

# The Delaware Pedestrian Council Meeting #1



January 24, 2024

Consultant Team:





# Delaware Pedestrian Council | Meeting #1

## Purpose of the Pedestrian Council

Senate Bill 50 (Volume 84, Chapter 58)

- (AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 2 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON WALKABILITY AND PEDESTRIAN AWARENESS)
- [Bill Detail - Delaware General Assembly](#)

*Purpose: "...assist in the goal of eliminating pedestrian fatalities and make walking a safe, convenient, efficient, and comfortable means of transportation in Delaware."*



## Today's Agenda

1. Purpose of Council
2. Introductions
3. Crash Statistics
4. Actions Underway
5. Council Logistics
6. Election of Chair

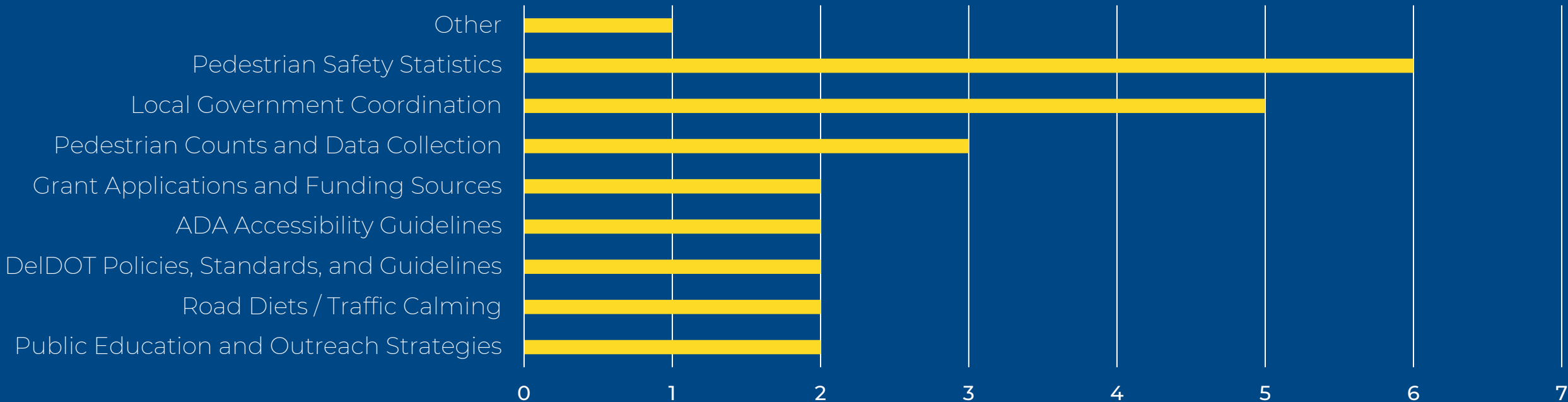
## Introductions

- Share your name
- What is your role in the Council?
- What do you hope to achieve?

