

# Crashes In Ann Arbor

Changing how we react to serious crashes

# Introductions

Peter Houk

Former board member of WBW(C)

Current TC member

Manufacturing Engineer

"As this brilliant book makes clear, death or injury from accidents is very much a function of wealth and power. And if we really learn that fact, we might take the steps necessary to reduce the toll of these traumas." —**BILL McKIBBEN**, author of *The Flag, the Cross, and the Station Wagon*

# THERE ARE NO ACCIDENTS

The Deadly Rise of Injury  
and Disaster — Who *Profits*  
and Who Pays the Price

**JESSIE SINGER**

An excellent book about crashes  
and other “accidents”

# Content Warning

Traffic crashes

Injuries

# Scope

Fatality and serious injury traffic crashes involving pedestrians, cyclists or scooters

From years 2022 and 2023

Reviewing police reports and visiting the locations in person

Serious=

fatality or incapacitating injury=

K/A

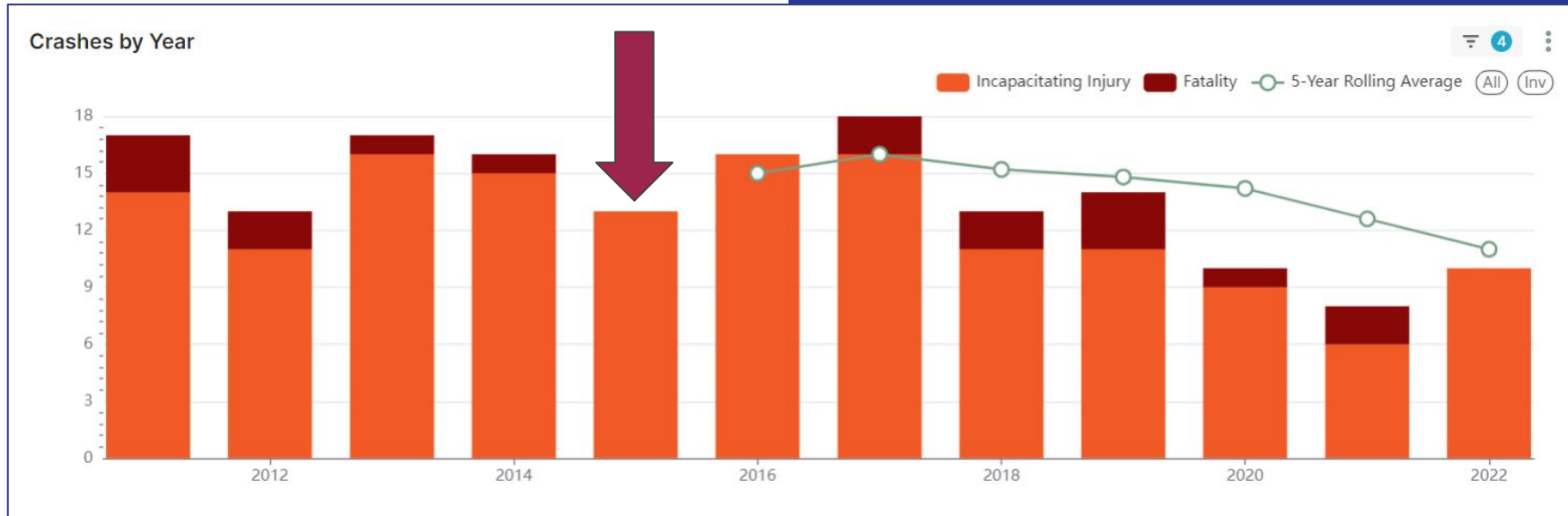
# All K/A Crashes 2011-2022

Source: Clty of Ann Arbor  
Traffic Crash Explorer at  
[www.a2gov.org](http://www.a2gov.org)



