

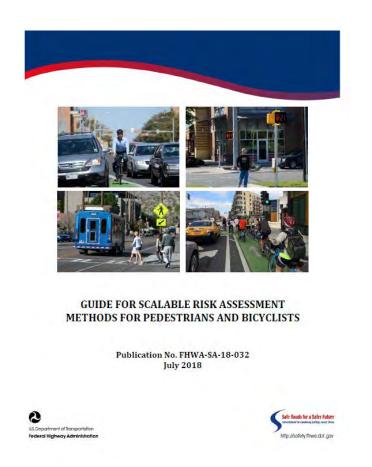


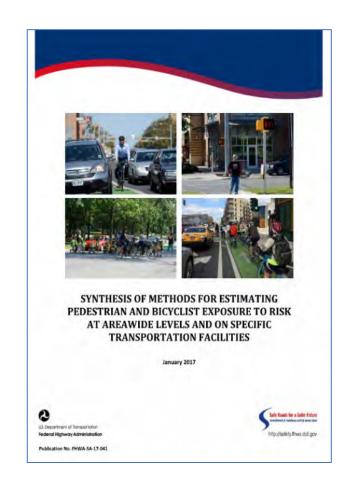
### Roadmap

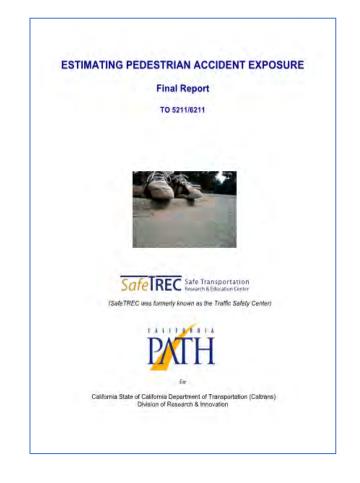
- Methods for estimating pedestrian exposure to crash risk
  - Potential applications of exposure data
- 3 approaches to identifying locations for pedestrian safety improvements
- Examples of pedestrian safety countermeasures
  - Methods for selecting countermeasures to address specific issues
- The association between selected countermeasures and pedestrians' perceived QOS using crossings



### **Exposure Estimation Resources**







## Defining "Exposure"

"A measure of the number of potential opportunities for a crash to occur."



GUIDE FOR SCALABLE RISK ASSESSMENT METHODS FOR PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS

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## Categories of Exposure Measures

- Population-based—people or people who regularly walk in an area
- Trip-based—# of walking trips made in an area
- Volume-based—pedestrian or motorized traffic volume along a facility or crossing at an intersection
- Distance-based—total length traveled by pedestrians, e.g., along a facility or across a crossing
- Time-based—total time spent by persons while walking, e.g., person hours of travel along a facility or time to walk across a crossing