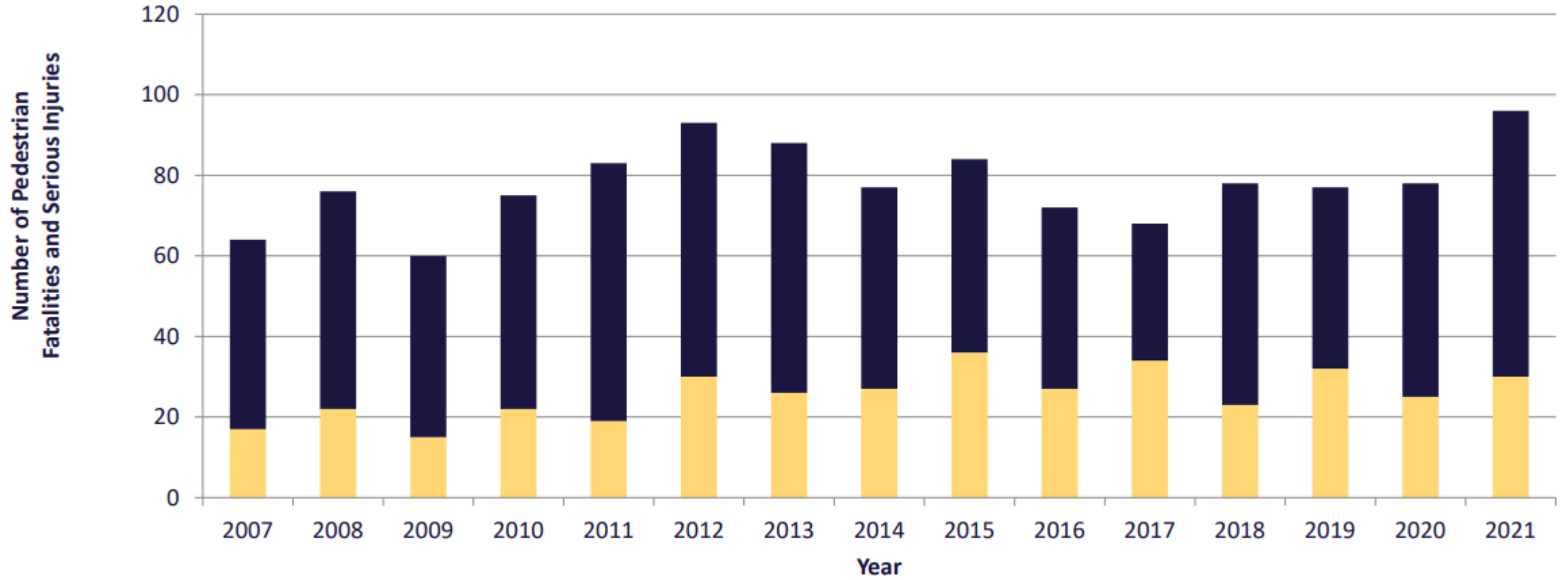
# Council Member Survey Results

## Looking for more information...

What would you like to learn more about?



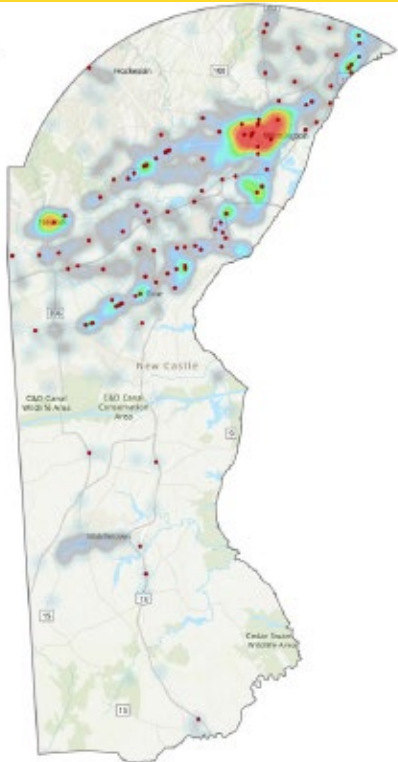
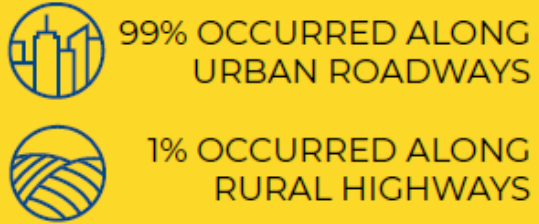
# Fatal and Serious Injury Pedestrian Crashes (2007 – 2021)



