

1 - Work Session Agenda

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2 - Speed Limit Analysis

Documents:

[2 - SPEED LIMIT ANALYSIS.PDF](#)

3 - False Alarm Ordinance Update

Documents:

[3 - FALSE ALARM ORDINANCE UPDATE.PDF](#)

4 - Surplus Property For Affordable Housing Update

Documents:

[4A - SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING UPDATE TO CITY COUNCIL 09 14 2020.PDF](#)



CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE WORK SESSION MEETING

**Monday, September 28, 2020
3:00 p.m.**

Greenville City Hall is currently closed to the public. Please use the following methods to attend the Work Session Meeting:

Virtual Meeting Viewing

<https://www.greenvillesc.gov/meeting>

Password: meetnow

Telephone: 1-415-655-0002

WebEx Event Number: 173 319 2336

Remote Viewing Location:

Greenville Convention Center, 1 Exposition Drive – Room 102

The city of Greenville seeks input from citizens while adhering to public health and safety guidelines. All attendees at the remote viewing location will be subject to a temperature screening with a touch-less forehead thermometer. Anyone with a temperature reading above 100 degrees Fahrenheit will not be admitted. Attendees will be required to wear a covering over their mouth and nose, unless it violates a religious tenant or belief or causes difficulty breathing.

AGENDA

ATTENDEES:

CITY COUNCIL: Mayor Knox White; Councilmember Wil Brasington; Councilmember John DeWorken, Councilmember Dorothy Dowe, Councilmember Lillian Flemming; Councilmember Ken Gibson; Councilmember Russell Stall

CITY STAFF: City Manager John McDonough; City Attorney Michael S. Pitts; City Clerk Camilla G. Pitman

- 1. Call to Order** **3:00 p.m.**
- 2. Speed Limit Analysis** **3:00 p.m.**
(Presented by Public Works Director Mike Murphy)
(Presented by Engineering Services Manager Dwayne Cooper)
- 3. False Alarm Ordinance Update** **3:45 p.m.**
(Presented by Communications Director Fran Moore)
- 4. Contemplated Disposition of Surplus Property for Affordable Housing - Update** **4:10 p.m.**
(Presented by Economic and Community Development Director Merle Johnson)
- 5. Executive Session:** **4:25 p.m.**
 - a. Boards and Commissions**
(Presented by City Clerk Camilla Pitman)
 1. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee
 2. Board of Zoning Appeals
 3. Public Safety Citizen Review Board
 4. Greenville Transit Authority
 5. Design Review Board
 6. Firefighter's Pension Fund Board of Trustees

NOTE: City Council will leave the Work Session Webex virtual meeting to conduct an Executive Session (by electronic means) which is not open to the public. The Work Session meeting will adjourn following the completion of the Execution Session. No action will be taken during the executive session portion of the meeting.

6. Adjourn

5:00 p.m.