Table 3-1. Broad Categories of Exposure Definitions

	Basis for Defining Exposure								
	Population	Trips	Volumes	Distance	Time				
Appropriate Uses	<ul> <li>Areawide analysis, when detailed information about pedestrian activity is infeasible to collect</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Assessing pedestrian and bicyclist behavior in large areas; walking trip common characteristics</li> <li>Compare exposure at the areawide level, e.g., for a specific jurisdiction</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estimating pedestrian volume and risk at a specific location</li> <li>Compare exposure at the micro level, i.e., for specific transportation facilities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estimating exposure at micro and macro level</li> <li>Estimating whether pedestrian risk increases with distance traveled</li> <li>Assessing how crossing distance affects risk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estimating exposure at micro and macro level</li> <li>Estimating whether pedestrian risk increases linearly with walking time</li> <li>Comparing risk between travel modes</li> <li>Comparing risk between different length crossings and individuals with different walking speeds</li> </ul>				
Data Sources	<ul> <li>American Community Survey (ACS): population by segment</li> <li>Travel demand surveys showing propensity to make walking trips on a regular basis</li> </ul>	Travel surveys	Manual or automated counts	<ul> <li>Travel surveys</li> <li>Manual or automated counts of pedestrians, combined with the length of the specific area or corridor of interest</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Travel surveys</li> <li>Manual or automated counts of pedestrians and the measurement of the time traveled</li> </ul>				
Advantages	<ul> <li>Easy to obtain and low-cost; data available for most geographic regions</li> <li>Can adjust for differences in the underlying resident population of an area</li> <li>Vehicular volume likely to be related to area population</li> <li>Only way to represent exposure if no direct measurements are available</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Appropriate for use in large areas</li> <li>Best metric to assess relationship of walking with trip purpose</li> <li>Trips can be assessed as a function of person, household, and location attributes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Relatively simple to collect as opposed to measures such as distance or time</li> <li>Data collection can be costly if done for longer durations</li> <li>Automated methods for counting are improving over time</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>More information than manual or automated pedestrian counts alone</li> <li>Can be used to measure exposure at micro and macro level</li> <li>Common measure of vehicle exposure</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>More information than manual or automated counts alone</li> <li>Can be used to measure exposure at micro and macro level</li> <li>Accounts for the traveler speed and different paths taken by the traveler to reach destination</li> <li>Allows for accurate comparison between travel modes</li> </ul>				
Dis- advantages	<ul> <li>Does not accurately represent levels of pedestrian activity</li> <li>Does not account for distance or time that pedestrians are exposed to traffic</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Does not accurately represent levels of pedestrian activity</li> <li>Does not provide enough detail needed to assess risk at specific locations</li> <li>Trip-based measures are not meaningful for facility-specific geographic scales</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Does not differentiate by walking speed, age, or other factors that may influence individual risk</li> <li>Does not account for time or distance walked</li> <li>Does not account for exposure over a macro level, i.e., city, county</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Relatively difficult to collect data</li> <li>Assumes risk is equal over distance traveled</li> <li>Does not account for traveler speed or different paths taken by the traveler</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Relatively difficult to collect data</li> <li>Assumes risk is equal over entire time travelling</li> <li>Time spent is overestimated</li> <li>Trips are underreported, i.e., short trips are usually forgotten by people</li> </ul>				
Common Measures	<ul> <li>Number of people in an area, potentially segmented by age, gender, race, socio-economic status, etc.; number of people in an area who walk regularly</li> </ul>	Number of trips, possibly by purpose	<ul> <li>Number of pedestrians per time period; number of people crossing; average daily, weekly, or annual pedestrian volume; product of pedestrian and vehicle volumes (interactions)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Total or average miles traveled per pedestrian, total or average miles crossed per pedestrian</li> </ul>	Total or average amount of time spent traveling, total or average time taken by pedestrian crossing an intersection				

Sources: Adapted from Estimating Pedestrian Accident Exposure (3) and Guide for Scalable Risk Assessment Methods for Pedestrians and Bicycles (2).

# A Few Purposes of Estimating Exposure

- Develop pedestrian crash rates for a facility or geographic area
- Assess pedestrian safety trends over time and the effectiveness of safety countermeasures
- Assess crash rates based on metrics such as time of day, land use density, socioeconomic characteristics, gender, or facility type
- Conduct cost—benefit analyses of safety improvements
- Develop crash modification factors (CMFs) for safety countermeasures
- Develop safety performance functions (SPFs) for different vehiclepedestrian crash and location types

Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety Risk Assessment Tool = About MDOT Toward Zero Deaths Filters Search for a county or a MDOT region: Yes Show PAZ? 0 Pedestrian Risk Show all PAZs for Pedestrian Risk. 0 100 Yes-Show road segments? 0 Select a road variable: Pedestrian Exposure Bicycle Exposure No-Show crash locations? No Show points of interest? Export Data () Select a layer Pedestrian Risk® Pedestrian Exposure 0.1 to 0.2 0 to 14 0.2 to 1 14 to 52 1 to 5 - 52 to 87 5 to 12 - 87 to 490 12 to 50 - 490 to 1100

Figure 3-2. Example of Michigan DOT's Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety Risk Assessment Tool

Source: MDOT Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety Risk Assessment Tool (6).

### **Exposure Scale and Coverage**

	Street crossing (intersection or mid-block)
Facility-specific	Example: The number of pedestrians crossing an intersection and the number of vehicles conflicting with pedestrians can be used to estimate exposure for each crossing movement.
	Road segment (between intersections)
	Example: The number of pedestrians crossing a mid-block location, where exposure is estimated based on crossing distance.
	Network (traffic analysis zone, census tract, census block group)
Areawide	Example: The number of pedestrian crashes in a census tract can be compared to the total population of the census tract.
	Regional (city, county, metropolitan area, or state)
	Example: The number of walking commuters or the number of pedestrian fatality rates per million population in a state.