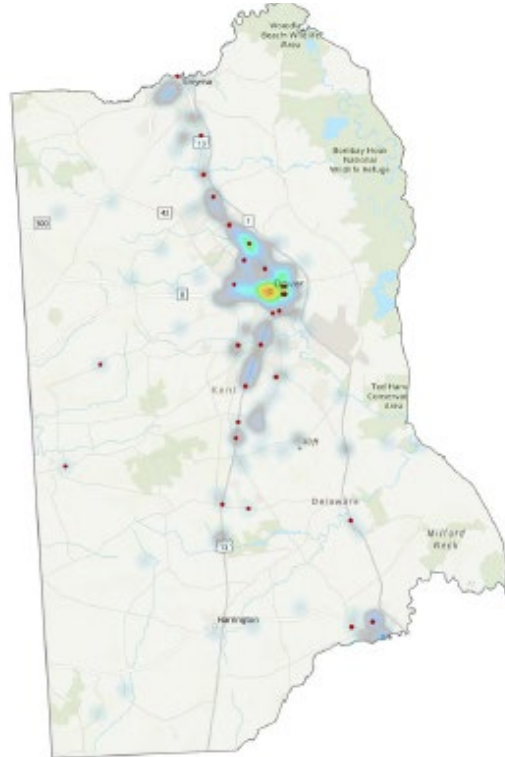
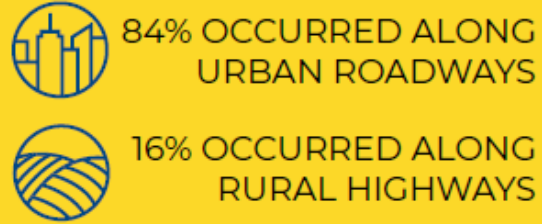
■ Pedestrian Fatalities   ■ Pedestrian Serious Injuries

# Where Pedestrian Crashes Occur

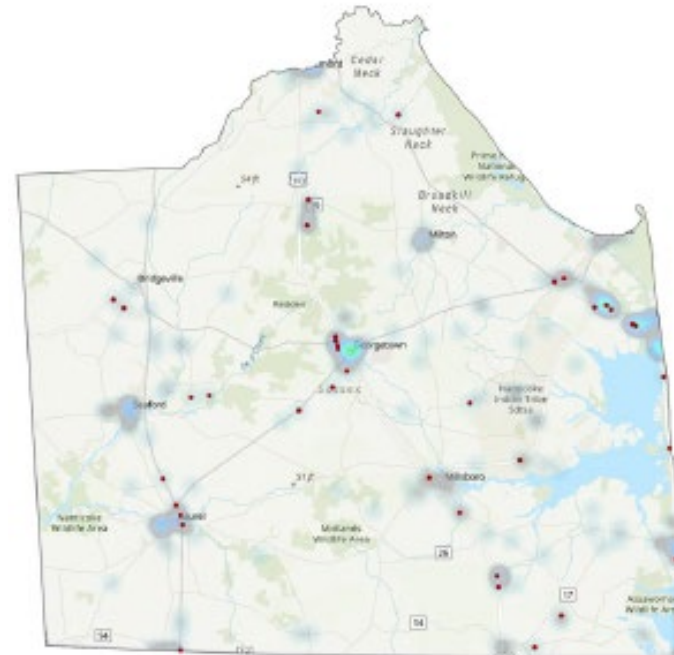
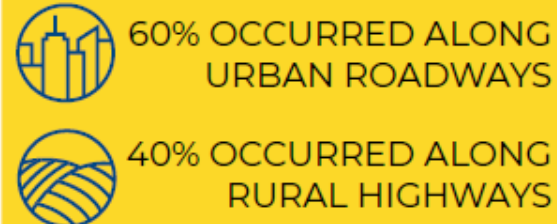
## LAND USE CONTEXT & PEDESTRIAN FATALITIES



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## Legend:

PEDESTRIAN CRASH DENSITY (ALL PEDESTRIAN CRASHES)

