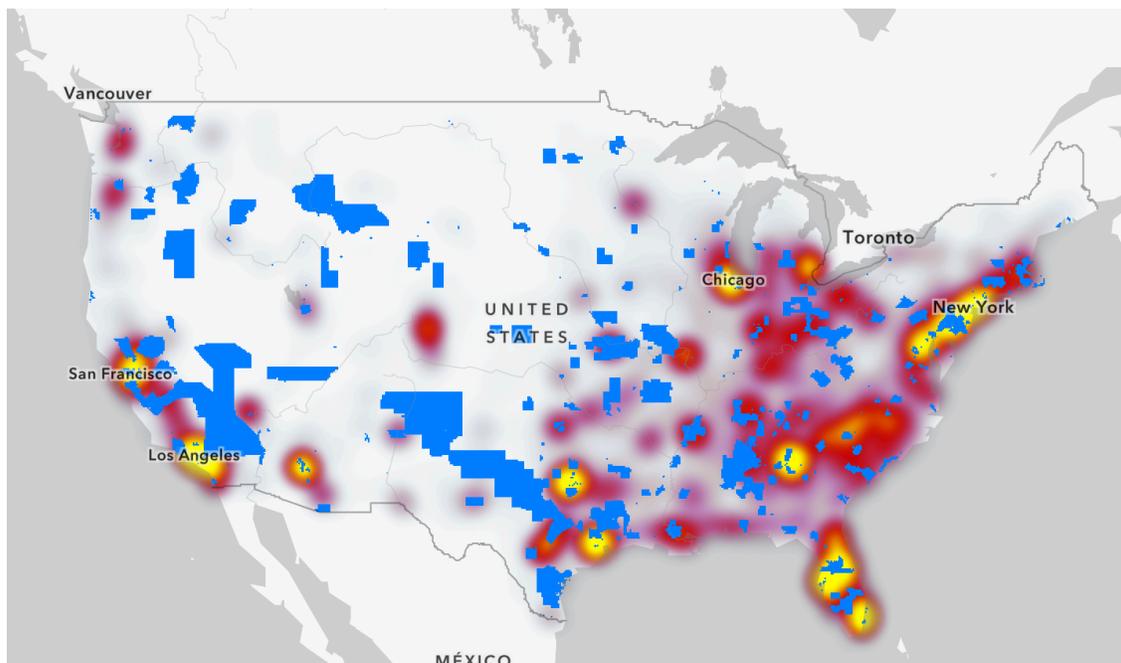
Speeding Up Strategies to Slow Speeds & Save Lives



Join Vision Zero Network's Visiting Senior Research Fellow, [Ivan Cheung](#), for a conversation about how communities can speed up progress on managing speeds for safety. He'll be joined by Jessica Cicchino, IIHS Senior Vice President, Behavior and Infrastructure Research, and Kris Poland, National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) Acting Director, Office of Highway Safety, for an in-depth discussion on two proven and ready-to-deploy safety tools gaining attention and public acceptance: [speed safety cameras](#) and [Intelligent Speed Assistance](#). Also hear from these national leaders on how these lifesaving tools fit into the Safe System Approach and how we can accelerate their widespread adoption.

[Register for the Webinar](#)

SS4A Awards Bring Nearly \$1B in Road Safety Investments to Communities Nationwide



Good news: The latest round of [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\)](#) awardees have been announced! The U.S. Department of Transportation announced that nearly \$1 billion in SS4A funding was awarded across 48 states, 18 Tribal governments, and Puerto Rico, supporting important local, regional and tribal efforts to advance road safety across the country.

Winning projects reflect both immediate action and longer-term planning efforts.

Awards include support for a region in southwest Missouri as it launches a Safe Routes to School program and pilots new crosswalks and safety signage in school zones; a village in New York State to test low-cost, high-impact safety treatments, including daylighting, speed feedback trailers, and pedestrian-priority signal timing; and a public school district in New Mexico as it expands the Vision Zero for Youth Initiative and launches a Walking School Bus program at 40 schools.

Check them out the full list of awardees [here](#), get inspired, and consider applying in the next round -- expected this Spring. In the meantime, Vision Zero Network is partnering with the National League of Cities on the [Local Infrastructure Hub's SS4A Bootcamp](#) to support communities with training, coaching, and tools to develop competitive and innovative SS4A projects. This is your community's chance to win federal funding to advance your road safety efforts -- ranging from planning and demonstrations to implementation. Hear about successful proposals and recommendations to help communities of any size. We encourage you to [learn more and register for the SS4A Bootcamp](#).

What's New & Interesting in Vision Zero?

- **Apply for the 2026 Champions Institute:** Smart Growth America is looking for local elected officials to join the next Champions Institute cohort. The Champions Institute provides local electeds with knowledge and resources to support local efforts that increase

opportunities for walking, biking, and rolling to everyday destinations. The deadline to participate is January 30, 2026. [Learn more and apply.](#)

- **Leveraging near-miss data to revolutionize road safety:** Identifying near misses can be a powerful safety tool, providing traffic managers with the power to identify and fix black spots before injuries occur. [Check out this article](#) that will review this approach that is being leveraged with pilot projects across the country and in the United Kingdom.
- **Help shape the future of Vision Zero:** Researchers at Virginia Tech are surveying transportation professionals and safety practitioners to learn what's actually working (and what's not working) when it comes to Vision Zero implementation. Share your experience and help inform best practices. [Take the survey.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bootcamp: Safe Streets and Roads for All

January 14, 2026 10am PT/ 1pm ET

The Local Infrastructure Hub is hosting a series of webinars during which participants will gain specific guidance on how to apply for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning and Implementation funding to advance the roadway safety needs of all road users. Participants will learn how to navigate application requirements, align projects with funding criteria, and will have access to office hours with subject-matter experts (including Vision Zero Network!). This first bootcamp session is on January 14. [Learn more and register here.](#)

VZN Webinar: Vision Zero 101: From Fundamentals to Real-World Results

January 20, 2026 10am PT/ 1pm ET

See details above on Vision Zero Network webinar. [Register here.](#)

Road Safety Champion Program: Introduction to Traffic Safety Culture

January 27, 2026 10am PT/ 1pm ET

Hosted by the National Center for Rural Road Safety, this webinar will explore the elements that shape traffic safety culture, how those factors interact to affect human behaviors, and will uplift strategies that can be implemented to improve traffic safety culture among various groups.