Speed Limit Analysis

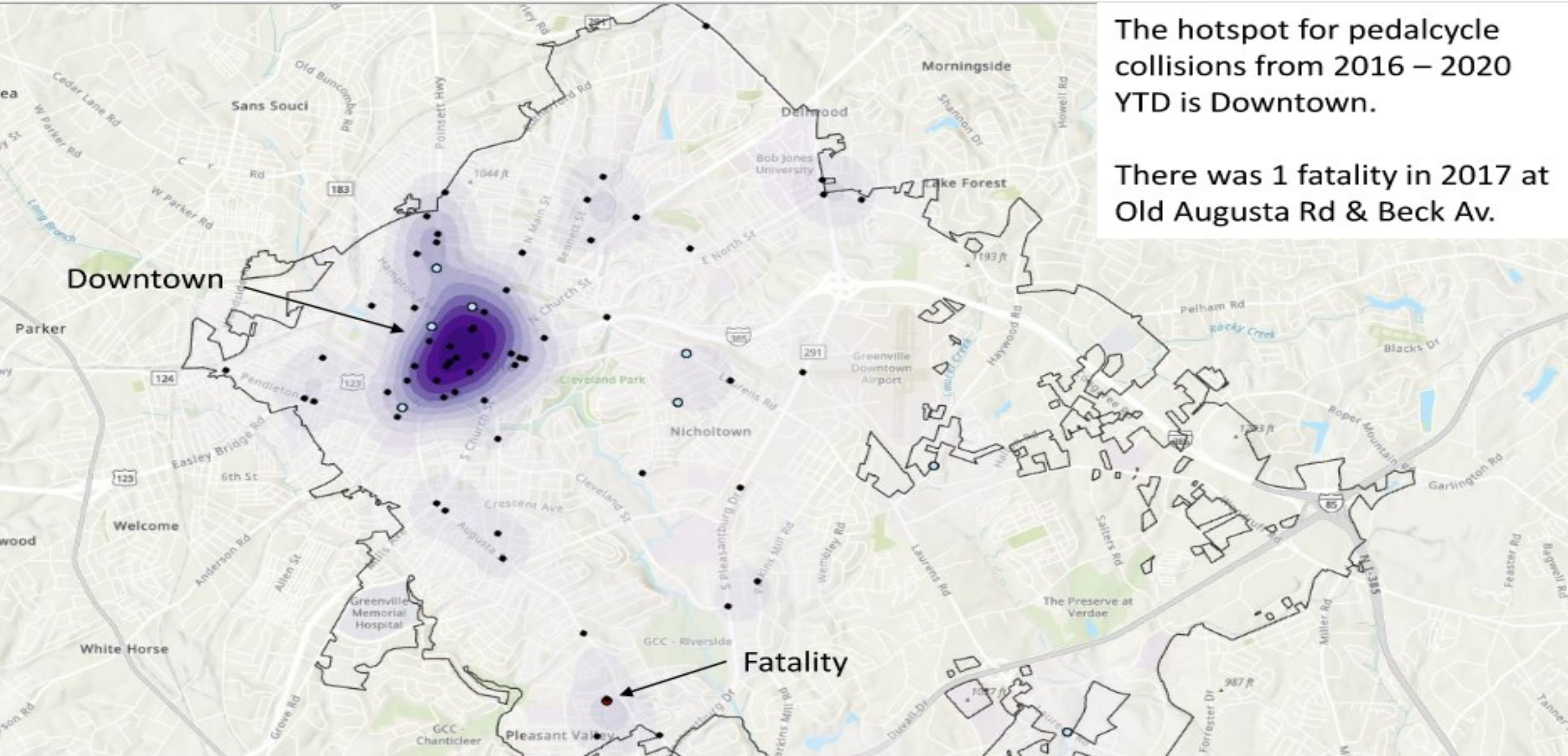
City of Greenville

09/28/2020



CITY OF GREENVILLE
POLICE

Map of Pedalcycle Collisions (2016 – 2020 YTD)



The hotspot for pedalcycle collisions from 2016 – 2020 YTD is Downtown.

There was 1 fatality in 2017 at Old Augusta Rd & Beck Av.



Year	Fatal	Incapacitating	Non-Incapacitating	Not Injured	Possible Injury	Grand Total
2016		1	6	27	10	44
2017	1	2	7	33	9	52
2018		2	3	29	5	39
2019		3	2	17	4	26
2020		1	5	7	1	14
Grand Total	1	9	23	113	29	175

There have been a total of 175 injuries from 76 pedalcycle collisions since 2016. 2020 is on track to have the lowest number of pedalcycle collisions in the past 5 years at an estimated 23.5 collisions.

Time Range	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Grand Total
0100-0159						1		1
0200-0259							1	1
0600-0659					1	1		2
0700-0759						1		1
0800-0859	1				2	2		5
0900-0959				1				1
1100-1159	2	1		1				4
1200-1259	2	2	1		1			6
1300-1359				2	3	1		6
1400-1459		1	2	2		1	1	7
1500-1559			1		2	1		4
1600-1659			1	3			1	5
1700-1759	2		2	3	2	2		11
1800-1859	1	1	1		1	2		6
1900-1959			2	2	3	1		8
2000-2059	1				1		1	3
2100-2159			1	1				2
2200-2259			1			1		2
2300-2359		1						1
Grand Total	9	6	12	15	16	14	4	76

The hottest days for pedalcycle collisions are Wednesdays and Thursdays. The hottest times are 1700-1759 and 1900-1959.

The hottest day of week by hour for pedalcycle collisions is Wednesday between 1600-1759 and Thursday between 1300-1359 and 1900-1959.