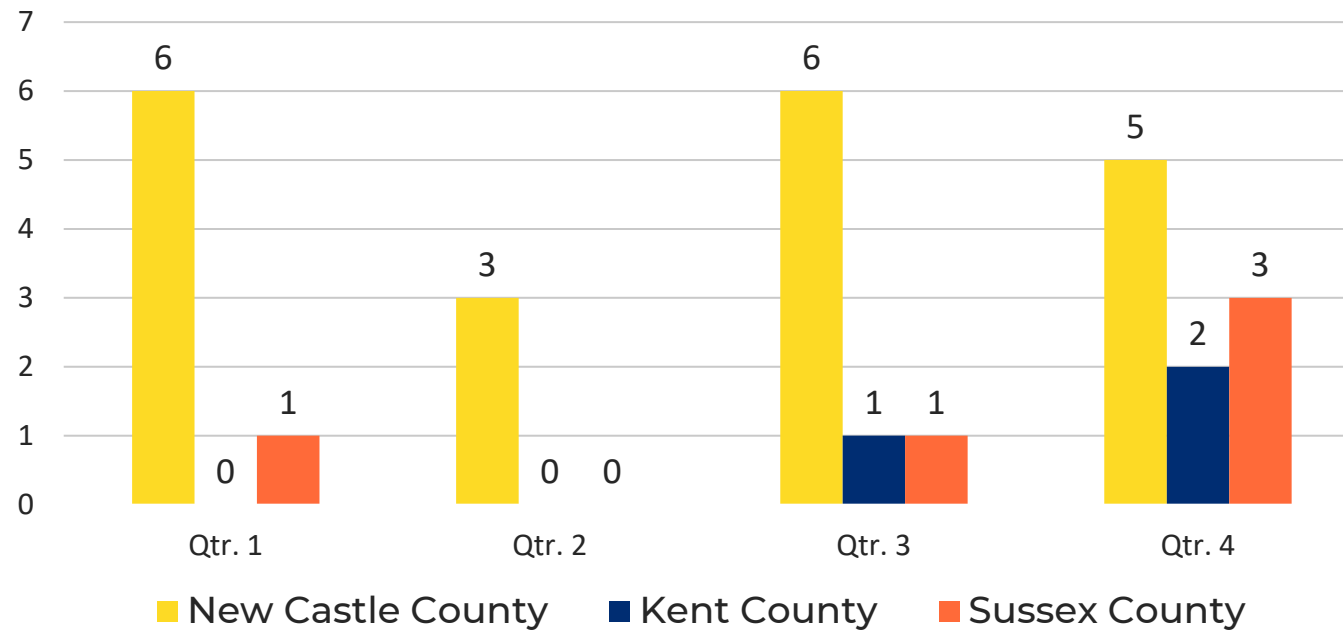


PEDESTRIAN FATALITIES

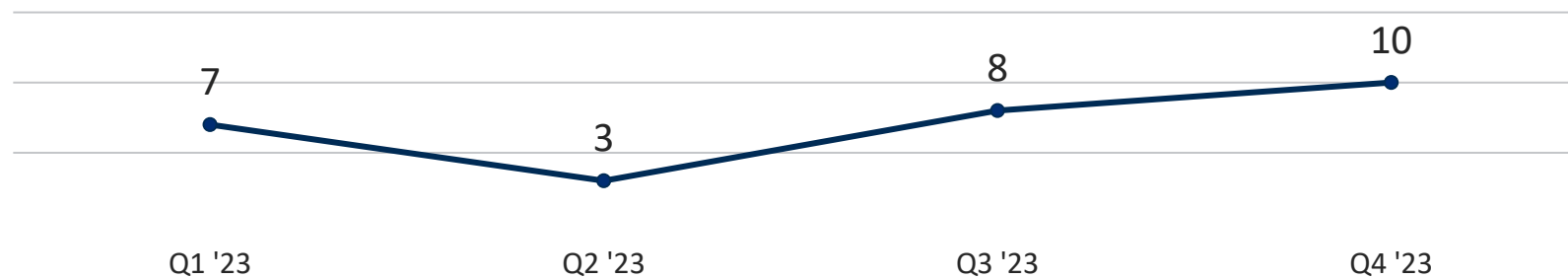
[Click here for interactive crash map](#)

