

Keeping Pedestrians Safe with HSIP—2020

Saving Lives by Protecting Vulnerable Road Users

In 2019, traffic crashes killed 6,205 pedestrians and injured 76,000 more.¹ Fatal pedestrian crashes increased by 44 percent from 2010 to 2019, with pedestrians making up nearly one-third of all traffic fatalities.²

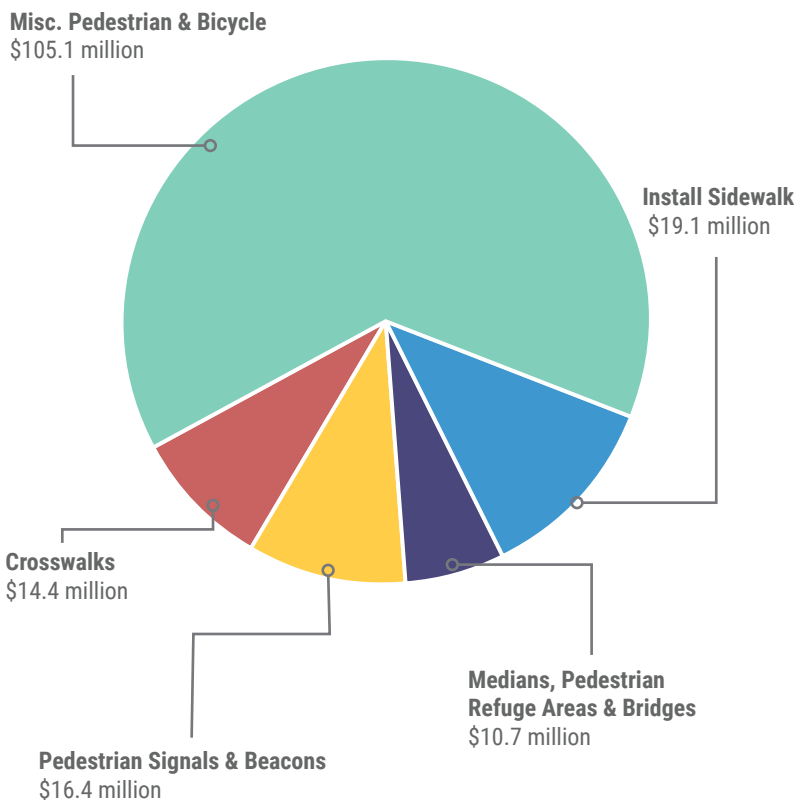
Nearly two-thirds of fatal pedestrian crashes occurred at non-intersection areas (including midblock crossings) in 2019.³ Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds can support projects designed to improve pedestrian safety through facility improvements.⁴

In 2020, States obligated more than \$165 million in HSIP funds to 313 projects focused on pedestrian safety.

This figure represents roughly 7% of the \$2.4 billion total HSIP funding.

HSIP in 2020

PEDESTRIAN PROJECT COSTS



HSIP funded:

- 93** sidewalk installation projects
- 33** crosswalk projects
- 9** pedestrian refuge island projects
- 19** pedestrian beacon projects (rectangular rapid flashing beacons and pedestrian hybrid beacons)



12% of HSIP funds for pedestrian improvements were sidewalk projects.

This information comes from 2020 State HSIP reports. For individual reports, visit <https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/reports/>.

¹ NHTSA, "Traffic Safety Facts: Pedestrians" (May 2021), 6, <https://bit.ly/3l21Ni2>.
² NHTSA, "Geographic Summary of Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities" (June 2021), <https://bit.ly/3rYSnOM>.
³ NHTSA, "Traffic Safety Facts: Pedestrians" (May 2021), 6, <https://bit.ly/3l21Ni2>.

⁴ FHWA, "Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Eligibility Guidance" (February 2022), https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/rulemaking/docs/BIL_HSIP_Eligibility_Guidance.pdf.

2020 HSIP-FUNDED PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

- Crosswalks
- Pedestrian beacons
- Medians and pedestrian refuge areas
- Pedestrian warning signs
- Pedestrian signals
- Pedestrian hybrid beacons
- Pedestrian bridges
- Pedestrian signals, audible devices



Proven Safety Countermeasure

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons

To help people safely cross higher-speed roadways at midblock crossings and uncontrolled intersections, pedestrian hybrid beacons (PHBs) use steady and flashing lights to alert drivers to stop before giving the walk signal for people crossing. PHBs can reduce pedestrian crashes by more than half and total crashes by nearly a third.

For more information, visit https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/provencountermeasures/ped_hybrid_beacon.cfm.

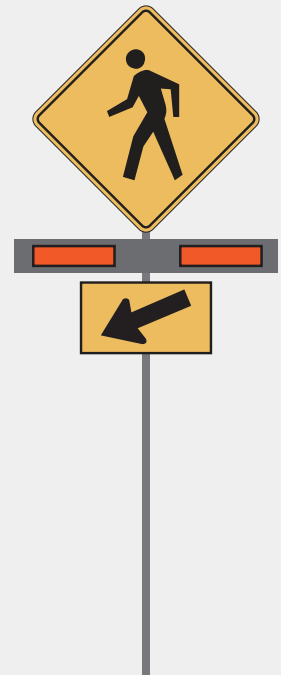
HSIP in Action

Arlington County, Virginia

Arlington County's proximity to the District of Columbia means high demand for transit access and therefore high pedestrian activity. To improve safety and visibility for people using crosswalks, Arlington County used HSIP funds to install rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) at crosswalks. The County installed 10 RRFBs through 2017.

To best locate and implement another 20 RRFBs, Arlington County recorded whether and how often pedestrians actuated the RRFB, as well as the volumes and characteristics of pedestrians at the crossing, driver yield rates, vehicle speed changes while the RRFB was flashing, number of lanes, and posted speed limit. This study revealed that RRFBs reduced speed by 15 percent and increased driver yield by 110 percent—even with increased pedestrian volumes. These results helped the county screen for future sites where the RRFBs would be most effective at improving driver yields.⁵

To date, Arlington County has installed 30 RRFBs. Arlington County's data-driven and systemic approach improved not only pedestrian safety in the community but also the County's approach to measuring and designing future crosswalk treatments.



⁵ USDOT FHWA, *Arlington County Finds the Best Spots for Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons* (2020), <https://bit.ly/3wieboS>.

To find out how HSIP can help save lives in your community, contact your State DOT:

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/about/webstate.cfm>



ZERO IS OUR GOAL
A SAFE SYSTEM IS HOW WE GET THERE



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Have an HSIP success story? Share your projects on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram with #HSIPsavesLives.