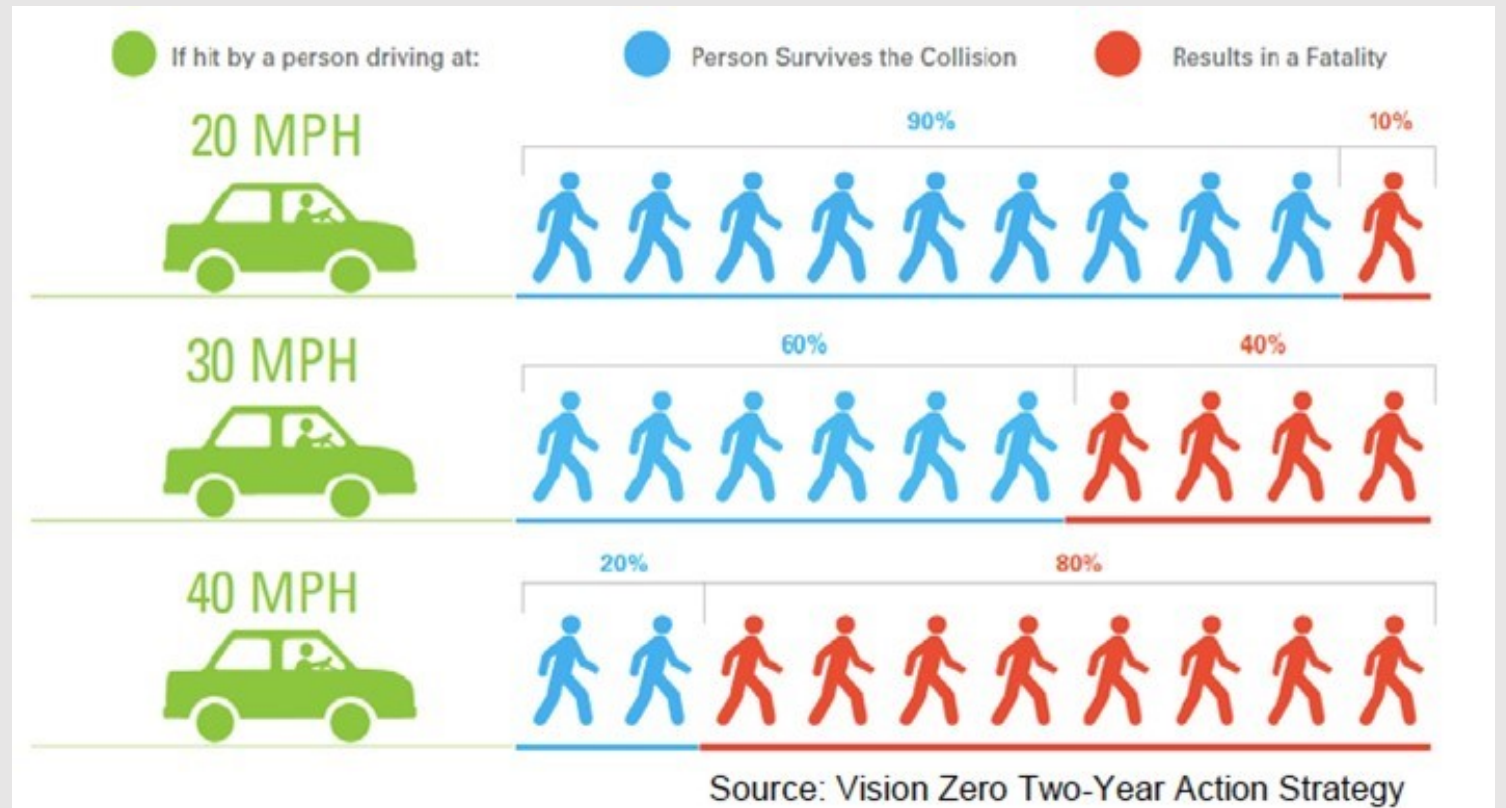


20 is Plenty

→ **Reduction of speed limits to 20 MPH in neighborhoods and pedestrian zones.**

Goals

- Reduction of Fatalities
- Safer Road Conditions
- Quality of Life



Speed Limit Reductions

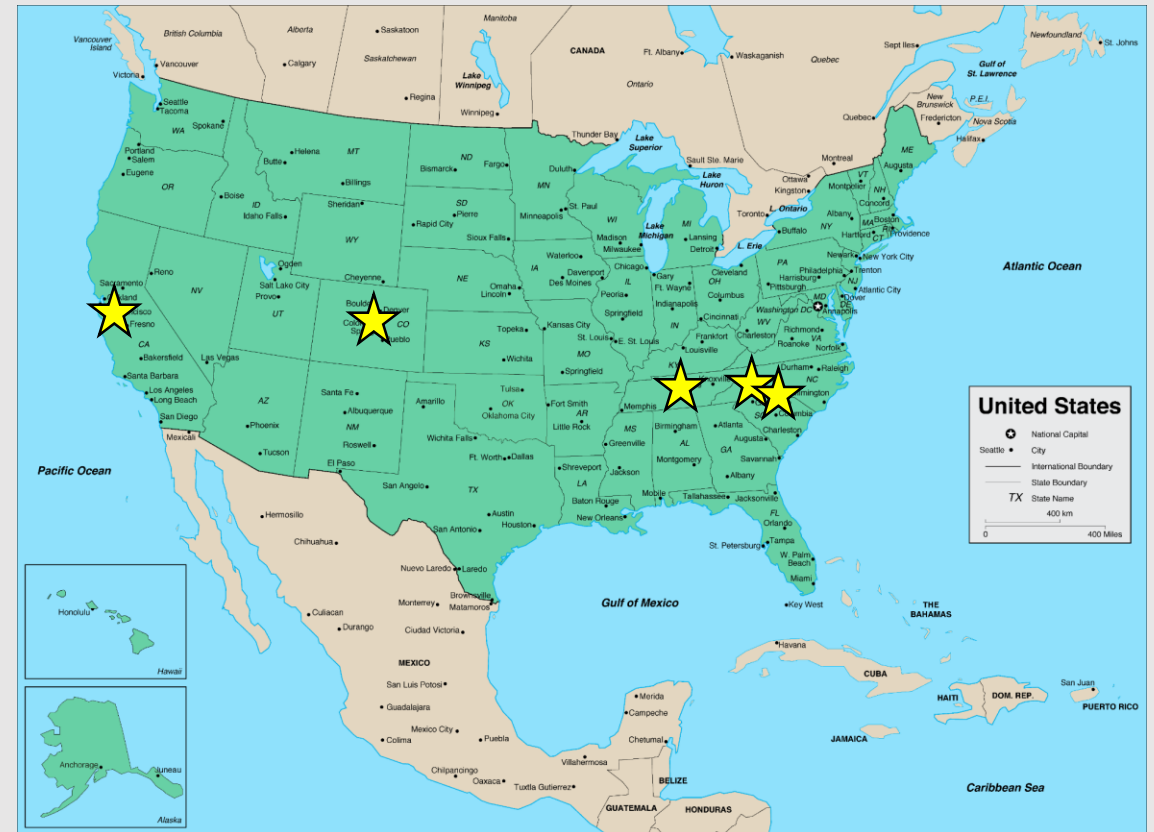
- More about “Social Engagement” than “Traffic Engineering”
- Driver Education
- Communication
- Large Area Implementation
- Resulted in Lowering Average Speed 1.9 MPH



Research

- Asheville, NC (pop. 93,758)
- Fremont, CA (pop. 239,525)
- Franklin, TN (pop. 88,004)
- Boulder, CO (pop. 330,088)
- Concord, NC (pop. 94,130)

Population Estimates for 2020



Asheville, NC

- Speed limit reductions requested by citizens
- Staff performed traffic engineering studies
- Reduction in speeds approved by council resolution
 - 35 mph to 20 mph - 5 streets
 - 30-35 mph to 25 mph - 36 streets
 - 35 mph to 30 mph - 1 street



Fremont, CA

- Reduction of neighborhood speed limits from 25 mph to 20 mph
- Increased deployment of radar speed limit signs (45 total)
- Program is voluntary
- Communication via yard signs, which are provided on request



Franklin, TN

- Speed limit reductions are neighborhood-driven
- Included in their traffic calming program
- Education, evaluation and enforcement included in process



Boulder, CO

- New Citywide Default Speed limit set at 20 mph
- Based on Safe Streets Report
- Includes education, evaluation, and enforcement



Concord, NC

- Speed limit reductions requested by citizens
- Staff performed traffic engineering studies
- Analysis performed by Transportation Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC)
- Speed limit changes of more than 10 mph must get 75% approval of property owners on street



Request for Speed Limit Change

(Please Read the City's Speed Limit Change Policy Prior to Submitting Request)

Name of Applicant: _____

Subdivision: _____

Address: _____

Day phone #: _____

E-mail address: _____

Neighborhood association (HOA) if applicable: _____

Does your neighborhood have decorative signs? _____ (Yes/No/Unsure)

Does a valid encroachment agreement exist for decorative signs? _____ (Yes/No/Unsure)

Current Speed Limit: _____ MPH

Is the speed limit currently posted? _____ (Yes/No)

Requested Speed Limit: _____ MPH

Please tell us about the reason for the Speed Limit Change request:

I have read the City of Concord Speed Limit Change Policy and agree to be the named Applicant for this request. _____ Date: _____

Signature of Applicant

Please submit your request by mail, or email to edwards@concordnc.gov. Further contact information for the Administrative Division can be found on the Transportation Department Contacts page on the City of Concord website at <https://www.concordnc.gov>.