### **Typical Data Needs**

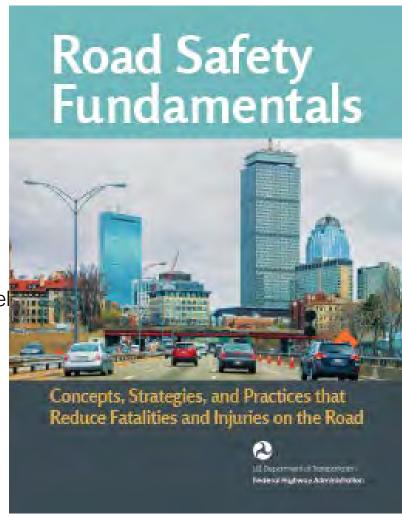
#### Critical

- Vehicle-pedestrian crashes, including location, time, and severity
- Traffic volumes
- Some measure of pedestrian exposure to crash risk Road characteristics

Supplemental

- Traffic citation data (e.g., speeding, drivers failing to yield to crossing pedestrians)
  Vehicle—pedestrian conflicts and avoidance maneuvers
  Sight distance at intersections and driveways
  Injury surveillance and emergency medical systems data on pedestrian injury
  Law enforcement operations and observations data
  Public survey on perceptions of pedestrian safety
  Direct field observation data, including from pedestrian safety assessments or road safety audits
- Sociodemographic data (US Census), e.g., population and employment densities Travel behavior data (travel diaries and surveys including the National Household Travel Survey)
- Transit data (stop locations, boardings/alightings, routes) Infrastructure data

- Sidewalk and path locations Sidewalk physical and effective (i.e., usable) widths Sidewalk conditions
- Crosswalk dimensions
- Traffic signal timing for pedestrians
  Output from Walk Score or transportation demand models



# **Evaluating Countermeasure Impacts—Performance Measures**

- Crash frequency—# of crashes occurring per year or other unit of time
- Crash rates—# of crashes normalized by a population or metric of exposure
  - E.g., # crashes per 100,000 people living in a city, per miles traveled or licensed drivers
  - Can be measured by the types of injuries sustained to the people involved in the crash (e.g., by injury severity)

# **Exposure Estimation Methodologies**

#### **Sketch Planning – Areawide Analysis**

Sketch planning includes methods to estimate exposure that are simple to apply and provide an alternative to complex models. They may be implemented in a spreadsheet or geographic information system and incorporate travel survey data. The methods primarily depend on the available data (e.g., nationally collected survey data) and require little effort in terms of data collection and no specialized expertise. They typically use simple computations, rules of thumb, and population estimates.

References and Resources (to name a few): (7-14)

#### UNITS OF EXPOSURE



Population



Distance traveled



Number of commuters who walk Number of persons who regularly make walking trips



Time spent traveling

DATA SOURCES

National Household Travel Survey (NHTS)

American Community Survey (ACS)

Regional travel surveys

GEOGRAPHIC SCALE

City, county, metropolitan area, state, country

**ADVANTAGES** 

- Utilizes data that are available
- Includes simple computations and estimations
- · Creates simple and practical solutions
- Requires limited resources
- Does not require specialized expertise

**DISADVANTAGES** 

- Relatively low accuracy
- Challenging to validate
- Mostly aggregated estimates

**EXAMPLES** 

The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO, 7) used ACS data to assess the risk of injury or death to cyclists. The analysis was also conducted at a city level for a variety of locations in the United States.

A study used regional household travel survey and crash data to estimate exposure based on the number of trips, distance traveled, and travel time. Injury rates were disaggregated based on location and demographic characteristics, e.g., density, gender and age (12).

#### Network Analysis Model – Specific Transportation Facilities

Network analysis models are much more complex than sketch planning models and are based on a pedestrian network representation. They typically use a four-step modeling approach for trip generation and distribution. Space Syntax is one of the most well-known examples of network analysis models and was first developed in the mid-1980s in London. These models are used to estimate volumes for specific facility types (e.g., street segments or intersections) over an entire area of interest, such as a neighborhood or city. Beginning with base data collection and ending with forecasting future pedestrian volumes based on network changes, there are seven steps to create a Space Syntax predictive model.

Reference and Resource: (15)

#### UNITS OF EXPOSURE



Average Annual Pedestrian Volume

DATA SOURCES

Manual counts

Census data

GEOGRAPHIC SCALE

ADVANTAGES

Good detail

Point

Reasonable accuracy

Limited data requirements

Useful for estimating pedestrian flows along corridors

Applied widely in Europe and Asia

Appropriate to urban volume analysis

**DISADVANTAGES** 

· Relatively unused in the United States

Model must be calibrated with pedestrian counts

Requires existing GIS data

Must be submitted to sensitive test

 Process is not intuitive (does not follow traditional trip generation and distribution steps)

**EXAMPLE** 

A study applied the Space Syntax Model to estimate pedestrian volumes at intersections in Oakland, California. The output volumes were then used in a safety analysis for the city's first pedestrian master plan (15).

#### **Direct Demand Model – Specific Transportation Facilities**

Direct demand models are among the most widely used tools for pedestrian volume estimation and modeling. These models are also used as primary tools to measure pedestrian exposure for safety analysis. These models are very similar to aggregate demand models, although the analysis is performed at a larger level in the aggregate models.

