

Safe Speeds Bellevue

Program Launch

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Transportation Department

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Direction

Consider directing staff to:

- (a) Initiate outreach on Safe Speeds Bellevue
- (b) Prepare an ordinance to reduce the speed on four arterial streets and evaluate impacts



Agenda

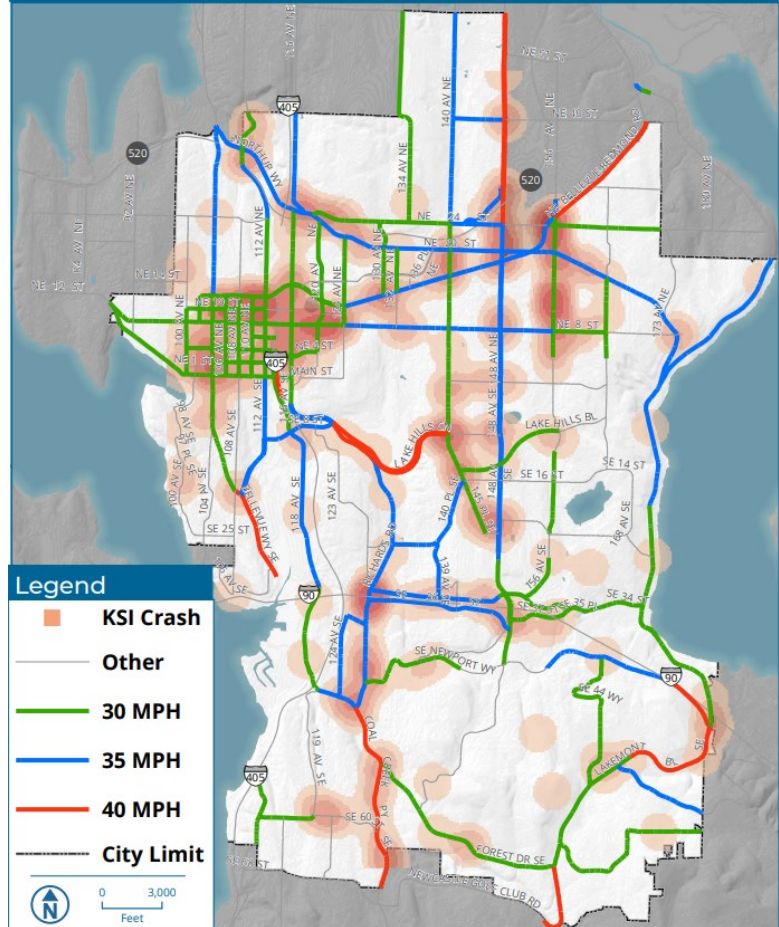
1. Background
2. Safe Speeds Bellevue
3. Determining Safe Speeds
4. Evaluating Safe Speeds
5. Next Steps



Slower Streets are Safer Streets

- 30+ mph streets
 - 25% of total street mileage
 - 88% of crashes where a person is killed or seriously injured
- Crashes that kill or seriously injure people are increasing
- Speed increases the likelihood and severity of these crashes
- Reducing speed limits is effective at reducing these crashes

Killed and Serious Injury (KSI) Crashes in Bellevue
2015 - 2024



Safe Speeds are Key to Vision Zero

Council adopted vision: Eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries on Bellevue streets by 2030.

Key Safe Speeds strategies:

1. **Set appropriate speed limits**
2. Design streets for safety over speed
3. Leverage technology to manage speeds

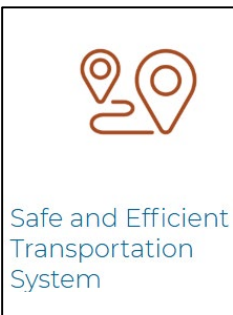


Safe Speeds Bellevue

Safe Speeds Bellevue is a coordinated city effort to ensure safe speeds on all Bellevue streets.

