



# **Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities**

## **An Update on Alaska Complete Streets Policy**

### **Timeline, Process, and Connection to Seasonal Maintenance**

10/20/23

Our mission is to ***Keep Alaska Moving*** through service and infrastructure.



# Introduction

- What is a complete street?
- Why do we need Complete Streets?
- What might a Complete Street look like?
- What is Alaska DOT&PF doing in terms of Complete Streets?
- How can it help inform roadway design, construction, and maintenance?

# What is a Complete Street?

“ A Complete Street is safe, and feels safe, for all users. FHWA is focused on supporting transportation agencies to plan, develop and operate equitable streets and networks that prioritize safety, comfort, and connectivity to destinations for all people who use the street network. ”

FHWA



# Why do we need Complete Streets?

Figure 9. Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Rural Areas

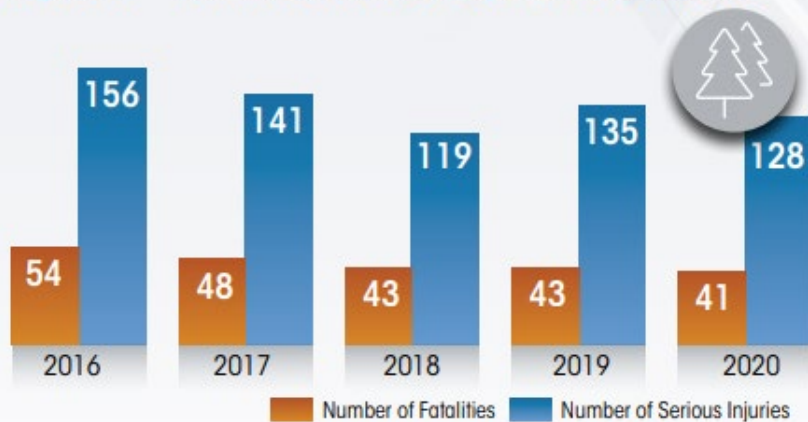
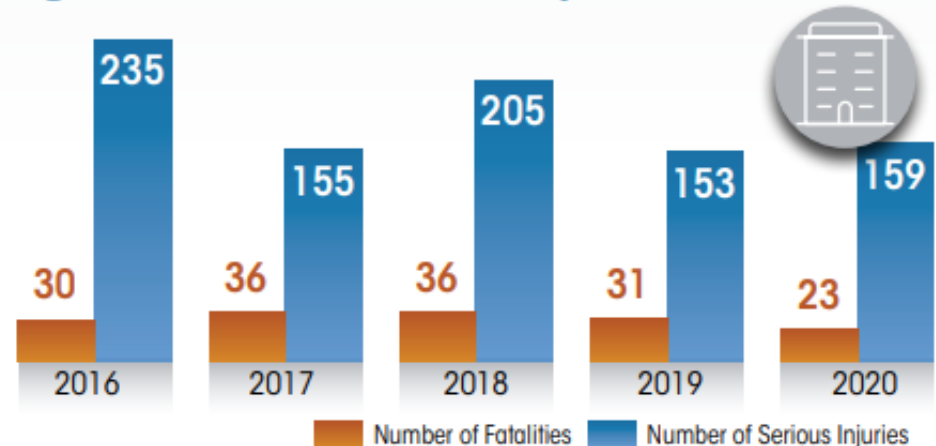


Figure 10. Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Urban Areas



*Source: 2023-2027 Alaska Strategic Highway Safety Plan*



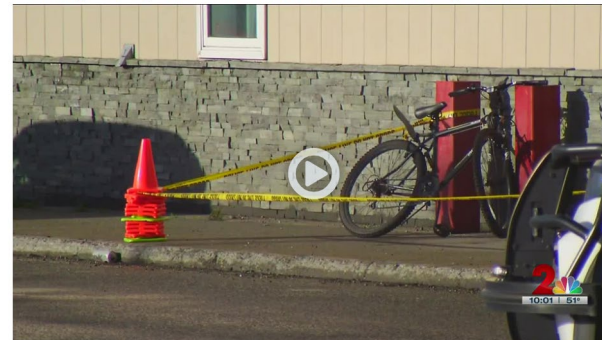
# Navigating the streets of Anchorage by wheelchair is punishing – never more than this winter

By Michelle Theriault Boots  
Updated: March 11, 2023  
Published: March 10, 2023



Rodger Wilber traveled along Fireweed Lane in a power wheelchair while on an errand on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. (Bill Roth / ADN)

## Family of cyclist hit-and-run victim speaks out



Family of cyclist hit-and-run victim speaks out

By Lex  
Publish Alaska News

## Bethel police: Officer was the driver in pedestrian fatality

By Lisa Demer  
Updated: May 4, 2017  
Published: May 3, 2017

BETHEL – An off-duty local police sergeant was the driver who **hit two pedestrians on Chief Eddie Hoffman Highway late on the night of April 22**, the Bethel police chief said Wednesday.

One of the victims, Julia Steven, 49, later died at a hospital in Anchorage.

Sgt. Kadri Limani, who oversees patrol for the small police force, was driving a 2004 Ford Taurus heading into town when the vehicle struck two people in the road, Bethel Police Department Chief Andre Achee said.

Achee said he only learned the woman had died from a report on Bethel-based public radio station KYUK and that the hospital didn't notify police of the death.