References and Resources: (16-19)

#### UNITS OF EXPOSURE



Weekly Crossing Pedestrian Volume, Million Pedestrians per Unit of Time, Pedestrian Volumes



100 Million Miles Traveled

DATA SOURCES

Manual counts

Automated counts

Population and land use data

Crossing distances

Vehicle average daily traffic

**GEOGRAPHIC SCALE** 

Point, segment

**ADVANTAGES** 

- Highly accurate
- Detailed
- Utilizes available data
- Limited sample size required

**DISADVANTAGES** 

- Does not capture behavioral structure
- Not easily transferable

**EXAMPLES** 

A study developed a Poisson log-linear regression model to estimate pedestrian counts at signalized intersections. The independent variables in the model included land use variables and the day characteristics. Using this model, the total number of pedestrian miles traveled were estimated, representing exposure (18).

A study estimated a generalized linear regression model using number of lanes, area type, and sidewalk system as the independent variables. The dependent variable was the weekly pedestrian crossing volume, representing pedestrian exposure in safety analysis (19).

#### Discrete Choice Model – Specific Transportation Facilities

Discrete choice models utilize information about crossings and crossing behavior to model pedestrian crossing behavior. Crash risk exposure can be estimated for any location along a pedestrian trip where a pedestrian interacts with a vehicle (i.e., a location where a pedestrian is likely to cross). Thus, these discrete choice models are used to develop pedestrian behavior choice models for each location along an entire trip.

References and Resources: (20, 21)

#### UNITS OF EXPOSURE



Vehicle volume encountered while crossing, Product of vehicle volume and pedestrian volume (interactions)

DATA SOURCES Manual counts
Manual field surveys

GEOGRAPHIC SCALE Segment

ADVANTAGES Detailed
Highly accurate

Relatively few studies

Significant initial data requirements

#### **EXAMPLES**

A study developed a nested logit model for developing a hierarchical choice structure between junctions and midblock crossings. The model included origins, destinations, traffic characteristics, and pedestrian facilities as independent variables (20).

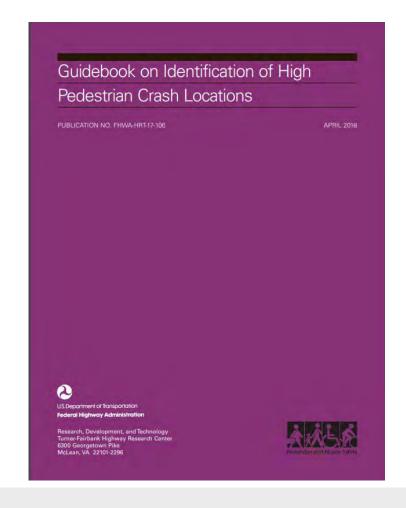
## Treatment Location Identification

# Approaches to Identify and Prioritize Locations for Safety Treatments

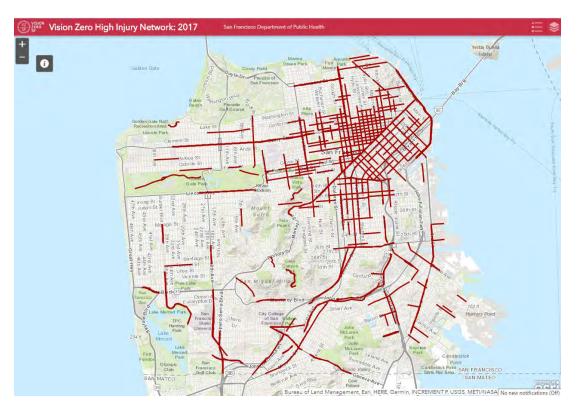
- Crash-based (reactive)—focusing on locations with high numbers or rates of crashes
- Systemic (proactive)—focusing on locations with similar characteristics with the greatest potential to prevent future crashes
- Hybrid—combining elements of both the crash-based and systemic approaches

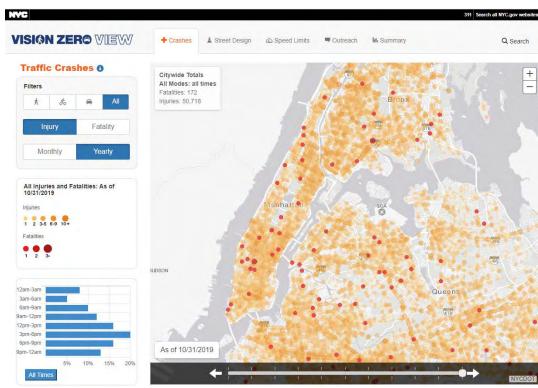
### Crash-Based Approach

- Select Analysis Scale
- Select Performance Measures
- Select Screening Method
- Assign Crashes to Network Elements
- Prioritize Sites to Receive Treatment