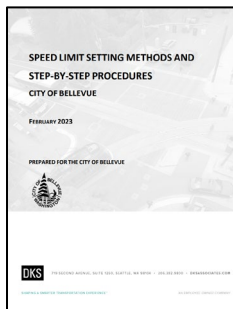
Guiding Documents/Efforts

Council
Vision



2020

Speed Limit
Setting
Procedures



2021 - 2023

Speed
Management
Plan



Local Street
Speed Limit
Reduction

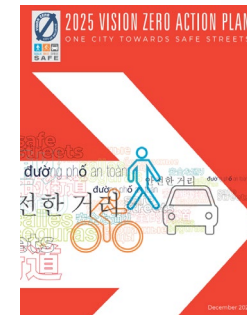


2024

Federal
Funding
(SS4A)

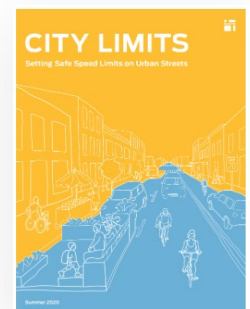


Vision Zero
Action
Plans



2025

National
best
practices



City of Bellevue

Safe Speeds in our Region

Bellevue (2025)

Launching Safe Speeds Bellevue; evaluating speed limits on all 30+ mph streets

Seattle (2020)

Reduced speeds on most arterials to 25 mph

Kirkland (2025)

Conducting speed studies and speed limit policy update

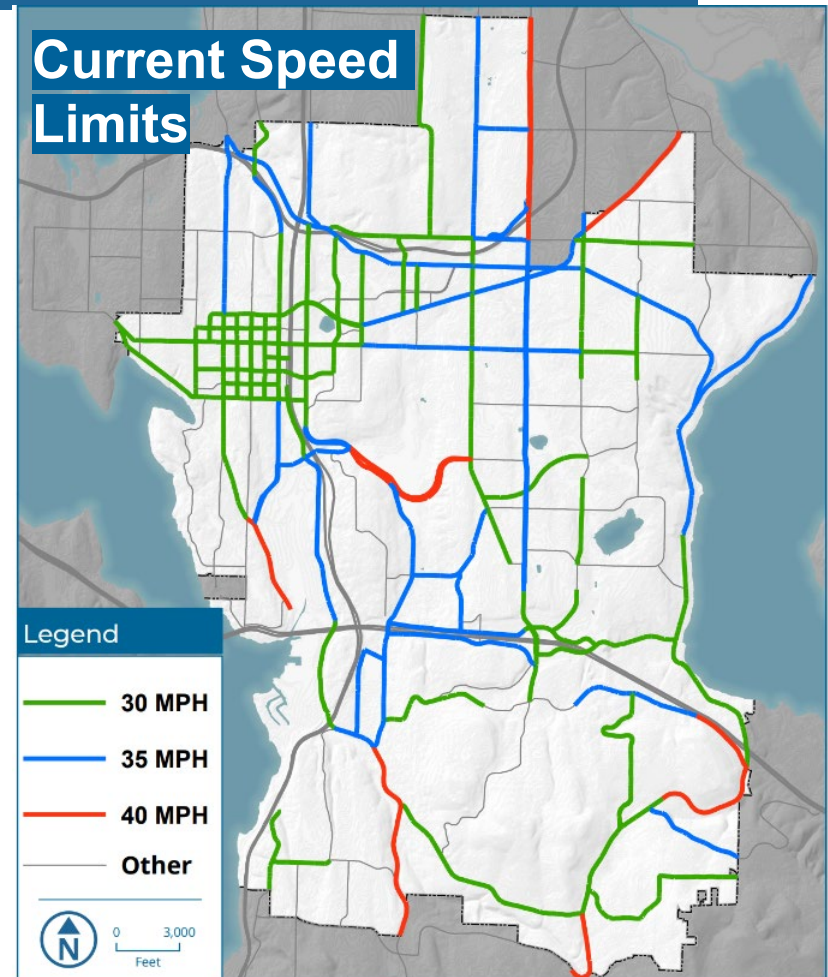
Redmond (2025)

Launched Safer Streets Redmond; evaluating speed limits citywide



Target Speeds are Safe Speeds

- **What?** The highest speed people should drive vehicles on a street in a specific context
- **Why?** Minimize risk of a person being killed or seriously injured
- **How?** Use a context-sensitive approach to setting safe speed limits that will minimize risk
- **Where?** Existing 30+ mph streets



5 Steps for Safe Speeds Bellevue

1. Target speeds approach for Bellevue
2. Evaluate target speeds on 4 streets
3. Develop implementation plan
4. Implement target speeds
5. Follow-up with Safe Speeds projects