# Fatal Pedestrian Crashes – 2023

## Fatal Pedestrian Crashes by Quarter (2023)



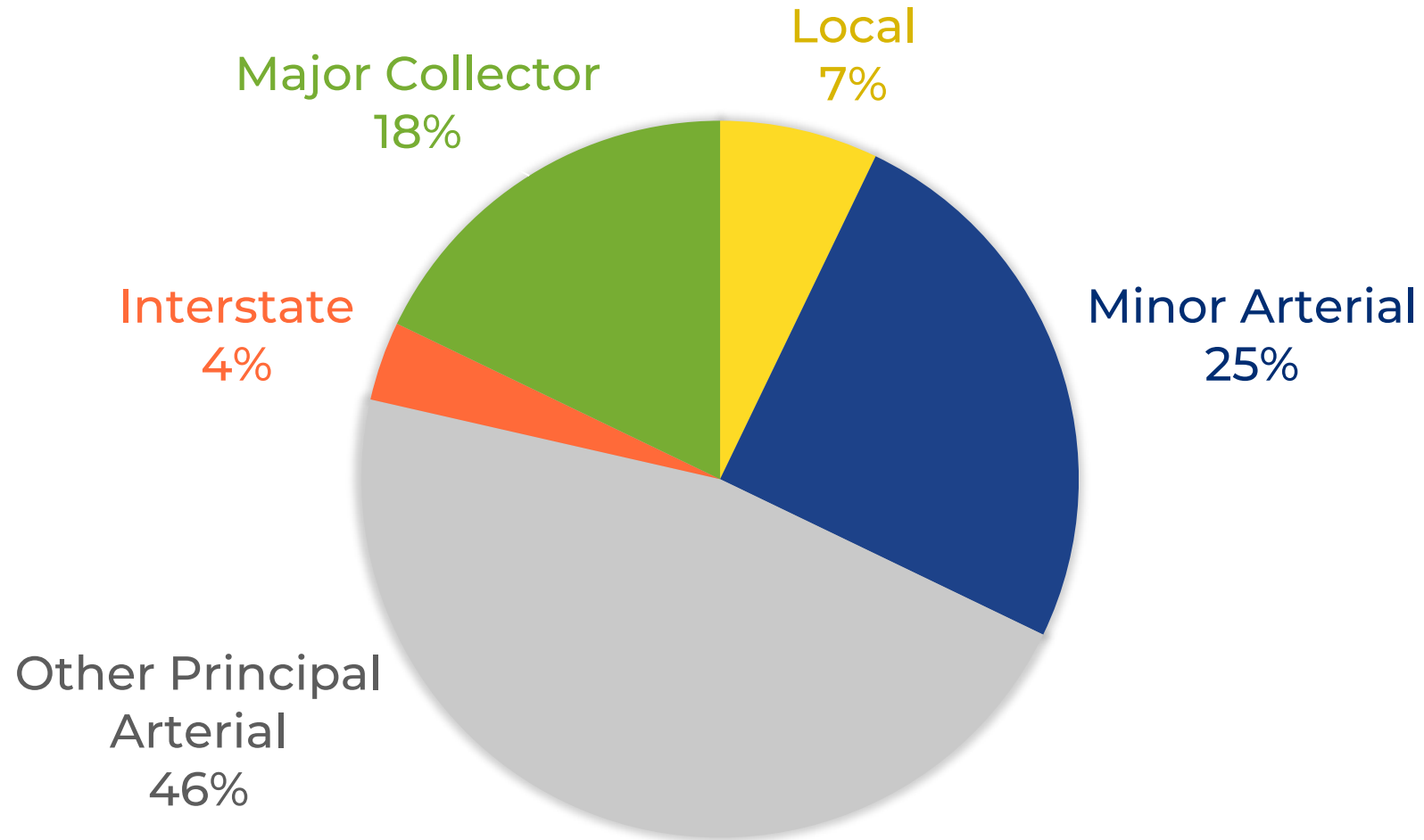
## Statewide Fatal Pedestrian Crashes (2023)