# **Example Crash-Based Approaches**





### Systemic Approach

- Step 1: Define the Study Scope
- Step 2: Compile Data
- Step 3: Determine Risk Factors
- Step 4: Identify Treatment Sites
- Step 5: Select Potential Countermeasures
- Step 6: Refine and Implement Treatment Plan
- Step 7: Evaluate Program and Project Impacts



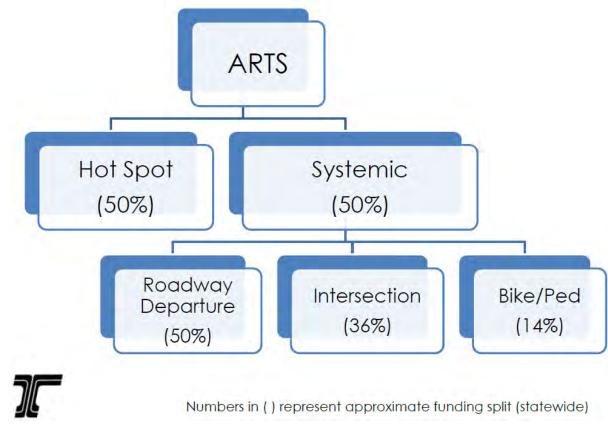
Figure 2. A systemic approach addresses sites with similar risk factors, regardless of crash history. The approach falls along a spectrum of other approaches to safety that are more or less proactive in treating sites based on risk or prior crash history.

Source: NCHRP Research Report 893: Systemic Pedestrian Safety Analysis

### **Hybrid Approach**

Integrates the strengths of both the crash-based and systemic approaches to arrive at a prioritized list of treatment locations based upon:

- Historical crash patterns
- Clusters of risk factors



Oregon Department of Transportation's "All Roads Transportation Safety (ARTS) Program"

Source: oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/TRAFFIC-ROADWAY/Pages/ARTS.aspx

# Pedestrian Safety Countermeasure Selection

# Categories of Pedestrian Safety Countermeasures

- Along the roadway
- At crossing locations
- Transit access
- Roadway design
- Intersection design
- Traffic calming
- Traffic management
- Signs and signals



### Selecting Countermeasures

For example, based upon:

- Posted speed limit and vehicle **AADT**
- Roadway configuration

Source: FWHA *Guide for Improving Pedestrian* Safety at Uncontrolled Crossing Locations

	Posted Speed Limit and AADT																										
Roadway Configuration		Vehicle AADT <9,000								Vehicle AADT 9,000-15,000								Vehicle AADT >15,000									
		≤30 mph		35 mph		≥40 mph			≤30 mph			35 mph			≥40 mph			≤30 mph			35 mph			≥40 mph			
2 lanes (1 lane in each direction)	4	5	6	7	5	6 9	1	5	6 0	4	5	6	7	5	6 9	1	5	6 0	0 4 7	5	6 9	1	5	6 9	1	5	60
3 lanes with raised median (1 lane in each direction)	4	5	3	7	5	9	0	5	0	0 4 7	5	3 9	0	5	0	0	5	0	777	5	9	0	5	0	0	5	0
3 lanes w/o raised median (1 lane in each direction with a two-way left-turn lane)	0 4 7	2 5	3 6 9	7	5	6 9	0	5	6 6	0 4 7	5	3 6 9	0	5	6 6	0	5	6 0	1 4 7	5	6 9	0	5	6 6	① 5	6	0
4+ lanes with raised median (2 or more lanes in each direction)	7	5 8	9	7	5 8	9	0	5 8	0	0	5 8	9	0	5 8	0	0	5 8	0	0	5	0	0	5 8	0	0	5 8	0
4+ lanes w/o raised median (2 or more lanes in each direction)	7	5 8	6 9	0 7	5 8	0 0 9	0	5 8	000	0 7	5 8	0 0 9	-	5 8	000	0	5 8	0 0		5	000	0	5 8	0 0	0		000
# Signifies that the counterme treatment at a marked unco	asur ntrol	led e s	cro	ssin Id a	g lo lwa	ys b	e e			1 2 3	an Ra	d cr	valk rossi d cre	ap ing	proc wal	ich, ning	ad g si	gns	ate	nigl	httin	king ne li	ght	ing		ls,	1

- Signifies that crosswalk visibility enhancements should always occur in conjunction with other identifie