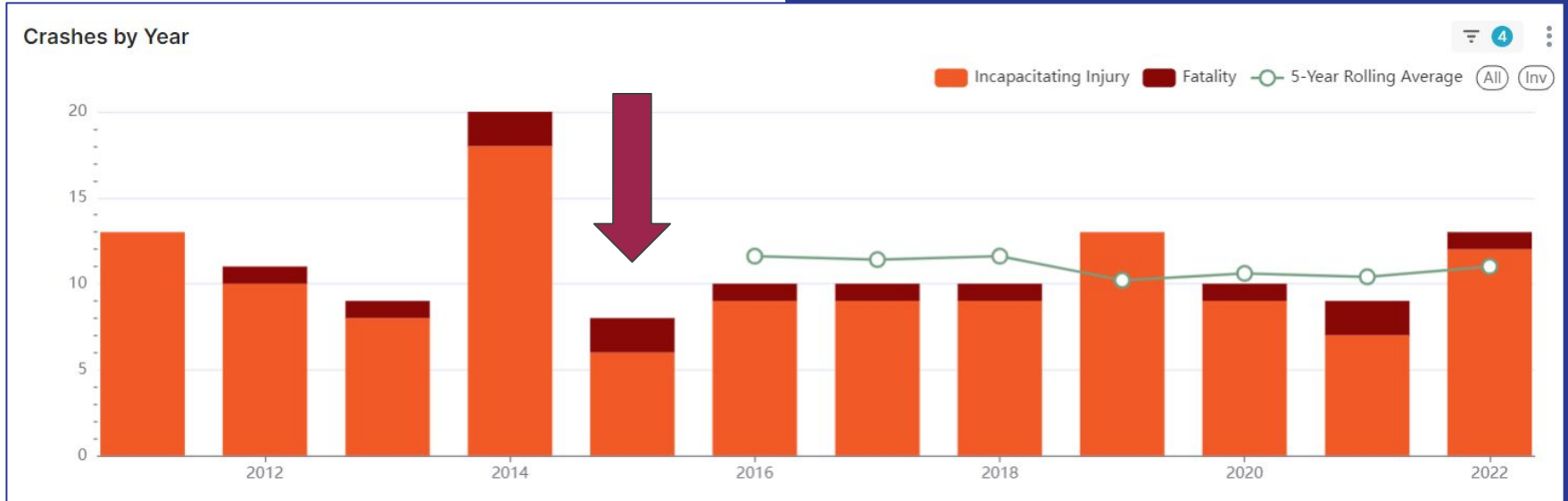
# Non-Ped/Bike K/A Crashes 2011-2022

Source: City of Ann Arbor  
Traffic Crash Explorer at  
[www.a2gov.org](http://www.a2gov.org)



# Ped/Bike K/A Crashes 2011-2022

Source: Clty of Ann Arbor  
Traffic Crash Explorer at  
[www.a2gov.org](http://www.a2gov.org)



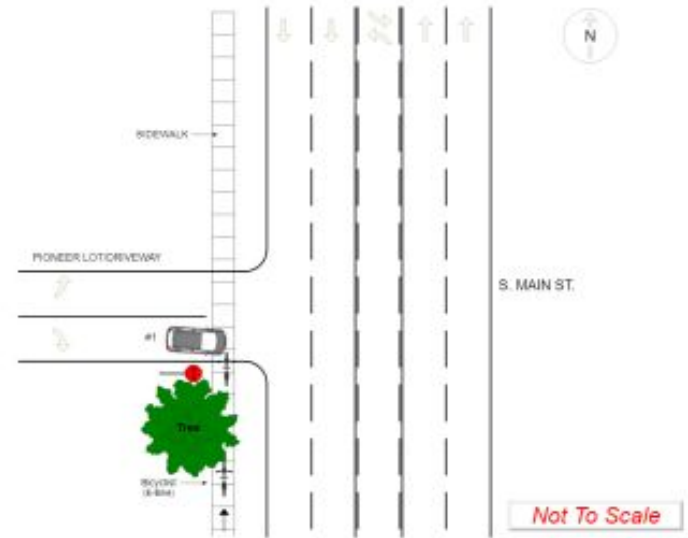


# Example: Main at Pioneer

## Narrative

**Unit #1** exiting private driveway area and entering roadway. **Unit #2** (Bicyclist) proceeding (N/B) on sidewalk, approaching driveway area. During this time, Unit #1 and Unit #2 collided in driveway sidewalk area.

