



Through Vision Zero SF we commit to
working together to prioritize street safety and
eliminate traffic deaths in San Francisco.

TRAFFIC FATALITY PROTOCOL

Board of Supervisors Hearing on Traffic Fatality Protocols
July 28, 2022

CURRENT PROCESS

- SFPD Collision Notification
- SFPD Collision Investigation
- Crisis Response
- Monthly Fatality Reporting
- SFMTA Rapid Response

SFPD COLLISION INVESTIGATION

Uniformed police officers from Traffic Company & District Stations respond to the scene of injury collisions.

Collisions are categorized in the following manner by the State:

- Property Damage Only
- Complaint of Pain
- Visible and/or Severe Injuries
- Fatalities

Fatal and severe collisions activate the Traffic Collision Investigation Unit (TCIU). TCIU works collaboratively with both District Station and Traffic Company officers on collision investigations.

SFPD COLLISION NOTIFICATION

Traffic collisions that result in fatalities require notification by SFPD Department Operations Center (DOC) to:

- SFPD leadership
- City leaders as impacted
- SFMTA leadership for rapid response
- An AlertSF notification may also be issued

SFPD COLLISION INFORMATION

Notifications include the following basic information:

- Date and time of collision
- Collision location
- Brief summary of collision incident
- Police Investigative Unit responding to the scene

Updates are provided when available. Information is forwarded to partner agencies that may be impacted by the incident.

Information that may impact criminal investigations can be withheld.



CRISIS RESPONSE FOR VICTIMS' FAMILIES



Coordinated City Response for Families of People Killed in Traffic Crashes

Increased collaboration and communication to serve victims' families:

- **SFPD Collision Investigators** supported by **SFDPH Crisis Counselors** *at the collision scene*
- **SF District Attorney's Victim Services** providing services more quickly within the critical time windows for grieving families – including access to State Victim Compensation Program, assistance navigating the Criminal Justice System
- **SFDPH Crisis Response Team** providing therapy for individuals & families, up to 18 months
- **Families for Safe Streets** works closely with impacted families to honor their wishes after a traffic fatality. This may include hosting a **vigil**.

CRISIS RESPONSE

- Fatality Crisis Response Coordination call scheduled within 48 hours of fatality notification from SFPD. Representatives on the call:
 - SFPD (or CHP when highway related)
 - SFMTA
 - SFDPH Crisis Response Team
 - District Attorney's Office
- Information shared/confirmed
 - Name, age, crash date/time, Location, Date of death
 - Confirm SFPD Case #, Medical Examiner Case # (when available)
 - Share next of kin name/contact information

MONTHLY FATALITY REPORTING

- Preliminary Review of the *previous* month's fatalities with City Agency partners (SFPD, MTA, DPH)
- Preparation of monthly report
- Release of monthly report (by 15th of *current* month) to Vision Zero [Maps & Data page](#)
- The public-facing Vision Zero Fatality Reporting Map is updated.



2022 Traffic Fatality Monthly Report

As of 7/15/2022, the included table summarizes June traffic fatalities and 2022 year to date (YTD) traffic fatalities (through the end of June 2022) which adhere to the San Francisco Vision Zero traffic fatality case definition¹. For comparison purposes, June 2017-2021 traffic fatalities and YTD totals are provided. The Vision Zero Fatality Reporting Map has been updated to reflect the most recent data ([map](#)) and this report will be posted on the website (<http://visionzerosf.org/maps-data/>).

Vision Zero Traffic Fatalities through June of Each Year*

Traffic Victim	2022		2021		2020		2019		2018		2017	
	June Count	YTD Total	June Count	YTD Total	June Count	YTD Total	June Count	YTD Total	June Count	YTD Total	June Count	YTD Total
People Killed While Walking	1	10	0	9	1	4	1	11	1	5	0	4
People Killed While Cycling	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	2
People Killed While Riding a Standup Powered Device	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
People Killed While Riding in a Motor or Transit Vehicle	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0
People Killed While Riding outside a Motor or Transit Vehicle	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
People Killed While on a Moped**	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
People Killed While on a Motorcycle	1	2	0	2	1	3	0	1	0	0	1	2
People Killed While Driving	1	2	0	1	0	2	2	4	0	2	0	0
TOTAL	4	19	0	13	2	12	4	19	2	8	2	8

* Data do not reflect freeway deaths occurring on grade-separated freeways/roadways under Caltrans jurisdiction in the City and County of San Francisco, which are tracked and mapped separately. They include (totals for entire year):

2022 YTD: 1 person riding a motorcycle, 3 people riding in a vehicle
 2021: 3 people walking, 1 person on a motorcycle, 3 people driving
 2020: 2 people walking, 2 people on motorcycles, 1 person riding in a vehicle

2019: 2 people walking, 2 people on motorcycles, 4 people driving, 3 people riding in vehicles

2018: 1 person walking, 2 people on motorcycles, 1 person riding in a vehicle
 2017: 3 people walking, 1 person on a motorcycle, 2 people driving

** One person killed while riding a standup powered device in April was reclassified to killed while on a moped in the June memo.

Data Source: Motor Vehicle Death Reports, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2022, and SFPD Reports.

¹ SFPD, SFMTA, and SFPD. 2020. Vision Zero Traffic Fatality Protocol: https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/EHSDocs/PHES/VisionZero/Vision_Zero_Traffic_Fatality_Protocol.pdf

SFMTA RAPID RESPONSE

- SFMTA assigns staff to do field investigation (typically done within 24 to 48 hours)
- SFPD and SFMTA hold conference call to discuss fatal crash details
- Based on review, SFMTA makes recommendation of any possible changes
- SFMTA contacts other agencies if they are involved
 - Caltrans (State jurisdiction)
 - SFPUC (streetlights)
 - Public Works (civil engineering, trees)

ENGINEERING RAPID INVESTIGATION

- Maintenance. Are all traffic controls in good condition?
- Review of past collisions. Was this part of a pattern?
- Make upgrades that can be quickly done by city crews:
 - Signal timing changes
 - Traffic sign changes
 - Striping or curb marking changes
- Does city need to do longer-term changes or projects?
- What other factors in crash that can inform citywide efforts (reckless driving, vehicles, regulations, design issues).

NEW STEPS PROPOSED AFTER A FATAL COLLISION

1. SFMTA/SFDPH/SFPD will produce a standardized public report that summarizes:
 - SFPD investigation details regarding the cause of the collision and the status of any investigations
 - SFMTA findings and recommendations, including any maintenance, upgrades and longer-term capital projects
 - Confirmation that Crisis Response has been initiated
2. Quarterly Updates at SFMTA Board on fatal crashes and trends
3. On site posting notification that a fatal crash has happened and how to obtain additional information (pending funding)



Thank you

VISIONZEROSF@SFMTA.COM