The absence of a number signifies that the countermeasure is generally not an appropriate treatment, but exceptions may be considered following engineering judgment

- and yield (stop) line
- 4 In-Street Pedestrian Crossing sign
- 5 Curb extension
- 6 Pedestrian refuge island
- 7 Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacon (RRFB)\*\*
- 9 Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB)\*\*

### **Selecting Countermeasures**

For example, based upon:

 CMFs from the literature or Crash Modification Factors Clearinghouse cmfclearinghouse.org



# Pedestrian Safety Countermeasure Examples

### **High-Visibility Crosswalk\***

\*countermeasure included in NCHRP 17-87 study

Countermeasure

CMFs or Other Estimated Pedestrian Safety Benefits

Example

High-visibility crosswalk—

vertically arranged street markings designed to improve the visibility of the crosswalk compared to traverse parallel lines. 0.52 in urban locations (30)

0.63 for high visibility yellow/green markings in urban school zones (31)

In both studies, the high-visibility markings replaced standard parallel markings.



Source: Cambridge, MA; pedbikeimages.org

#### Raised Crosswalk



## Median Crossing (Refuge) Island \*countermeasure included in NCHRP 17-87 study

CMFs or Other **Estimated** Example Countermeasure Pedestrian Safety Benefits Median crossing (refuge) island-a protected space placed in the center of the street to 0.68-0.71 (install facilitate pedestrian raised median) crossings by (33 - 35)allowing pedestrians to cross only one direction of traffic at a time. Source: Beverly Hills, CA; pedbikeimages.org

### **R1-6 Signs Gateway Treatment**

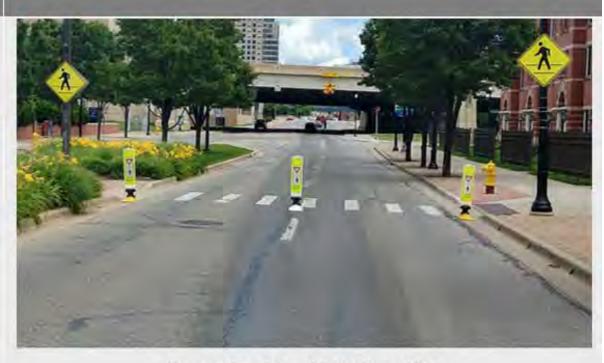
CMFs or Other
Estimated
Pedestrian
Safety Benefits

In-roadway YIELD
TO PEDESTRIAN sign
(R1-6) installed as
a gateway
treatment—R1-6
signs placed at a
crosswalk along the
edge of the road
and on all lane
lines, thus requiring
drivers to slow
down to drive
between two signs.

No CMFs yet available. Motorist yielding has been highest with a gateway configuration (35).

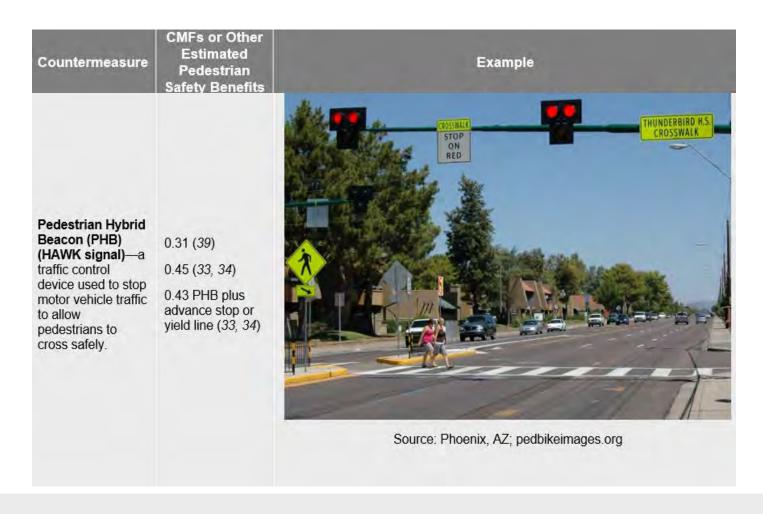
Speed reductions in some applications (37, 38).