## Diagram



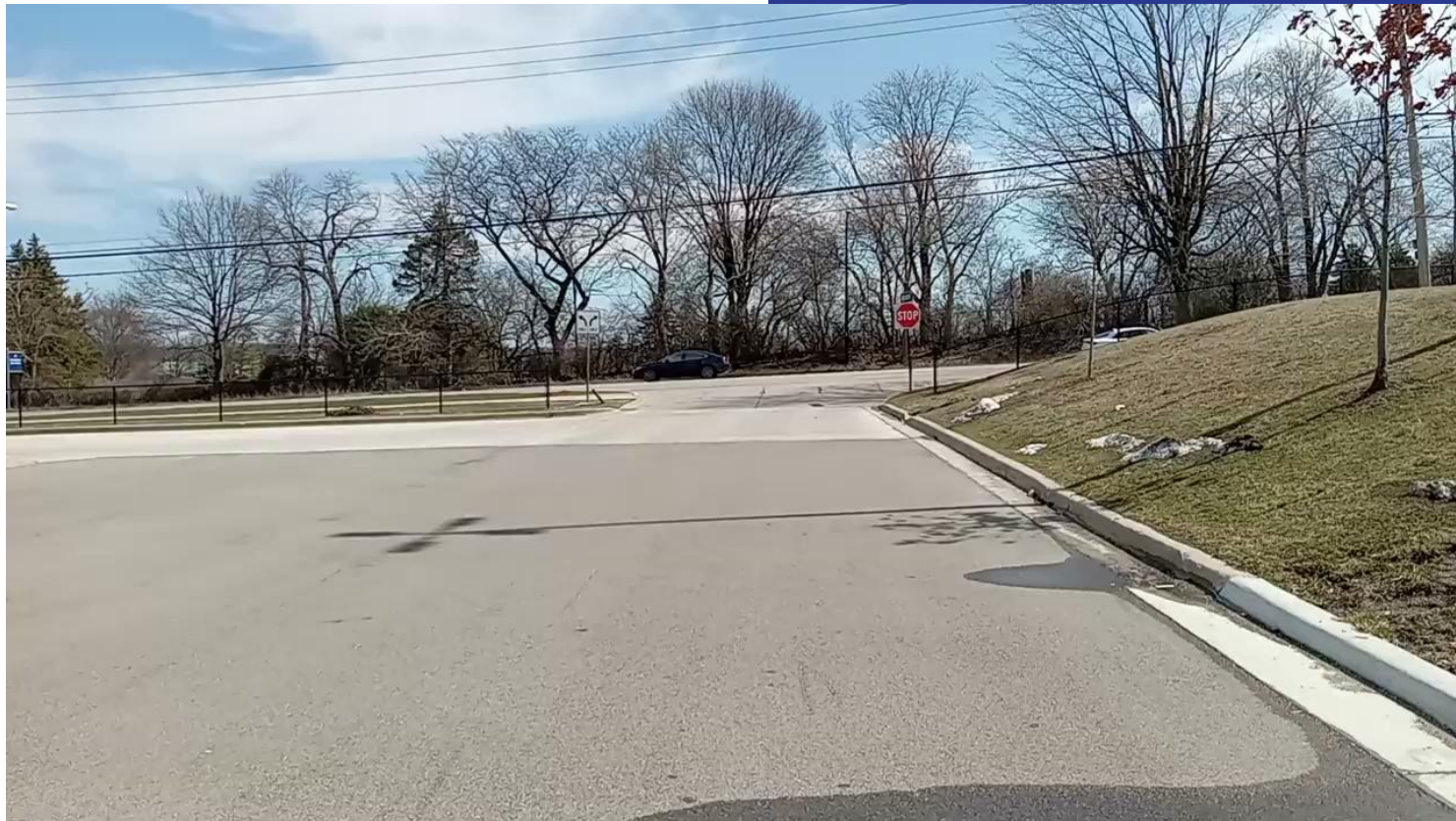
Source: UD-10 Crash Report

# Main at Pioneer



Source: Google Maps

# Main at Pioneer



# Main at Pioneer

Not a complete street

- ↳ Bike lane added
- ↳ Sidewalk planned

Poor visibility

- ↳ Remove tree
- ↳ Change grade
- ↳ Add a vertical feature (speed bump)



