Implementing Safer Speed Limits

**District:** Citywide  
**Project ID:** TC367520  
**City of Seattle contact:** SDOT, Jim Curtin jim.curtin@seattle.gov, 206-684-8874  
**Additional funding needed:** $3 million  
(current funding is $2.4 million, with $3 million, total Vision Zero budget will be $5.4 million)

**Situation:** Everyone wants safe streets to travel on and live next to. Unfortunately, every year 150 people suffer life altering injuries and 20 people loose their lives on our roads. It doesn’t have to be this way.

Mayor Murray stepped forward as an exemplary leader by introducing Vision Zero (zero injuries or fatalities by 2030) and by signing the safer speed limits bill this October. Seattle City Council also expressed a strong desire to not just simply put up signs, but to see safety changes fully implemented.

National (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) and international experts (World Health Organization) agree that better street designs are the most effective -- and most equitable -- way to implement safer speed limits.

SDOT has a highly effective and efficient program to implement safer speeds and safer streets, its Vision Zero program. However, the Vision Zero program (TC367520) is currently funded at $2.4 million per year, which is not sufficient to meet the challenge of fixing our most dangerous streets and intersections.

Increasing program funding by $3 million to a total of $5.4 million will allow the Vision Zero staff to implement safety improvements across the city by fixing dangerous streets such as Rainier Ave S, NE 65th, Lake City Way, Greenwood Ave N, 35th NE, 35th SW, and 12th Ave.

Vision Zero program funding will also enable SDOT to begin to work down a backlog of 300 community-identified spot improvements and 100 SDOT-defined safety improvements.
What are some examples of Vision Zero low-cost spot improvements?

- Crosswalks
- Speed bumps
- Diveters
- Painted curb bulb & posts
- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB)
- Signs & pavement marking