Example



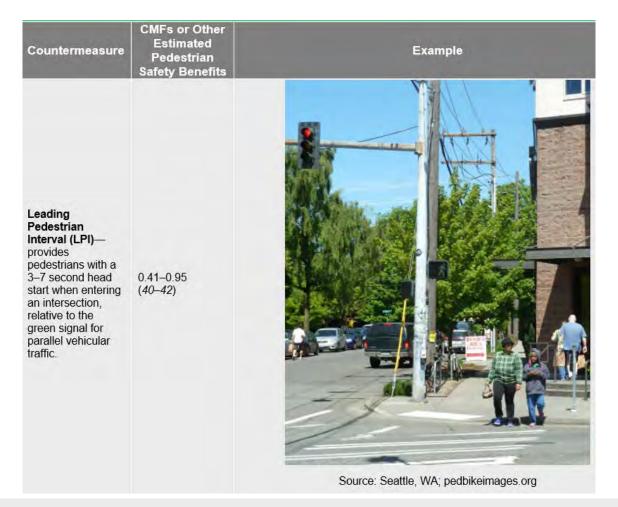
Source: Ann Arbor, MI; Michigan DOT

### Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB)



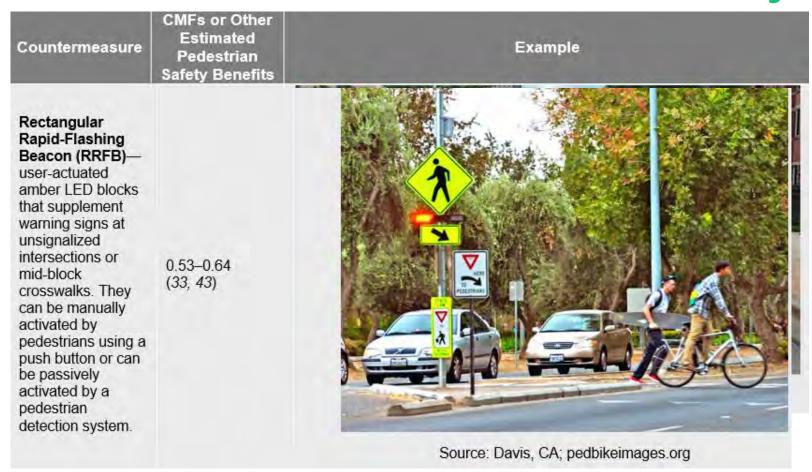
## Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI)

\*countermeasure included in NCHRP 17-87 study

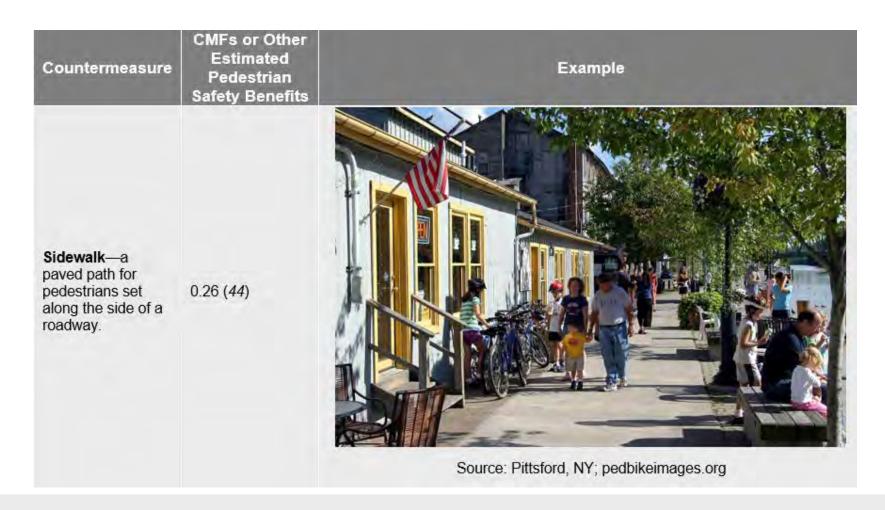


## Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacon (RRFB)

\*countermeasure included in NCHRP 17-87 study



#### **Sidewalk**



# Matching Countermeasures to Risk Factors

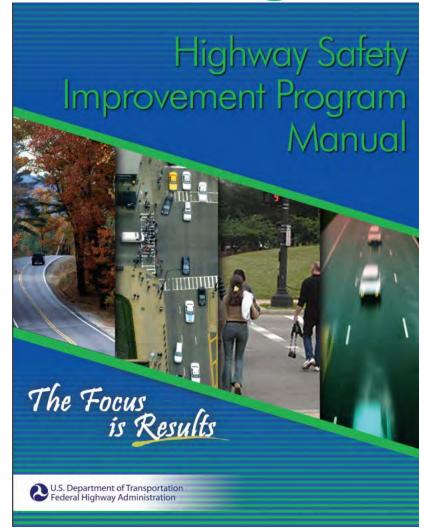
Pedestrian safety risk is a composite of:

- Crash-contributing factors—elements of the environment, the persons involved in a crash, road user behaviors, etc. that may have played a contributing role in the crash
- Crash types—the sequence of road user movements that immediately lead up to the crash

