



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Map highlights traffic crashes involving people walking and bicycling

Knoxville, Tennessee – October 31, 2017 – A new interactive map created by the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) shows factors that contributed to the crashes as well as location trends across the region. A total of 1,440 crashes from seven area law enforcement agencies are included from data that was collected over a five year period. The map allows users to explore information specific to the type of crash, crash factors and an overview of all the data. The map can be viewed at <http://maps.knoxmpc.org/MapSeries/bikepedcrash.html>.

To compile this data, TPO staff verified crash locations and assigned crash factors based on information obtained from individual crash reports, including crash narratives and information about citations issued. The factors include:

- Drivers failing to yield while turning,
- People struck by cars while walking in locations without sidewalks,
- Drivers failing to yield while going straight,
- Bicyclists riding on the sidewalk,
- Pedestrians crossing a street outside of an intersection or marked midblock crossing,
- Bicyclists riding against traffic,
- Drivers striking a bicyclist from behind, and
- Bicyclists riding at night with no lights.

The information was collected from crash reports involving motor vehicles made by local law enforcement to the Tennessee Integrated Traffic Analysis Network (TITAN) and analyzed by the TPO. Crash reports came from the following law enforcement agencies:

- Alcoa Police Department
- Blount County Sheriff's Office
- Knox County Sheriff's Office
- Knoxville Police Department
- Lenoir City Police Department
- Maryville Police Department
- Oak Ridge Police Department

This data is important to the TPO's work because pedestrians and bicyclists involved in a crash are 15 times more likely to be killed than a motorist. Of all 1,440 crashes included in this analysis, 42 were fatalities. Of those, 41 involved people killed while walking and one involved a person killed while bicycling. The goal in identifying the crash factors and analyzing the information is to prevent future crashes through engineering, education, and enforcement.

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Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) coordinates a comprehensive, multimodal transportation planning process for the Knoxville Urban Area. Member jurisdictions include Knox County and the urbanized areas of Anderson, Blount, Loudon and Sevier Counties and includes the following cities: Alcoa, Clinton, Knoxville, Lenoir City, Loudon, Maryville and Oak Ridge, the Town of Farragut, Tennessee Department of Transportation and East Tennessee Development District. For more information, visit our website:

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