# Example: Stadium at Brockman

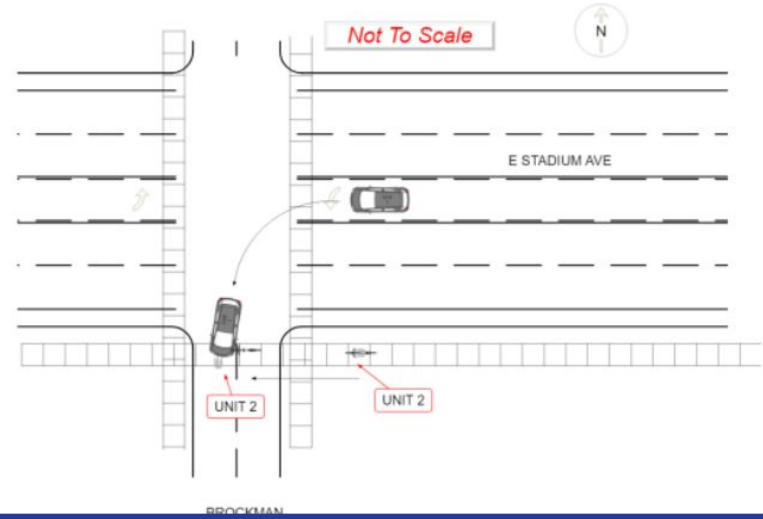


# Example: Stadium at Brockman

## Narrative

The driver of Unit 1 said he was turning left from going westbound on E Stadium Ave to southbound on Brockman Blvd. He had a flashing yellow traffic signal, there was no oncoming traffic, and he did not see anyone in the crosswalk. The east/west crosswalk did have a walk signal. As he turned south he said he saw a bicycle approaching from his left and he stopped his vehicle. The driver said he then saw the cyclist tumble to the ground in front of him. New damage near the front left wheel showed where the bike hit the side of the car. The cyclist said the car was still in motion when she struck it. The bike, a black Diamondback road bike with no lights, seemed to have scratches but no significant damage. The cyclist was transported to U of M Hospital by HVA for injuries to her face. The cyclist said she thought her face struck the pavement after going across the hood of the car. I observed minor scratches on her helmet.

## Diagram



# Example: Stadium at Brockman



# Stadium at Brockman

Pedestrian and vehicle signals  
direct users into conflict

- ↳ Cancel yellow arrow with beg button
- ↳ Eliminate the flashing yellow

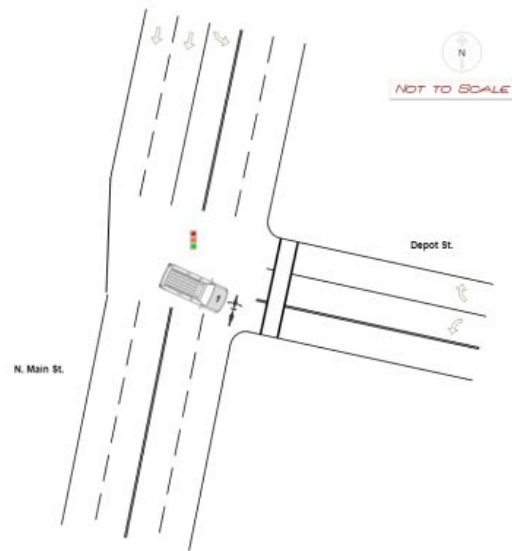


# Main at Depot

## Narrative

**UNIT ONE WAS TRAVELING SOUTH ON N. MAIN ST., NORTH OF DEPOT ST, POSITIONED IN THE LEFT TURN LANE. UNIT TWO WAS TRAVELING NORTH ON N. MAIN ST., SOUTH OF DEPOT ST., POSITIONED IN THE FAR RIGHT SIDE OF THE RIGHT LANE. UNIT ONE FAILED TO YIELD UNIT TWO WHEN TURNING LEFT ONTO DEPOT ST. FROM N. MAIN ST., CAUSING THE COLLISION.**