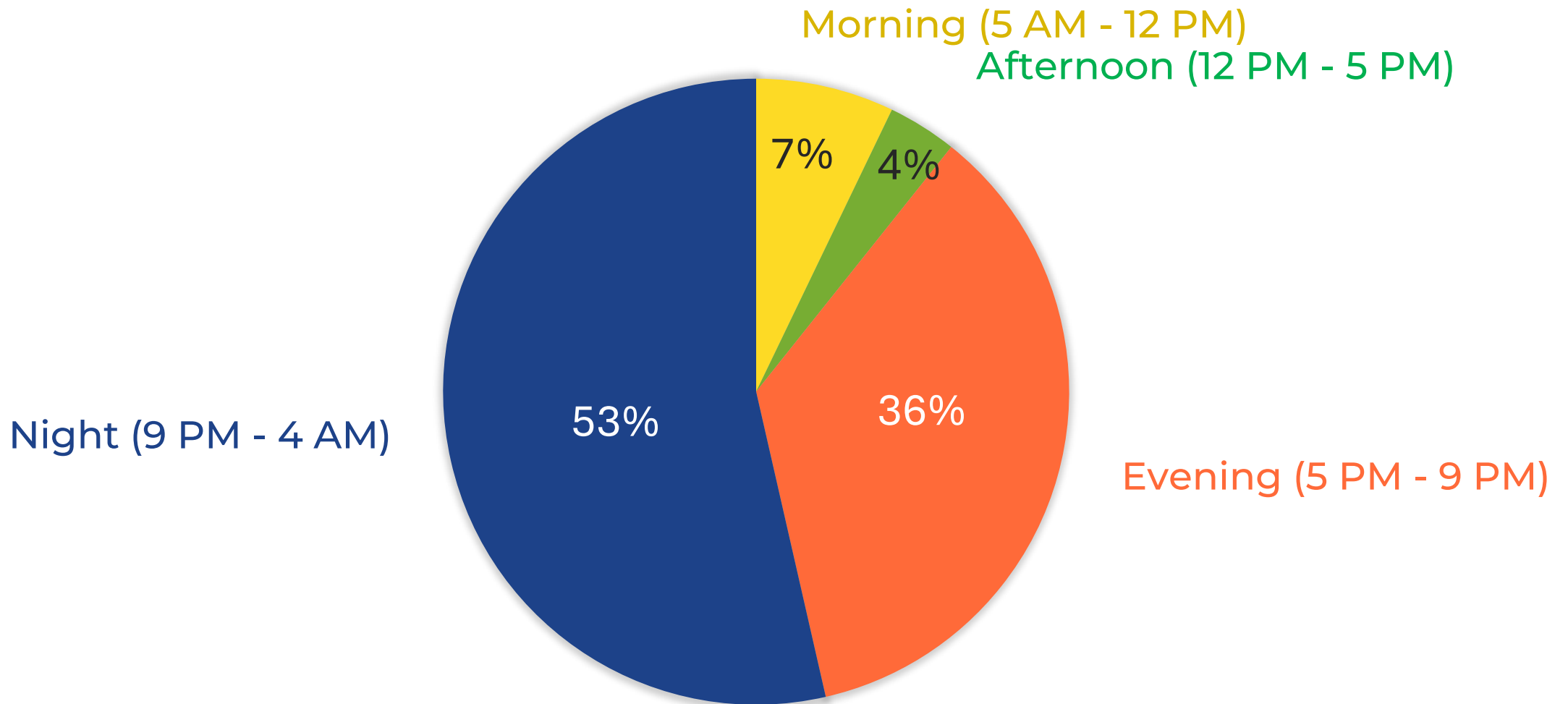
# Fatal Pedestrian Crashes – 2023

## Roadway Classification of Crash Area



# Fatal Pedestrian Crashes – 2023

## Time of Crash





# What DeIDOT Is Already Doing - Activities Underway

- Complete Streets Policy & Design Guide
- Trails and Pathways Program
- ADA Self-Assessment & Transition Plan Updates
- Delaware Strategic Highway Safety Plan – Emphasis Area 5: Pedestrians
- Transportation Alternatives Program
- Pedestrian Access Routes Program
- Promote land use and transportation facilities that improve pedestrian connectivity, accessibility, and safety
- Pedestrian Safety Audits



# Future Action Ideas

## Finalize Ped Action Plan – Phase 2

### Emerging Priorities

- Implement Complete Streets Design Guide
- Update Safe Routes to School materials
- Increase pilot projects, before and after studies, and pedestrian safety audits
- Assist local governments in identifying funding for pedestrian projects
- Enhance outreach and public education for pedestrian safety awareness and pedestrian-centric design benefits
- Explore options for a consolidated pedestrian projects program





