VISION ZERO MONTCLAIR TASK FORCE

PROGRESS REPORT #5
For the period from October 1 to December 31, 2024

Work Completed for This Quarter:

Created agendas and slide decks for monthly meetings
Facilitated TF Meetings 10/4/2024, 11/8/2024, 12/6/2024 via Zoom
Provided meeting summaries for monthly meetings
Followed up with working groups and checked in on outstanding action items

Status Updates

Complete Streets Policy/Ordinance
The final draft policy and ordinance have been shared with Interim Township Attorney Paul Burr for legal review on December 20, 2024. While it was hoped that his review would be complete by Dec. 31, the legal review of the draft ordinance has to wait until the new interim township attorney is hired. Anticipated date for legal review and first reading before council are unknown.

Complete Streets Director
A draft job description was created by Councilor D'Amato for the Complete Streets Director outlined in the above mentioned ordinance. It is a first draft of the primary responsibilities a designated Complete Streets Director may be expected to handle under the ordinance currently under consideration by the Montclair Township Council.

Grove Street Urgency
The Mayor has formally requested a meeting with County Exec, Admin, and Commissioner Gill to discuss the Grove Street issues and getting the speed limit reduced to 25 mph. That meeting will likely take place after the holidays. Discussions are currently underway. The following data has been shared:

- RRFB Intersections
- Grove Street Crash Stats
- MUTCD & NACTO Guidance

Meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2025.

List of County roads in Montclair

Road name	County route #	Length of road that is County road
Alexander Avenue	CR 643	Grove St east to town line only
Bloomfield Avenue	CR 506	All (St. Lukes west is 35 MPH/rest is 25 MPH)
Bradford Avenue	CR 640	Highland Ave west to town line only (35 MPH)
Elm Street	CR 668	All
Grove Street	CR 623	All (30 MPH/ 25 MPH in business district)
Mount Hebron Road	CR 642	Valley Rd east to Grove only
Normal Avenue	CR 618	All (35 MPH)
Orange Road	CR 669	Llewellyn/Elm south to town line only
Upper Mountain Avenue	CR 620	300 ft. north of Jerome Pl to town line only (30 MPH)
Valley Road	CR 621	All (30 MPH / 25 MPH in business districts)
Watchung Avenue	CR 655	All

Image: County Road Speed Limits

RRFB Delineators
DCS has purchased the delineators and will be placing them at the priority RRFB intersections once their striping team has completed the striping work. Delineators are next in the to-do queue. Note that county approval is needed for county roads. DCS has been in contact with Essex County on that.

Better Communication on Accomplishments
DCS has agreed to create a year end summary of all VZM-related work. Amy Veach had the same thought and created a rough draft on her own. Amy, Austin, Norberto, and Matt are working together to finalize the list of accomplishments and share it on our VZM Website. Comms team can begin to support this work on social media.

Data/Mapping / Implementation*
Zainab is creating a spreadsheet on crash data for all intersections. Implementation WG will create a rough draft list of potential LQC solutions for each. This can then be shared and prioritized by ward. Target: January after Monthly Meeting. *Part of Rapid Response & LQC Demos

Mapping Community Traffic Concerns*
The Montclair 311/QAlert system collects community input that can be mapped. We have proposed adding traffic related "alerts" which can capture community concerns. Each alert will

be responded with something like: "thank you for notifying us. This information will be included in our traffic safety analysis." Any emails or calls to council, police, dcs, etc can be transitioned into this system. Our last communications person, Annie, thought this would be easy to do. The data can be downloaded and mapped by Zainab. *Part of Rapid Response
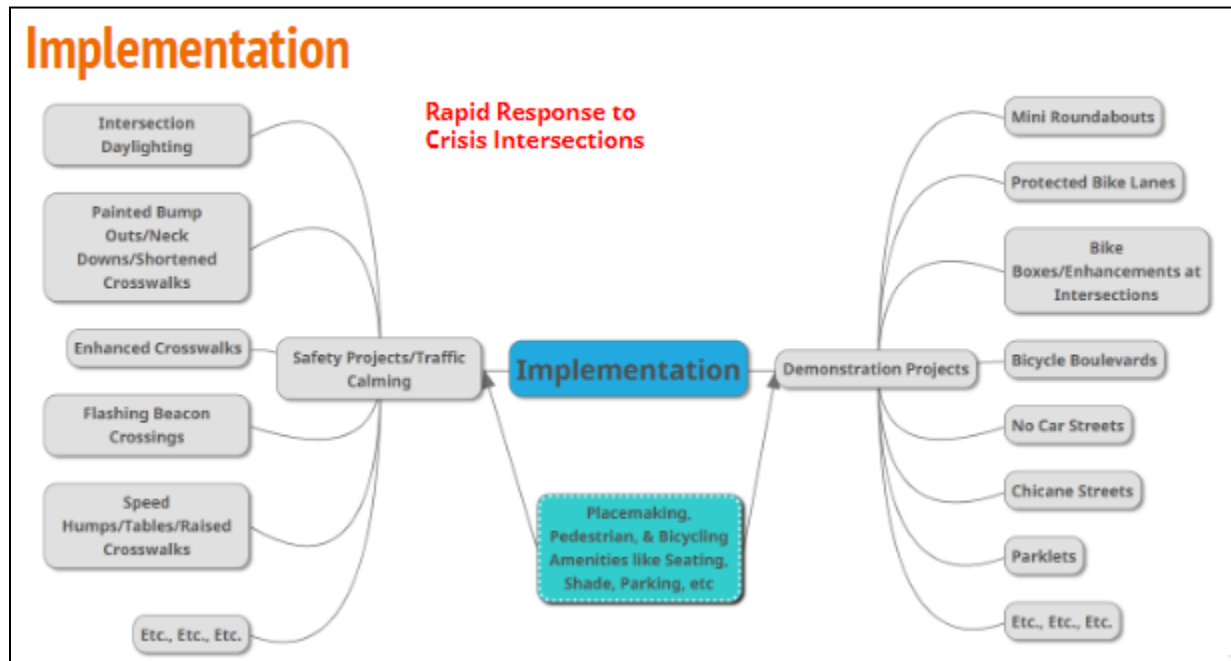
To be implemented early January 2025.