## Diagram



# Related: near miss at Main and Depot

## Other issue ▸ Archived

Depot St & N Main St Ann Arbor, MI, 48104, USA ▸ [Show on Map](#)



**Issue ID:** 14369652

**Submitted To:** City of Ann Arbor

**Category:** Other issue

**Viewed:** 66 times

**Neighborhood:** Ann Arbor

**Reported:** on 04/14/2023

**Service Request ID:** 435681

**REPORTER**  
Jonathan Levine



### DESCRIPTION

This entry is to report a hazardous pedestrian situation that led to a near miss this evening, and to suggest a remedy. I request that this note be routed to the proper department and not be closed until a response is provided. This evening, at about 8:30 pm, my wife and I were walking home from downtown. We were crossing Depot at Main with the pedestrian signal northbound. As we approached the center line, a southbound left-turning car was headed toward us at a rapid rate of speed. I forcefully pushed my wife out of the way of the car, thereby avoiding a crash. After this near miss, I observed the functioning of the signal at the intersection. Southbound traffic on N. Main that is turning left onto Depot St. is controlled by a left arrow. I believe the problem to be the yellow phase of that signal and suggest that it be eliminated. Cars wanting to make a left turn against the yellow focus on the northbound auto traffic to the exclusion of crossing pedestrians, and when a gap appears, travel rapidly through the intersection in order to clear it before the next car comes. If the yellow phase following the green phase were eliminated, drivers would face less incentive to speed through the intersection while focused exclusively on the northbound auto traffic. I would appreciate a response to this query from the appropriate department. Thank you.

# Related: near miss at Main and Depot

## 5 COMMENTS



**ACKNOWLEDGED** **City of Ann Arbor** (Verified Official)

Thank you for your A2 Fix It request, #435681. Your request is important to us and will be prioritized and addressed based on the overall availability of city resources. Please note: If the nature of your request is urgent, such as water emergencies, please check Report a Problem - A2 Fix It for phone numbers to contact us. A2 Fix It is for non-urgent, non-emergency issues and is monitored during weekday business hours only. Your patience is appreciated.

04/14/2023 · [Flag](#)



**John** (Registered User)

Very glad your reflexes kicked in Jonathan! In an Observer article a while back, someone called that entire stretch of N Main "the walk of death."

04/14/2023 · [Flag](#)



**sst** (Registered User)

N Main from Kingsley/Beakes to M-14 really needs a complete redesign. It is so unnecessarily dangerous!

04/17/2023 · [Flag](#)



**City of Ann Arbor** (Verified Official)

Thank you for contact the City regarding the crossing condition at Main & Depot. The MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation) has asked the City (maintaining agency) to eliminate flash yellow arrow when pedestrian push button is activated.

05/04/2023 · [Flag](#)



**CLOSED** **City of Ann Arbor** (Verified Official)

Your request has been acknowledged and/or addressed to the best of staff's ability. A more detailed description of action taken by staff, if available, is provided in the comments above. Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

05/04/2023 · [Flag](#)

# Crash Response Protocol

Identify what contributed to the crash

Fix the problems at the crash site

Fix the problem at similar locations

Update our institutional knowledge so that we don't create another one like it

- ↳ Policies

- ↳ Procedures

- ↳ Design Guidelines

Transparent and Timely

Choose Action

## Examples from other cities

### STREETSBLOG NYC

Parking Madness 2023 / Streetsblog's 'Field Guide To Micro Mobility' / Congestion Pricing / Calendar

#### PASSED: City Council Establishes DOT Crash Investigation Unit

Long-sought change supplants the NYPD's lead role in probes of road carnage.

By Eve Kessler | Mar 25, 2021 | 3 COMMENTS



The victim being treated after a horrific, scary crash on Second Avenue on Thursday.

In 2021, the NYC City Council “establishes a crash investigation and analysis unit in the Department of Transportation, which would investigate, analyze and report on all vehicle crashes involving significant injury, make recommendations for safety-improving changes to street design and infrastructure, and post reports of its crash reviews.”