# Delaware Pedestrian Action Plan

**Purpose:** Update the 2007 Delaware Pedestrian Action Plan.

## Phase 1 (Draft Finalized - 2023)

- Collect and summarize existing pedestrian plans and DeIDOT initiatives
- Began pedestrian crash cluster and connectivity mapping
- Develop project website
- Began Public Involvement



# Delaware Pedestrian Action Plan

## **Phase 2 (Underway now)**

- Public outreach
- Internal DelDOT coordination to explore changes to programs and policies

## **Phase 3 (Fall/Winter 2024)**

- Additional pedestrian crash cluster, connectivity and equity mapping
- Additional Public and stakeholder outreach
- Implementation plan with potential new action items, countermeasures, policies, or programs to improve ped connectivity and safety
- Establish performance measures

# Public Outreach – In-Person Engagement



Engaged with **over 150 people.**

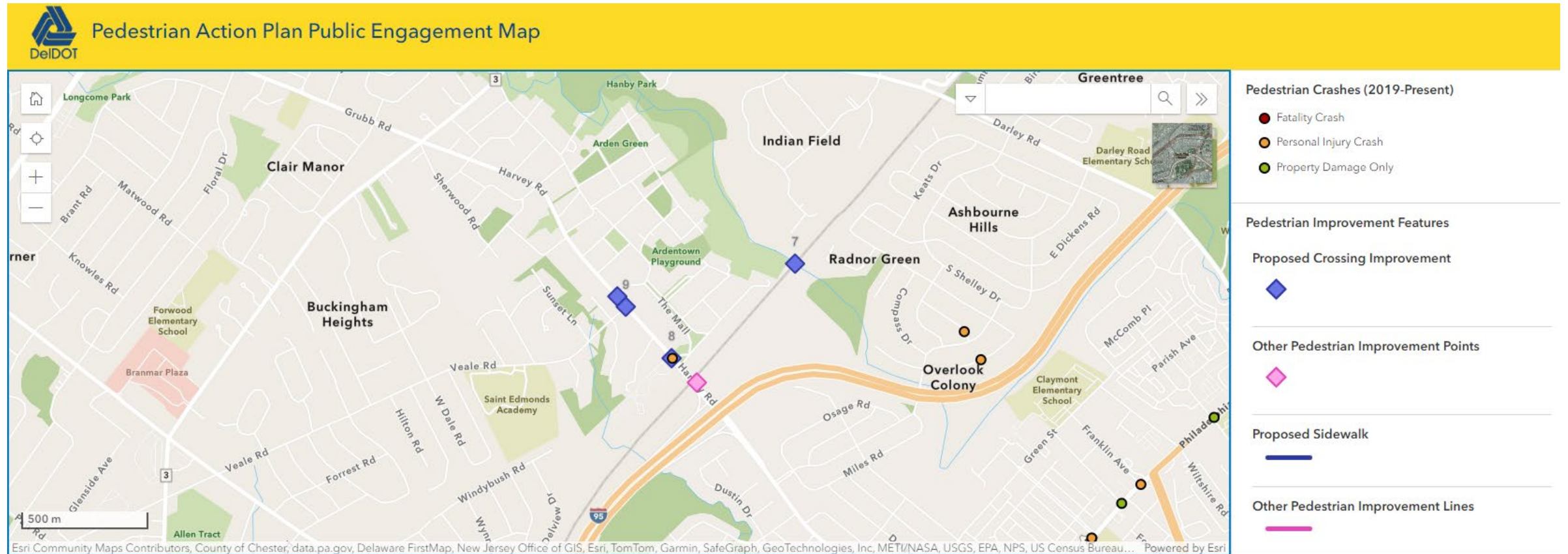
- Rose Hill Community Center (Table Event)
- Delaware State Fair (Table Event)
- Fox Run Shopping Center (Pop-Up)
- Arts in the Park Concert Series at Brecknock Park (Table Event)
- Dover Days (Table Event)
- Transit Rider Engagement
  - Dover Transit Center, bus stops, and bus routes



# Public Outreach – Virtual Engagement

- Online Survey
- Online Interactive Map
- Online review and comment of Pedestrian Action Plan 1

[Click here for interactive engagement map](#)