Image: Mind Map of Implementation

SS4A Grant Demonstration Projects and Safety Action Plan
Janice has completed a request for proposals (RFP) to be advertised in January.

School Survey Results
The VZM School Surveys are complete and being tallied. Will be presented and uploaded to website in January.

Work Anticipated Next Quarter:

Continue to hold and summarize monthly task force meetings
Continue to address working group goals
Revise working groups and goals as needed

Priorities

VZM members were asked to prioritize Phase 3 Deliverables between January and March.
- Most Immediate -
  - Complete Streets Policy & Ordinance
  - QAlert & Rapid Response (Alerts to Action) System

- Soon
  - Start Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper (LQC) Demonstration Projects like "daylighting"
  - Community Survey (Could inform SS4A Consultant Team OR could have SS4A Consultant Team conduct it in late spring/summer.)
- Later
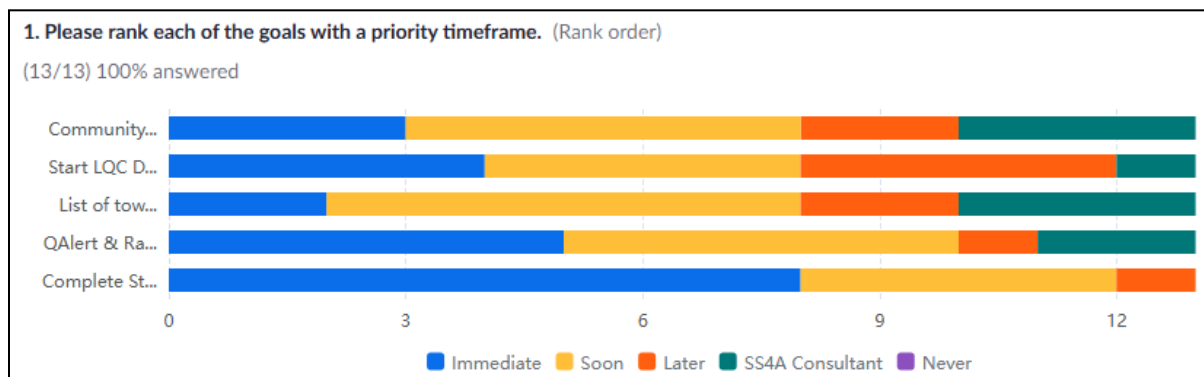 - List of town wide LQC Recommendations (might help to inform Demos and Rapid Response)

Image: Zoom Poll (Rank Order)

<mark>Scope and Schedule Changes:</mark>

Delays to anticipated deliverables outlined in strategic framework:

- Phase 1 - Complete Streets Policy & Ordinance - on hold per new council. A significant number of calls, emails, listening sessions, and meetings have been held since July and very little movement by council has been made to present or adopt the policy due to onboarding and other priorities.
- Phase 1 - Alerts to Action Process - delayed due to Communications Specialist leaving. Staff has put this on hold in order to explore ZenCity software. Then staff put ZenCity on hold. VZM Chair has asked for status updates for the last 3 months and have received none.
- Phase 1 - Website and Public Engagement - delayed due to staff turnover and lack of a Communications Specialist.
- Phase 2 - Data & Mapping - delayed due to staff turn over in the Planning Department. New planning staff has gotten up to speed, coordinated with Police Department, and is currently able to provide crash data from 2021 - 2023.
- Phase 2 - Demonstration Projects - anticipated SS4A Grant and some initial demonstration projects during Phase 2. SS4A grant has been delayed and is anticipated to launch during Phase 3.
- Phase 2 - County road speed limits - VZM TF has spent significant time trying to work with Essex County to provide input on intersection improvements and coordinate appropriate speed/traffic study measures beyond the 85th percentile approach (as outlined in the MUTCD). This was the focus of several tf meetings as well as attempting to communicate with the County Engineer per request of the County Commissioner. Still awaiting response.
- Phase 3 - possible delay to Phase 3 (October - March) if Township does not confirm funding the BID for task force management and to confirm/extend the end date of the

task force 18 month term.
  ● No additional changes at this time

<u>Unanticipated advances in safety interventions:</u>

  ● Phase 2 - Implementation - Staff was able to be creative with the capital budget and purchase speed limit signs, painted curb extensions at two intersections, and ordered reflective delineators for flashing beacon locations.Although no VZM recommendations were budgeted for 2024, staff was able to move on some inexpensive interventions.
  ● No additional advances at this time.

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Submitted:
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