<https://nyc.streetsblog.org/2021/03/25/passed-city-council-establishes-dot-crash-investigation-unit/>

## Examples from other cities

Bloomberg

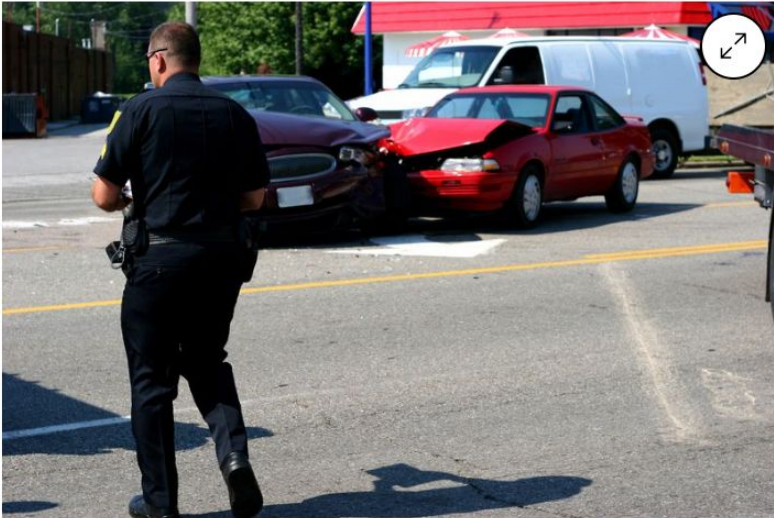
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### Indianapolis Gets Serious About Car Crash Investigations

After roadway deaths surged, the Indiana city set up a commission to review what's causing fatal crashes — and make public recommendations on how to fix it.



After police finish their investigation of fatal crashes, Indianapolis' new Fatal Crash Review Commission steps in to scrutinize the incident. *Photographer: ftwitty/E+ via Getty Images*

Indianapolis created a public-facing Fatal Crash Review Commission that reviews deadly crashes

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-01-12/this-city-s-car-crash-investigations-go-beyond-police-reports>



# From Ann Arbor's Non-Motorized plan

## Short-Term Strategies (0-3 years)

Strategy	Lead/Stakeholders	Values	6 Es	Targets
<b>Prioritize street maintenance and facility improvements in vulnerable communities.</b> Incorporate measures of equity and vulnerability, such as % of low-income households, % of minority residents, or % of zero-car households, into the selection criteria for capital projects.	<b>Systems Planning</b> Engineering Planning Public Works	Accessibility for All	Equity	» Update criteria for capital project prioritization to include equity measures within <b>by 2022</b> .
<b>Accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles (EV)</b> by expanding charging infrastructure and converting public and private fleets and buses.	<b>Public Works</b> AAATA	Healthy People & Sustainable Places	Engineering Encouragement	» Install a minimum of 100 new electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in public parking lots <b>by 2021</b> . » Launch a community EV bulk buy program. » Launch a campaign to support private fleets with transitioning to EVs.
<b>Provide Engineering staff a NACTO training program</b> on pedestrian safety, Vision Zero, and bikeway design.	<b>Engineering</b> Public Works	Safety Mobility Accessibility for All	Engineering	» N/A
<b>Establish a protocol</b> for responding to fatal and serious injury crashes and evaluating locations for safety enhancements. Use quick-build safety program to make improvements or develop long-term enhancements when necessary.	<b>Engineering</b> Public Works AAPD Office of Communications MSP MDOT	Safety	Engineering Enforcement	» Establish a fatal and serious injury crash response protocol established within <b>1 year</b> . » 100% of fatal and serious injury crashes follow protocol.

## How to help

Tell your CM that a robust crash response protocol is important to you

Go and see for yourself

Advocate for change where crashes have happened

Demand action when someone is injured or killed

- ↳ City

- ↳ MDOT

- ↳ AAPS



## Resources

City of Ann Arbor Crash Reporting  
<https://www.a2gov.org/departments/engineering/Pages/Crash-Reporting.aspx>

[Michigantrafficcrashfacts.org](http://Michigantrafficcrashfacts.org)

City Administrator's Report  
(attached to the council agenda in Legistar,  
second meeting of every month)

[Crashesinannarbor.org](http://Crashesinannarbor.org)

Summary data released in the  
following year

Crash reports are released in the  
following year

List of ped/bike crashes from the  
previous month (no reports)