Transportation

635 Alfred Brown Jr. Court SW., P.O. Box 308, Concord, NC 28026
Phone (704) 920-5338 • Fax (704) 795-0404

Conclusions

- Studies show average 1.9 mph reduction
- Further reduction must be accomplished by changes to roadway characteristics
- Some reduction in outlier speeding has occurred
- Does raise awareness
- Does have other benefits not related to speed
- Enforcement



Council Feedback

- Obtain Council Input
- Financial Considerations





False Alarm Ordinance Changes

October 2020



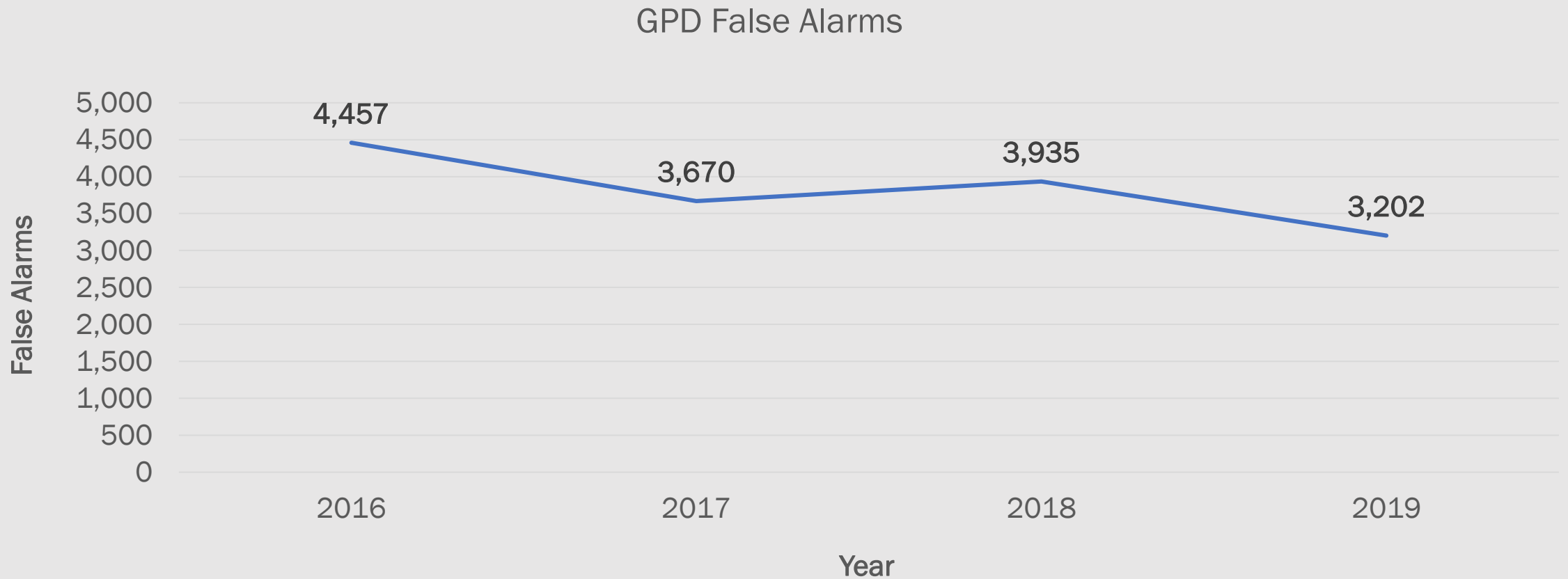
Alarms / False Alarms

- Greenville PD/FD Communications receives alarms in two different manners:
 - Alarm companies reporting activation of a client's alarm system. 98% of these are false alarms.
 - Citizens calling in audible alarms in the area.
- As of September 14, 2020, there are 9,866 known intrusion alarmed locations within the City.
 - 6,293 residential (125 of those with 3 or more false alarms: 2%)
 - 3,868 commercial (611 of those with 3 or more false alarms: 16%)
 - 82 of those are on the non-response list (failure to register/unpaid previous fines)
 - 7% of false alarms are from non-registered users
- In 2019, emergency response to false police alarms cost the City approximately \$57,834.00. (2,142 manhours)
- There is a lost opportunity cost when officers and fire personnel respond to false alarms and are not available for legitimate threats to public safety or other duties.