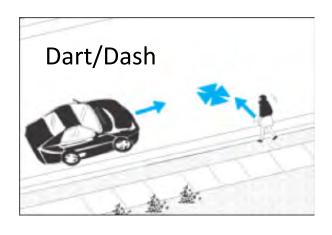
Pedestrian Crash-Contributing

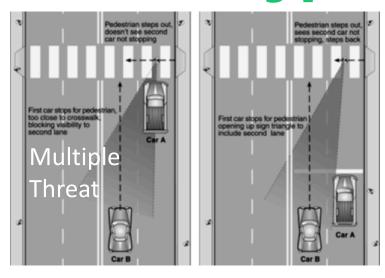
**Factors** 

- Vehicle speed
- Driver and pedestrian compliance with regulations and traffic devices
- Pedestrian crossing behaviors
- Built environment or land use area type
- Intersection presence and types of traffic control devices
- Pedestrian crossing distance
- Time of day/day of week/seasonal factors
- Alcohol impairment on the part of pedestrians or drivers
- Demographics
- Special populations, such as school-aged children, older adults, and persons with disabilities
- Presence of transit stops

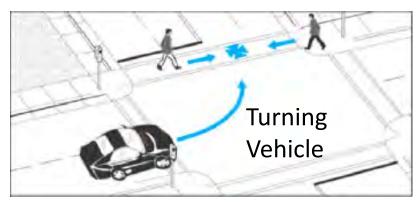


### **Pedestrian Crash Types**

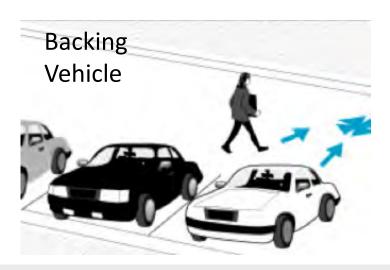








Source: pedbikesafe.org



## **Assessing Countermeasure Effectiveness**

- Crash reduction
- Motorist yielding
- Pedestrian satisfaction

#### **Crash Reduction**

- Crash-modification factors (CMFs)—provide an estimate of a countermeasure's ability to reduce certain types and severities of crashes following installation
- Safety performance functions (SPFs)—estimate the average number of crashes at a particular location based on certain characteristics present at the location (e.g., traffic volume, traffic speed)

### **Motorist Yielding**

Table 3-2. Motorist Yielding Rates Associated with Different Crossing Treatments

	Sample Size	Motorist Yield	ling Rate (%)
Crossing Treatment	(sites)	Average	Range
No treatment (unmarked)	37	24	0–100
Crosswalk markings only (any type)	55	34	0–95
Crosswalk markings, plus:			
Pedestal-mounted flashing beacon	2	35	12–57
Overhead sign	6	37	0-52
Overhead flashing beacon (push-button activation)	14	51	13–91
Overhead flashing beacon (passive activation)	29	73	61–76
In-roadway warning lights	11	58	53–65
Median refuge island	21	60	0-100
Pedestrian crossing flags	6	74	72–80
In-street pedestrian crossing signs	17	74	35–88
Rectangular rapid-flashing beacon (RFFB)	42	79	45-100
School crossing guard	1	86	_
School crossing guard and RFFB	1	92	_
Pedestrian hybrid beacon (HAWK)	69	88	83-100
Mid-block crossing signals, half signals	6	98	96–100

Source: NCHRP Project 17-87 final report (48), compiling data from references (48-65).

## Pedestrian Satisfaction— Uncontrolled Crossings

Marginal mean probability of satisfaction by countermeasure type (most to least):

- Median islands with RFFBs—0.739
- Median islands—0.667
- Marked crosswalks—0.497
- Unmarked crosswalks—0.294

N = 418. Controls: AADT, driver yielding, pedestrian slowed during crossing

## Pedestrian Satisfaction— Signalized Crossings

Marginal mean probability of satisfaction by countermeasure type at signalized intersections:

- **LPI**—0.678
- Non-LPI—0.535

N = 418. Controls: AADT, driver yielding, pedestrian slowed during crossing

#### Other Research on Treatments

- Road diet (reducing number of vehicle through lanes): moderately improves satisfaction (Elias, 2011; Choi, Sangyoup, Dongchan, Dongmin, & Sungkyu, 2016).
- Street lighting: moderately improves satisfaction (Bivina & Parida, 2019)
- Sidewalk with buffer from traffic: strongly improves satisfaction (Choi, Sangyoup, Dongchan, Dongmin, & Sungkyu, 2016: Zhao, Bian, Rong, Liu, & Shu, 2016)

#### **Countermeasure Effectiveness**