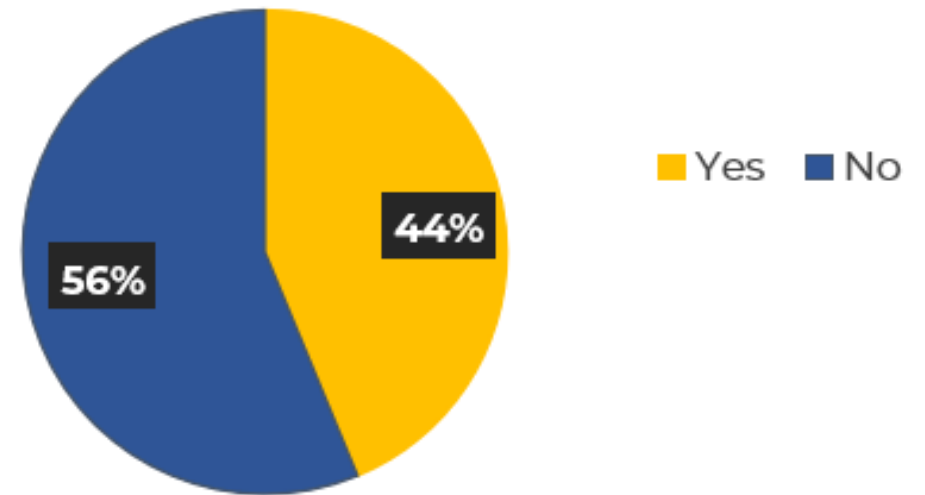
# Public Outreach

**134 total survey responses** were collected between April 3<sup>rd</sup> and August 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Survey Results

- Approximately 80% of respondents walk to meet their daily needs or to access goods and services

**Q7: Are there any areas in your community that you have pedestrian concerns about?**



# Public Outreach

## Survey Results

- Common Discouraging Factors to Walking:
  - Destinations are too far away to walk to
  - Lack of pedestrian infrastructure
  - Poor conditions of pedestrian infrastructure
  - Having to cross roads where cars are driving too fast



# Public Priorities from Outreach



- Increasing overall sidewalk / pedestrian network and connectivity of existing facilities
- Improving crosswalks
- Slowing traffic / lowering speed limits
- Increasing the separation between roads and sidewalks



- Improving pedestrian access to parks



- Adding more protected bike lanes





# 2023 DeIDOT Pedestrian Safety Outreach

- DeIDOT Pedestrian Coordinator interacted with 4,565 people at 16 Events
  - Transit Centers and Intersections
  - National Night Out
  - Community Events
  - Athletic Meet
- Emphasizing: Nighttime Visibility and Retroreflective Items







# Pedestrian Council Role

## How Will the Council Be Involved?

Advise DeIDOT by:

- Identifying gaps in the pedestrian system
- Suggesting ideas for improvements to design standards and policies
- Reviewing traffic rules to support pedestrian safety
- Developing strategies for pedestrian safety education and awareness
- Periodic reviews and recommendations to Statewide Pedestrian Action Plan
- Assist with annual pedestrian safety events and outreach initiatives
- Quarterly reviews of pedestrian fatalities to recommend safety improvement ideas
- Submit an annual report of the Council's activities and recommendations



# Logistics of the Pedestrian Council

## Term limits

- 2-year terms
- Members serve until a replacement is appointed

## How many meetings will there be?

- 4-per-year minimum, with more if necessary
- Meetings will be held both virtually and in-person

## How will information be shared?

- Kelly Valencik will serve as the Council coordinator/administrator



# Pedestrian Council Leadership

## The Election Process

*“... The Council shall elect a chair from among its members. A chair serves for a 2-year term.”*

- The chair will be elected by the Council, based on the majority of votes
- Nominations and vote at the spring meeting (April 24 Tentatively)
- Nominations will be accepted up to the next meeting



# Pedestrian Council Organization

## Potential for Subcommittees

- Subcommittees may be formed to assist with Council duties.
- Subcommittee members are not required to be a Council member.

## Quorum Requirements

- To satisfy the quorum requirements, **the majority of members must be in attendance**, not including vacant positions.



# Opportunity for Public Comments





# Thank you!

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