Details on ped/bike crashes when  
the reports are available via FOIA

[www.CrashesInAnnArbor.org](http://www.CrashesInAnnArbor.org)

Pictures from in-person visits at  
the site

Police reports

Links to media reports

## Crashes In Ann Arbor

About the Content **Crash List** Resources

### Home



### Overview

Crashes In Ann Arbor (CIAA) has been created to support Ann Arbor's goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries from traffic crashes. To that end, CIAA provides

- Timely information about fatality and serious injury crashes that involve pedestrians or cyclists
- Discussion of how infrastructure may have contributed to the crash
- Exploration of where else a similar hazard may exist within the city

Crashes In Ann Arbor collects information from local media outlets, social media posts of AAFD and AAPD, reports from city staff, and police case reports.

### Scope

CIAA will cover crashes within the city of Ann Arbor that result in a fatality or serious injury of a pedestrian or cyclist.

## Crashes In Ann Arbor

[About the Content](#) [Crash List](#) [Resources](#)



### Preliminary 2023 Crash List

[Leave a Comment](#)

The following is a list of all fatal and serious injury crashes involving pedestrians, cyclists, or scooters in Ann Arbor in 2023. This data is preliminary and harvested from media reports, the City Administrator's report to City Council, and FOIA requests of the AAPD. Crashes that aren't covered by those sources may not show up ...

[Read More »](#)

## Preliminary 2023 Crash List

[Leave a Comment](#) / [By Todd Marsee](#) / November 14, 2023

The following is a list of all fatal and serious injury crashes involving pedestrians, cyclists, or scooters in Ann Arbor in 2023.

This data is preliminary and harvested from media reports, the City Administrator's report to City Council, and FOIA requests of the AAPD. Crashes that aren't covered by those sources may not show up in this list until the complete data set is released at [Michigantrafficcrashfacts.org](https://michigantrafficcrashfacts.org) in 2024.

Date	Description	Case number
10/8/2023	Jackson and Burwood Bicycle Crash	230045087
9/7/2023	<a href="#">Ann Street and Zina Pitcher Pedestrian Crash</a>	230039418
8/28/23	<a href="#">Green Rd. and Glazier Pedestrian Crash</a>	230037437
7/7/2023	<a href="#">Hill and State Street Scooter Crash</a>	
6/5/2023	<a href="#">Stadium and 7th Bicycle Crash</a>	230023651
6/4/2023	<a href="#">Huron and 3rd Pedestrian Crash</a>	230023572
6/2/2023	South University and East University Scooter Crash	230023349
5/27/2023	<a href="#">Hill Street and E. University Bicycle Crash</a>	230022494
3/16/2023	<a href="#">Nixon Rd. and Plymouth Rd. Pedestrian Crash</a>	230011303
3/6/2023	<a href="#">Catherine and Ingalls Pedestrian Crash</a>	230010007
3/3/2023	<a href="#">Park View Place and W. Huron Pedestrian Crash</a>	230009425
1/24/2023	<a href="#">Main and Kingsley Pedestrian Crash</a>	230003295
1/12/2023	<a href="#">Stadium and Liberty Pedestrian Crash</a>	230001569
1/6/2023	<a href="#">Jackson Rd. and Burwood Pedestrian Crash</a>	230000736

## Stadium and 7th Bicycle Crash

[Leave a Comment](#) / [By Todd Marsee](#) / [June 5, 2023](#)

### Information About The Crash

The [July 17, 2023 Administrator's Report](#) included the details of a crash at W Stadium and S 7th. The report says the cyclist was going straight, and the vehicle was turning right, which sounds like a typical right hook crash where the driver turns in front of a cyclist going straight.

The image below shows the intersection, as the cyclist and driver would have seen it, approaching from the west.



The intersection of W Stadium and S 7th.

The [JD-10 crash report](#) includes information on the kind of vehicle involved, an Ann Arbor Public Schools bus. The excerpt below shows the right hook, and describes the cyclist hitting the rear portion of the bus.