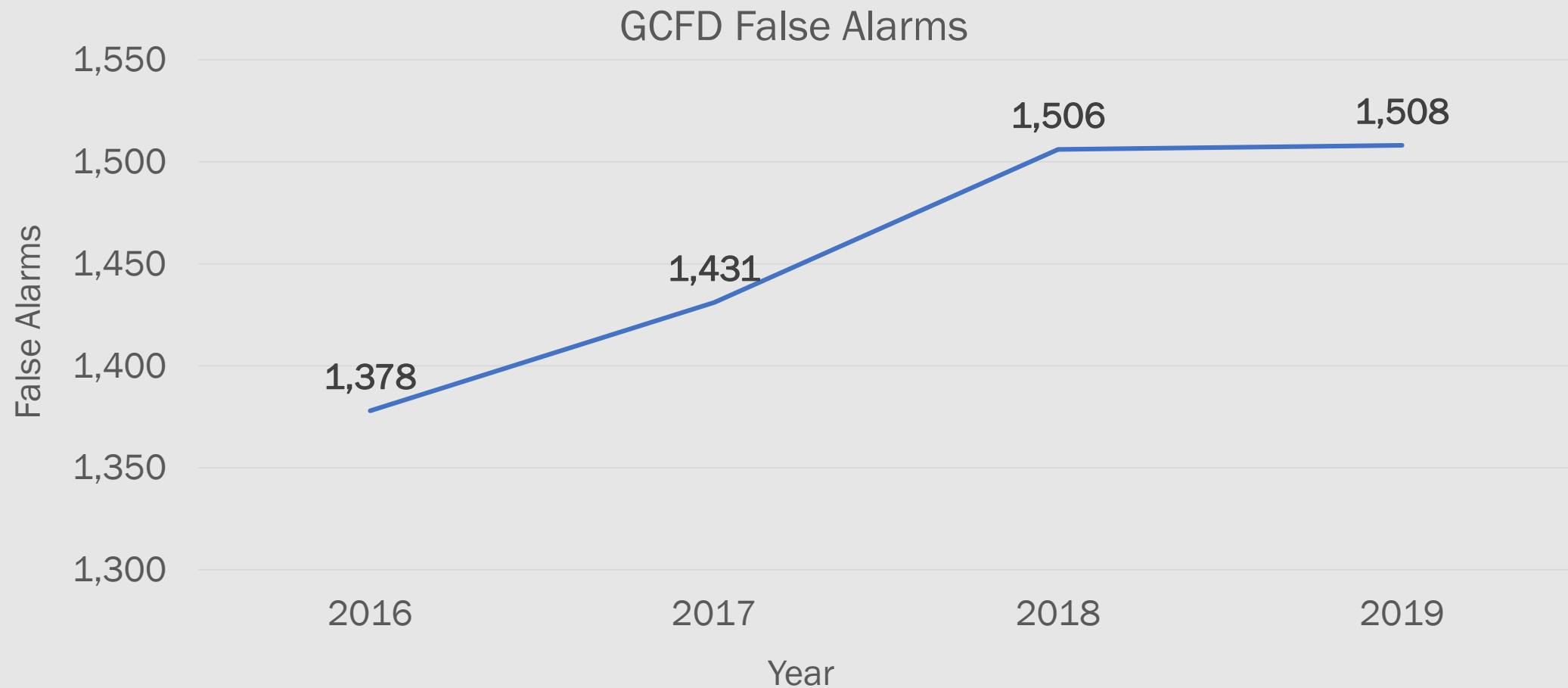
Greenville False Alarm Ordinance- Current

- 2018: Burglar alarm ordinance was updated from the older 2011 version.
 - Focus on alarm user
 - Alarmed locations will be allowed two (2) false burglar alarm responses per alarm permit year.
 - User must register alarm system
 - Civil fines assessed to the alarm user
 - Maintains criteria for temporarily suspending emergency response if the user does not pay fines or take corrective action.
 - Only burglar alarm response is suspended; panic and hold-up alarms still receive a response regardless of account status.
 - Requires alarm companies to inform users of the City's ordinance; however, no fines against alarm companies for repeated false activations.

