Managing Traffic Speeds and Reaping Safety, Climate and Other Benefits

April 26th, 2021

Mobility and Development Webinar
1. MANAGING SPEED AND THE SAFE SYSTEM, LEADING TO SAFETY, CLIMATE AND BROADER OUTCOMES

BLAIR TURNER
Senior Transport Specialist,
World Bank GRSF
650,000 people are estimated to die annually due to ‘speeding’

Speed a critical element of the Safe System approach to addressing road safety and global targets

We have the tools in the toolbox

Reductions in speed can result in substantial improvement in fatal and serious injury (60%+).
Speed and Crash Risk-1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Travel Speed</th>
<th>Impact Speed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50 km/h</td>
<td>Stops in time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 km/h</td>
<td>Stops in time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 km/h</td>
<td>Touches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 km/h</td>
<td>Hits at 32 km/h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 km/h</td>
<td>Hits at 46 km/h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 km/h</td>
<td>Hits at 57 km/h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 km/h</td>
<td>Hits at 66 km/h</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Impact speed in dry conditions
- As speed increases, peripheral vision decreases
- Less likely to notice and react to risks (e.g. side road traffic)
SPEED AND CRASH RISK

(Source: Nilsson, 2004 & Many other studies)
SPEED AND CRASH RISK #4

- Fatality risk vs. impact speed (km/h)
  - Pedestrian or roadside object
  - 30, 50, 70 km/h
COVID-19 AND SAFETY OUTCOMES

- Greatly reduced traffic, but much smaller decreases in deaths in most countries; some countries even had increases
  - Australia – 20% - 30% reduction in traffic; much smaller decrease in deaths and an increase in cyclist deaths (+30%) – fatality rate increase
  - US – increase in fatalities in 2020; fatality rates – up by around 20%; increase in speed of 20% - especially in urban areas
  - 15% in serious speeding offences – UK and France

- Movement to active modes

![Graph showing speed trends](Image)
CO-BENEFITS FROM REDUCING SPEED

Speed has large impacts on multiple components of travel cost
(Economically ideal speeds are well below typical speed limits; example: in Iran, economically ideal motorway speed = 73km/h)
GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK

Join the #Love30 campaign to call for 30 km/h speed limits to be the norm for cities, towns and villages worldwide.

17 – 23rd MAY 2021
Managing Traffic Speeds and Reaping Safety, Climate and Other Benefits

April 26th, 2021
Mobility and Development Webinar

roadsafetyfacility.org
@WBG_Transport