Narrative	Diagram
<p>UNIT 1 WAS EAST ON STADIUM AVE AT 7TH AVE. UNIT 1 TURNED RIGHT ONTO 7TH. AS THE BUS WAS COMPLETING ITS TURN A BICYCLIST STRUCK THE REAR OF THE BUS.</p> <p>BICYCLIST STATES WAS GOING EAST ON STADIUM APPROACHING THE INTERSECTION OF 7TH. THE BICYCLIST STATED THAT HE THOUGHT THE BUS WAS GOING STRAIGHT AND CONTINUED INTO THE INTERSECTION AND STRUCK THE BUS THAT WAS TURNING.</p> <p>WITNESS STATES THAT SHE SAW THE BUS TURN, AS THE BUS WAS COMPLETING ITS TURN A BICYCLIST STRUCK THE BACK OF THE BUS.</p> <p>VIDEO FROM INSIDE THE BUS SHOWS THE BUS PASS THE BICYCLIST, THE BUS TURNS LEFT WHEN THE BICYCLIST WAS BEHIND THE BUS, THE BICYCLIST STRUCK THE SIDE OF THE BUS AS THE BUS WAS TURNING.</p>	

# Crashes In Ann Arbor

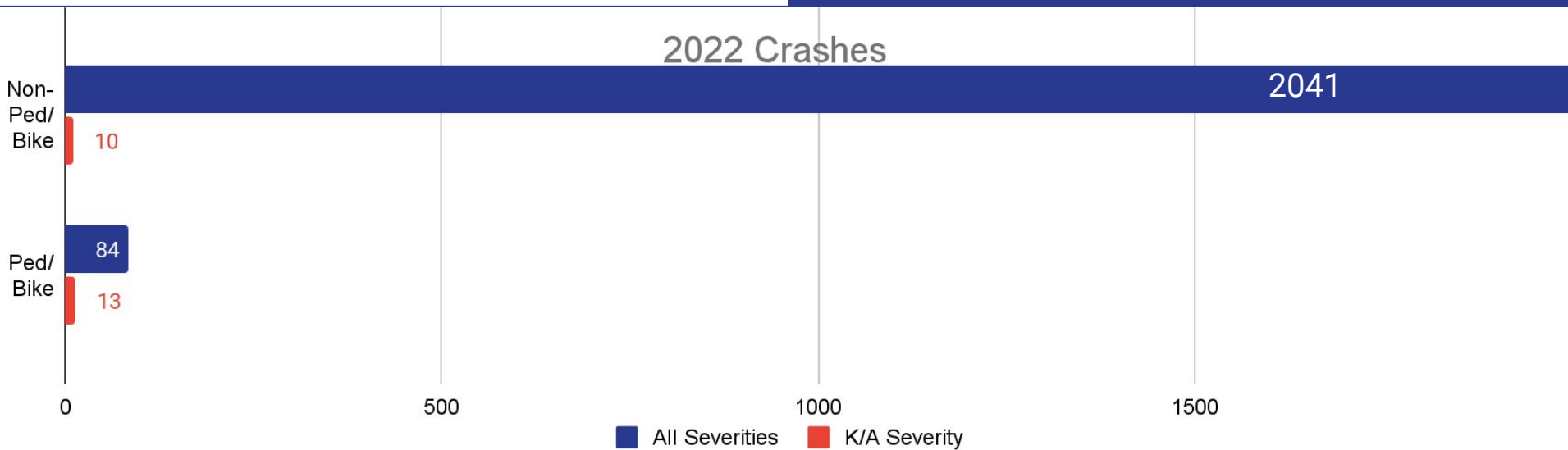
Changing how we react to serious crashes

LAST SLIDE



# 2022 Crashes

Source: Clty of Ann Arbor  
Traffic Crash Explorer at  
[www.a2gov.org](http://www.a2gov.org)



# Ped/Bike K/A Crashes in 2022

Source: K-A crash summary from  
11/15/2023 Transportation  
Commission meeting

Type of Crash	
Vehicle turning left at an intersection	5
Ped crossing	2
Undetermined	2
Ped crossing at an intersection	1
Cyclist turning at an intersection	1
Vehicle turning out of a driveway	1
Vehicle turning right on red	1
Vehicle out of control hits pedestrian	1