False Alarm History: GPD



False Alarm History: GCFD



Challenges

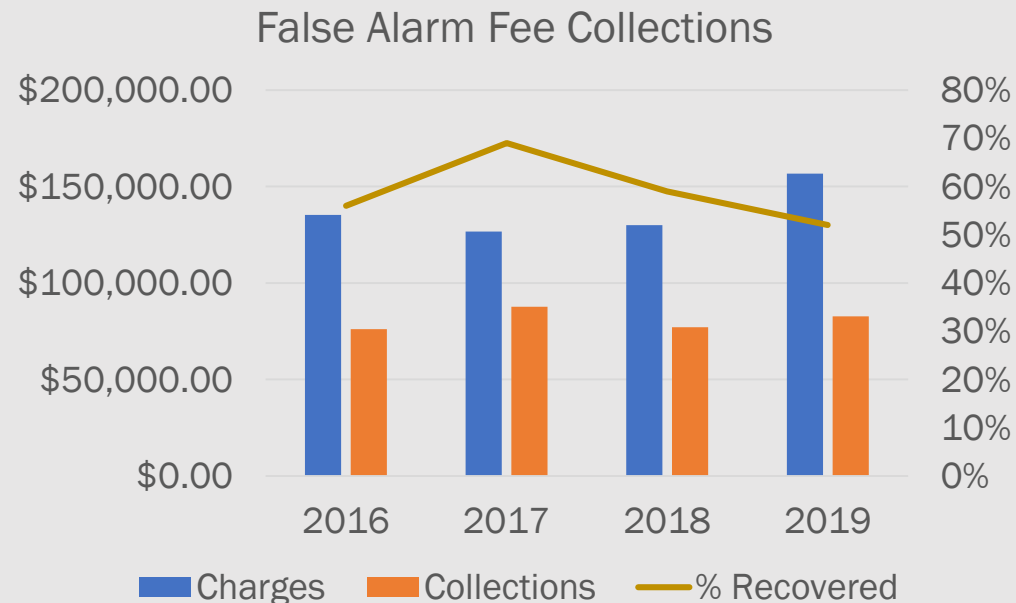
- Alarm registration lists are not complete
 - Alarm companies own their customer lists and do not share updates
- Number of false alarms
 - Alerts received by monitoring centers indicate an activation at the site- not verification of an actual emergency.
 - Current 2-call verification by alarm company has not produced a reduction in false alarm calls to Comm Center. (98% are false)
- Some alarm companies charge residents to inspect and/or repair malfunctioning alarm equipment.

False Alarm Reduction Efforts

- In 2018, the alarm ordinance was updated to meet Security Industry Alarm Coalition (SIAC) standards.
- In November 2019, general and burglar alarms without audio/visual burglary indicators were downgraded to a priority 3 response.
 - This allowed the alarm companies 15 minutes to locate a keyholder for verification prior to the Comms Center dispatching the alarm to responders.
- Top false alarm offenders are called by the Alarm Coordinator to discuss alarm challenges and seek ways to reduce additional false alarms.

Collections

- The alarm fee collection process has never been used as a revenue generation source; the purpose is to encourage responsible alarm management.
- Alarm fee collections vary between 52%-69%.



Proposed Revised Ordinance

- Enhance responsibility of the Alarm Company
 - Ensures that alarm companies and their customers are registered with the City
 - Fines the alarm company for non-compliance
- Establishes *True Verification* of alarms:
 - Confirmation by alarm user at alarm site or via self-monitored audio/visual equipment
 - Confirmation by a private security responder at the alarm site
 - Audible and/or visual evidence provided by a monitored alarm system, audio/visual evidence is made available to the emergency communications center no more than 24 hours after the request of dispatch of the City's public safety departments.
- Additional provisions to increase the safety and reliability of alarm systems:
 - Prohibiting single action non-recessed buttons on panic & hold up alarms
 - One (1)-year period for equipment compliance

Why the Shift in Responsibility?

- Alarm Companies are private companies
 - Installs the alarm system and provides monthly monitoring for a fee to its customers
 - Depends on Public Safety personnel to provide response services
 - Current system places burden/costs of system and ordinance compliance on the Public Safety departments
- Shifting responsibility to the Alarm Company
 - Ensures all monitored alarms are registered
 - Places responsibility for equipment maintenance and proper usage with the alarm company and its customers
 - Alarm company has choice to share burden of cost for false alarms with its customers

Working Towards a Solution

- Discussion regarding internal processes between PD, FD, Revenue, and Legal.
- Meet with representatives from SIAC to discuss new ordinance proposal.
- Meet with alarm company representatives to inform about new alarm management process.
- Inform alarm users about the updated alarm ordinance and implementation time frames.
- Consolidate Police and Fire false alarm billing into a central process.