Limani told the investigating Bethel officer, Joe Corbett, **he didn't see the people in the roadway** until he struck them. He stopped, called 911 and started CPR on Steven, Achee said, reading from the police report.



Soldotna Director of Economic Development and Planning John Czarneski leads a party of transportation professionals on a tour of the Sterling Highway and Birch Avenue intersection in Soldotna, Alaska, on Monday, May 22, 2023. (Jake Dye/Peninsula Clarion)

## Anchorage pedestrians have been more likely to be killed by vehicles in the last 2 years. Why isn't clear.

By Tess Williams  
Updated: September 29, 2021  
Published: September 28, 2021



A memorial for 24-year-old Jesse L. Higgins, Jr. is visible to motorists traveling on Minnesota Drive just south of Spenard Road on Wednesday, August 11, 2021. Higgins died at a local hospital after being struck by a vehicle early Saturday morning. (Bill Roth / ADN)

## Boy killed in North Pole collision identified

By Sam Friedman/sfriedman@newsminer.com Fairbanks Daily News-Miner Aug 21, 2012 Updated Jan 21, 2013



Updated at 2:53 p.m.

FAIRBANKS - A 13-year-old boy riding a bicycle was killed Tuesday afternoon after a collision with a commercial truck in the entryway to a gas station in North Pole.

Alaska News

## Fairbanks driver gets jail time for killing teenage cyclist

By Craig Medred  
Updated: September 27, 2016  
Published: May 1, 2011

A Fairbanks man will get jail time for hitting and killing a 14-year-old teenaged bicyclist last year. Fred Karella, 56, reached a plea agreement, according to the [Fairbanks Daily News-Miner](#), and on Thursday pleaded guilty to criminally negligent homicide in the death of Kirsten Shaye Tompkins on July 28, 2010. Karella hit Tompkins at the corner of the Johansen Expressway and Steese Highway, the News-Miner said. Tompkins died at the scene. An assistant district attorney told the court that Karella **"must not have seen or ignored" a red light warning approaching the intersection. He was driving fast enough to throw Tompkins 259 feet**. From the News-Miner: "Before the accident, Karella had no criminal history but had multiple traffic citations for speeding and failure to wear a seatbelt." A memorial bike now sits at the corner. [Read the full story.](#)



# Northern Lights Boulevard





# Old Seward Highway



After recent heavy snowfalls, a pedestrian walks in the roadway on Old Seward Highway near East 76th Avenue on December 14, 2022. (Marc Lester / ADN)

# Fireweed Lane

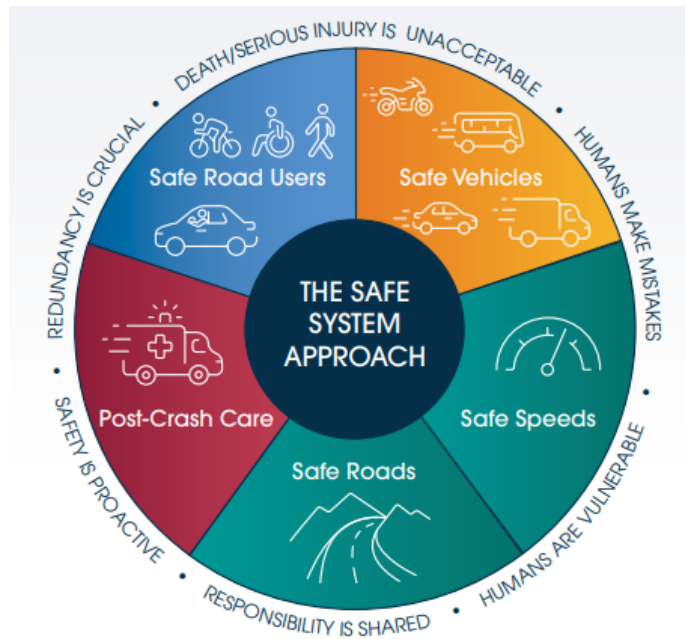


Moria Rogers' daughter, Gigi, walks in Fireweed Lane on Tuesday morning, Dec. 13, 2022, to get to North Star Elementary. Rogers said they had to walk in the street because the sidewalks were impassable. (Photo by Moria Rogers)



# Why do we need a Complete Streets Policy?

- Federal culture change (Safe Systems Approach)
- Alaska DOT&PF Policies and Procedures
- Design standards for safe and accessible active transportation
- Is a recommendation in our Statewide Active Transportation Plan and Strategic Highway Safety Plan



# What could a Complete Street look like?

## 4-Lane Roadway (Base Condition)



A

*FHWA. Bikeway Selection Guide*



# Option 1



B



# Option 2



C



# Option 3





# What could a Complete Street look like?

## 5-6 Lane Roadway (Base Condition)





# Option 1



# Option 2





# Option 3





# Chicago, Illinois



Bicyclists on Kinzie Street protected cycle track in Chicago, Illinois, after snow clearing.

# Minneapolis, Minnesota



*Figure 1: A man walks along the sidewalk on 6th St SE.*





# **Where are we headed?**

# COMPLETE STREETS POLICY DRAFT ROADMAP

**OCT- NOV**

DESK REVIEW OF  
POLICIES AND  
PROCEDURES

**DEC-FEB**

VIRTUAL BRIEFINGS

**MARCH**

IN PERSON WORKSHOPS  
IN JNU, ANC, FBX

**MAY**

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION  
FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

**JUNE/JULY**

FINAL REPORT





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Questions?