[Learn more and register.](#)

A Land-Use Audit for Walkability

January 27, 2026 11am PT/ 2pm ET

Join America Walks for a webinar that will explore how communities can improve land-use policies and practices to advance walkability. Attendees will learn more about how land use and walkability are connected, what land-use indicators best support walkability, and actionable steps that local and state governments can take to improve walkability and health for residents. [Learn more and register.](#)

VZN Webinar: Speeding Up Strategies to Slow Speeds & Save Lives

January 29, 2026 11am PT/ 2pm ET

See details above on Vision Zero Network webinar. [Register here.](#)

Frontiers of Technology: Attention Please! From Distraction Prevention to Attention Support

February 3, 2026 10am PT/ 1pm ET

Join the Road to Zero Coalition for a virtual fireside chat with Road to Zero Manager Julia Kite-Laidlaw and Dr. Bryan Reimer, a research scientist in the MIT Center for Transportation and Logistics. They'll discuss developing a framework for the next generation of driver attention measurement and driver support tools. Participants can expect to hear about the latest research on providing the right amount of attention support for drivers. [Learn more and register.](#)

National Bike Summit

March 24-26, 2026

Join the League of American Bicyclists in Washington, D.C. for a gathering that will bring together a diverse coalition of cyclists, advocates, policymakers, and industry leaders around strategies to make biking safer, more convenient, and more accessible to communities. The Summit will also include a Lobby Day during which participants will meet with their Congressional representatives. [Learn more and register.](#)

VISION ZERO

IN THE NEWS

- [Drop in SF traffic deaths last year was largest in 10 years](#), San Francisco Examiner, January 13, 2025
- [Confirmed: Non-Driving Infrastructure Creates 'Induced Demand,' Too](#), Streetsblog USA, January 9, 2025
- [US DOT awards \\$1B in SS4A funds for road safety](#), Smart Cities Dive, January 9, 2025
- [Mayor Bowser Blasts U.S. DOT Talk of Eliminating Enforcement Cameras in DC](#), Streetsblog USA, January 8, 2026
- [Vision Zero is possible. Advocates say Indy lacks 'political will.'](#) Mirror Indy, January 8, 2025
- [Congestion Pricing After One Year. How Life Has Changed.](#), New York Times, January 5, 2026
- [How Congestion Pricing Proved the Haters Wrong and Is Changing New York for the Better](#), Streetsblog NYC, January 5, 2026
- [We Don't Need More Highway Lanes. We Need Public Transit](#), Westword, January 3, 2026

- [Mamdani Announces Full McGuinness Road Diet, Finishing a Job Halted by Adams](#), Streetsblog NYC, January 3, 2026
- [These 6 U.S. Streets Will Become Scenic Pedestrian Zones in 2026](#), Fast Company, January 2, 2026
- [Concerned Colorado Springs residents want to curb speeding and traffic deaths. They're not alone.](#) Planetizen, December 29, 2025
- [Great Cities Don't Just Acknowledge That We Age In Them — They Build For It. We Can Too.](#) Planetizen, December 29, 2025
- [Slow down, Speed Racer: New California program could impose strictest penalty on motorists](#), LA Times, December 29, 2025
- [Dallas Traffic Fatalities Fall by Nearly Half in 2025](#), Dallas Observer, December 26, 2025
- [When It Comes to US Transportation, 2025 Had Some Wins, Too](#), Bloomberg, December 22, 2025
- [Low-cost steps we can take to stop the surge in pedestrian deaths](#), The Washington Post, December 20, 2025
- Study: [More Protected Bike Lanes = More Micromobility Users](#), Streetsblog USA, December 18, 2025
- [Find Out Exactly How Much Downtown Highways Cost Your City](#), Streetsblog USA, December 15, 2025
- [40,000 people died on California roads. State leaders looked away](#), Cal Matters, December 11, 2025
- [America's plan to protect pedestrians failed. A young woman's death reveals why](#), The Washington Post, December 4, 2025

A Decade of Vision Zero Change, In Their Voices



Lorraine Martin, CEO
National Safety Council

VISION ZERO NETWORK
years of advancing safer streets & stronger communities

“As a founding member of the Road to Zero Coalition, Vision Zero Network has been a valued partner of the National Safety Council and a strong champion for the Safe System Approach to road safety. We look forward to continuing to work with them toward our shared goal of eliminating deaths on our roadways.”

Check Out Our Resources



Thank you for your interest in Vision Zero. If you appreciate this e-newsletter and [our 10 years of advocacy work](#) for safe streets and communities, please support the nonprofit Vision Zero Network with a [contribution](#). Your support makes a difference!

And take good care,

Tiffany, Leah, Kate, Jenn & Reetu
Vision Zero Network Team



Photo credit: [LifeSafer](#), [USDOT](#), [NACTO](#)

Copyright © 2015 - 2026 | Vision Zero Network is fiscally sponsored by [Community Initiatives](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)