New Ordinance Implementation

- Alarm Company must register their alarm company: Permit number issued
- Alarm Company must apply for sub-permits for each of its customers (alarm users)
- If an Alarm Company doesn't provide a permit number for the user when calling Comms, the Company is fined.
- Alarm Company must provide audio or video verification when calling or Company fined.
- If public safety resources are dispatched to calling address and find no basis for dispatch, Alarm Company is fined.
- After three (3) false alarms from an alarm site within a 12-month period, will result in a 6 month suspension of response to burglar alarms.

Fine Schedule Updates

Existing Fine Schedule

Police False Alarms	
Alarms 1-2	No Charge
Alarms 3-4	\$50.00
Alarms 5-6	\$100.00
Alarms 7-8	\$250.00
Alarms 9+	\$500.00
Failure to Register	\$100.00

False Fire Alarm	
Alarms 1-3 (quarterly)	No Charge
Alarms 4+ (quarterly)	\$50.00

GCFD response to all fire alarms. There are no “suspended” response designations.

New Fine Schedule

Excessive Police or Fire False Alarm	
False Alarm 1	No Charge
False Alarm 2	\$10.00
False Alarm 3	\$25.00

Administrative Fines	
Failure to register alarm company and/or provide the City with a list of all current alarms in operation within city limits	\$50.00
Failure to notify City prior to placing an alarm into operation	\$25.00
Failure to notify the alarm administrator of changes to list of alarm users in a timely manner	\$50.00
Failure to verify activated intrusion alarm	\$250.00
Failure to provide dispatch w/ permit #	\$50.00
Failure to maintain or present records	\$50.00
Installation of non-recessed holdup alarm button	\$50.00

Appeals

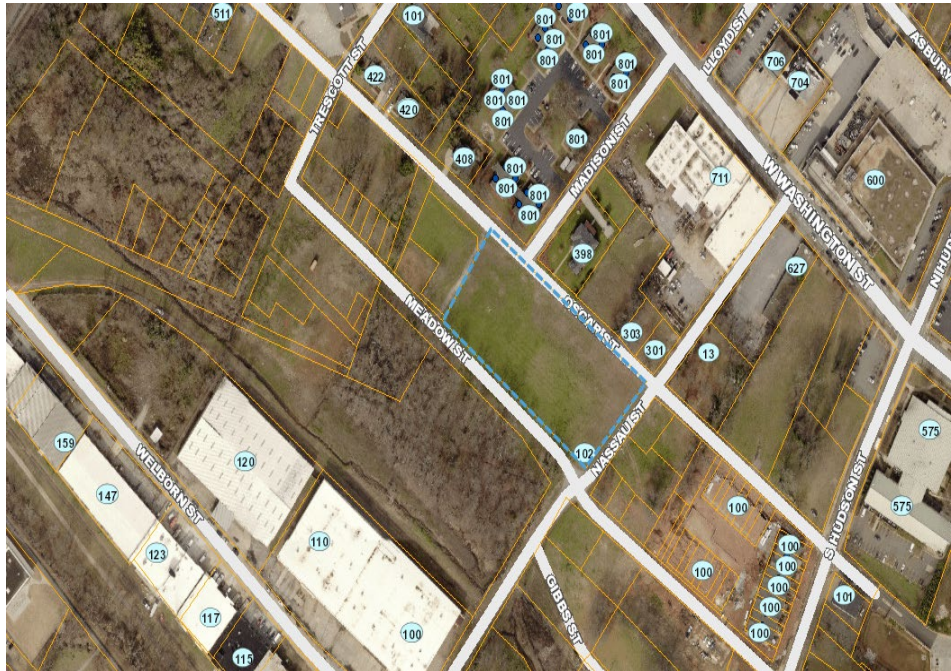
- Established appeals processes are in place
- Unique circumstances are taken into account (i.e., severe weather events)

Next Steps

- City Council Work Session: September 28
- Proposed Effective Date: January 1, 2021
- Roll-out to include:
 - Messaging
 - Press releases
 - Meetings with alarm companies
 - Implementation into current alarm billing processes

Questions?

Sites: W. Washington @ S. Hudson Streets and Oscar Street



Sites: W. Washington Street neat Trescott Street and Southernside Park