Informed by:

National best practices

Public feedback

Evaluation data

Budget

Council feedback



Target Speeds Framework

CONFLICTS:

How frequently potential conflicts arise on a given street



Crossing point density



Modal mixing

ACTIVITY:

How active a street currently is or is expected to be



Activity Level



Crossing point density

Opportunities for people to cross or enter street (walking, rolling, biking or driving)



Low
148th Ave SE



Moderate
Forest Dr SE



High
Northup Way

**Higher
speed limits**

**Lower
speed limits**





Modal mixing

Physical separation between people driving and people walking, rolling and biking



Low
112th Ave SE



Moderate
112th Ave NE



High
156th Ave SE

**Higher
speed limits**

**Lower
speed limits**





Activity level

Pedestrian activity, public spaces, current/future bike routes, curbside demand, transit



Low

Lake Hills Connector



Moderate

NE 24th St



High

Factoria Blvd SE

**Higher
speed limits**

**Lower
speed limits**



Target Speed Matrix

CONFLICTS



ACTIVITY



	High	Moderate	Low
High	<div><div>SPEED LIMIT 25</div><div>*</div></div>	<div><div>SPEED LIMIT 25</div></div>	<div><div>SPEED LIMIT 25</div><div>**</div></div>
Moderate	<div><div>SPEED LIMIT 25</div></div>	<div><div>SPEED LIMIT 25</div><div>**</div></div>	<div><div>SPEED LIMIT 30</div></div>
Low	<div><div>SPEED LIMIT 25</div></div>	<div><div>SPEED LIMIT 30</div></div>	<div><div>SPEED LIMIT 35</div></div>

* Engineering judgement to consider 20 mph for select streets

** Engineering judgement to consider 30 mph where appropriate



Four Evaluation Streets

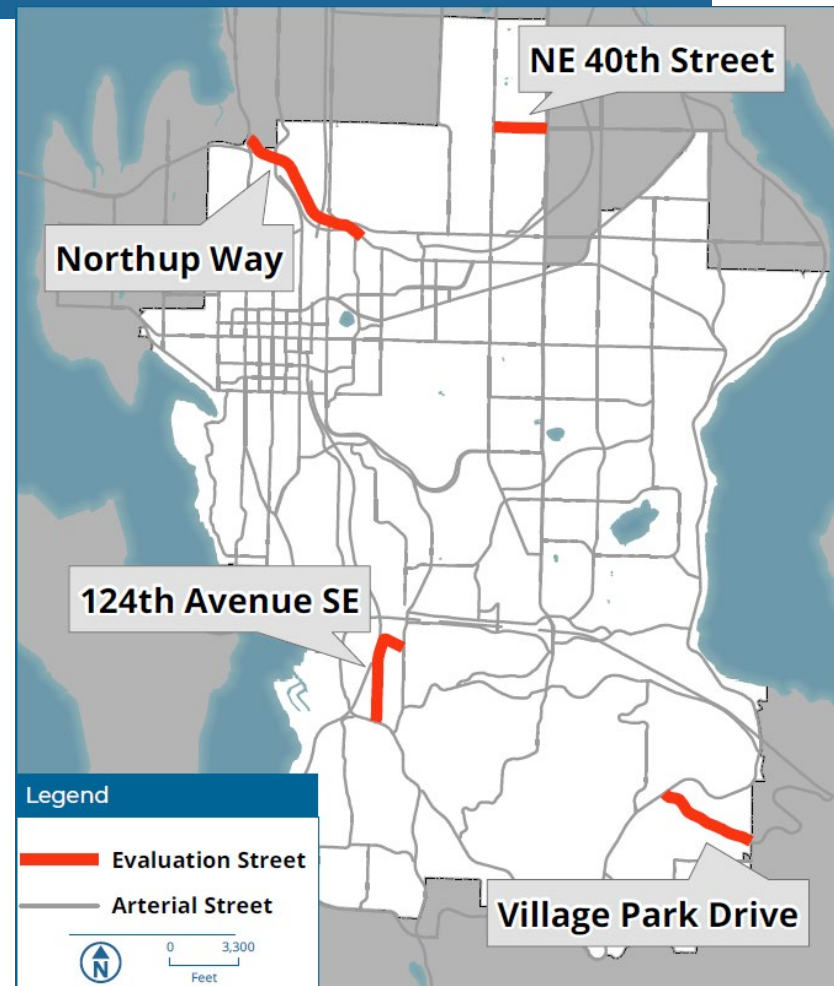


Village Park Drive
NE 40th Street



Northup Way
124th Avenue SE

- Evaluate impact of signage changes on driver behavior
- Context: near schools, bike routes, resident requests
- Approval in June (consent)
- Implementation this summer



Lower Speed Limits Improve Safety

Seattle Arterials

- Lowered speeds on most arterials to 25 mph
- Increased speed limit sign density

↓ **18%** annual crashes with injury

↓ **2.5 mph** median speed

↓ **54%** people driving 40+ mph

Bellevue

- Lowered speeds on local streets in Eastgate to 20 mph

↓ **24%** people driving 30+ mph

Bellevue staff will collect data for the four evaluation streets



Future Safe Speeds Tools

Adopted CIP includes \$1.1 million per year from 2027-2030 to implement safe speed limits and fund projects to further manage speeds

Initial Phase

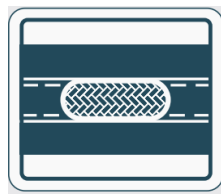
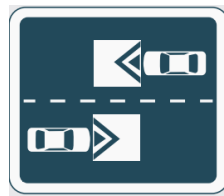
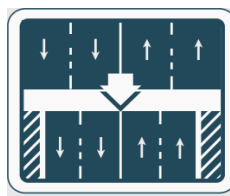


- New speed limits
- More speed limit signs
- Adjust signal timing

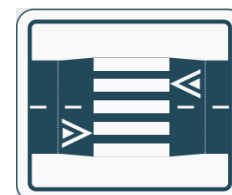
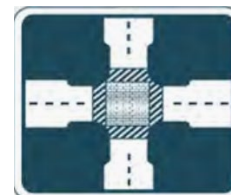
Potential Additional Tools



Technology



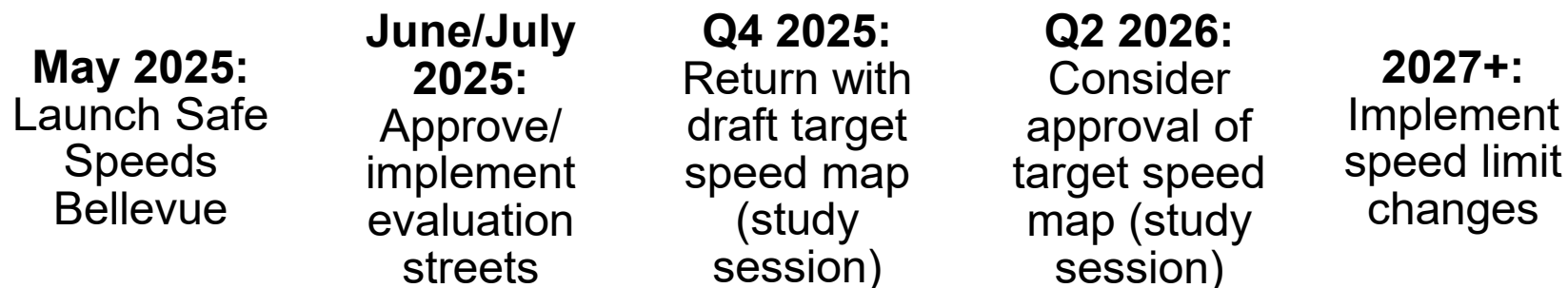
Traffic Calming



Crossings



Council and Outreach Approach



Phase 1:
Consult & Inform

Consult: community values, priorities and sentiments around safe speeds

Phase 2:
Consult & Inform

Consult: feedback on the draft target speeds map and priorities

Phase 3:
Inform

Inform: Share on the approved target speeds and implementation plan



Upcoming Outreach Activities

- Translated project website
- Stories: *It's Your City*, *Neighborhood News*, *Choose Your Way Bellevue*
- Recorded webinars
- Bellevue Family 4th and other in-person events
- Community association briefings
- Table at farmers market
- “Comment box” on website; post FAQs as they come in
- “Community Panel” engagement
- Engaging Bellevue site
- Social media
- Targeted mailers for evaluation corridors
- Emails to subscription lists



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