

LA CROSSE POLICE DEPARTMENT



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CITY OF LA CROSSE



- Population of 51,000 residents
- 3 colleges totaling about 15,000 students.
- Major center for Tri-state area with commuter traffic for business.

***LA CROSSE IS RECOGNIZED AS A CENTER FOR YEAR-ROUND OUTDOOR RECREATION.**

***THE RESIDENTS AND VISITORS OF LA CROSSE ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF A COMPACT CITY AND WALKABLE DOWNTOWN ALIVE WITH STREET ACTIVITY.**

***WITH SEVERAL MILES OF BICYCLING, WALKING, AND HIKING TRAILS .**

*** IT IS A CITY RECOGNIZED BY THE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS AS A SILVER LEVEL BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY FOR ITS RECENT ADVANCES IN BIKE LANES, SHARED LANE MARKINGS, TRAILS, AND NUMEROUS EVENTS AND PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION.**

***IT IS THE VISION OF LA CROSSE TO BE A VIBRANT COMMUNITY THAT ENCOURAGES WALKING AND BICYCLING FOR TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION.**

Goals for La Crosse

- Be recognized as a gold level bicycle friendly community.
- Be recognized as a gold level pedestrian friendly community.
- Promote the concept of complete streets.
- Make sure that all bicyclist, pedestrians, motorist and transit riders are welcome, protected and respected.

Actions taken by the City of La Crosse

- In 2011 City Council adopted a Green Complete Streets Ordinance that was incorporated into the Municipal Code Chapter 5.18, which reads, in part:

The purpose of this ordinance is to ensure that the streets of the City of La Crosse provide safe, convenient, and comfortable routes for walking, bicycling, and public transportation, encourage increased use of these modes of transportation, enable convenient travel as part of daily activities, improve the public welfare by addressing a wide array of health and environmental problems, and meet the needs of all users of the streets, including children, older adults, and people with disabilities.

**In the Fall of 2012 the City completed a bicycle and pedestrian Master Plan that was very extensive.*

TOP 10 IDEAS FROM MASTER PLAN

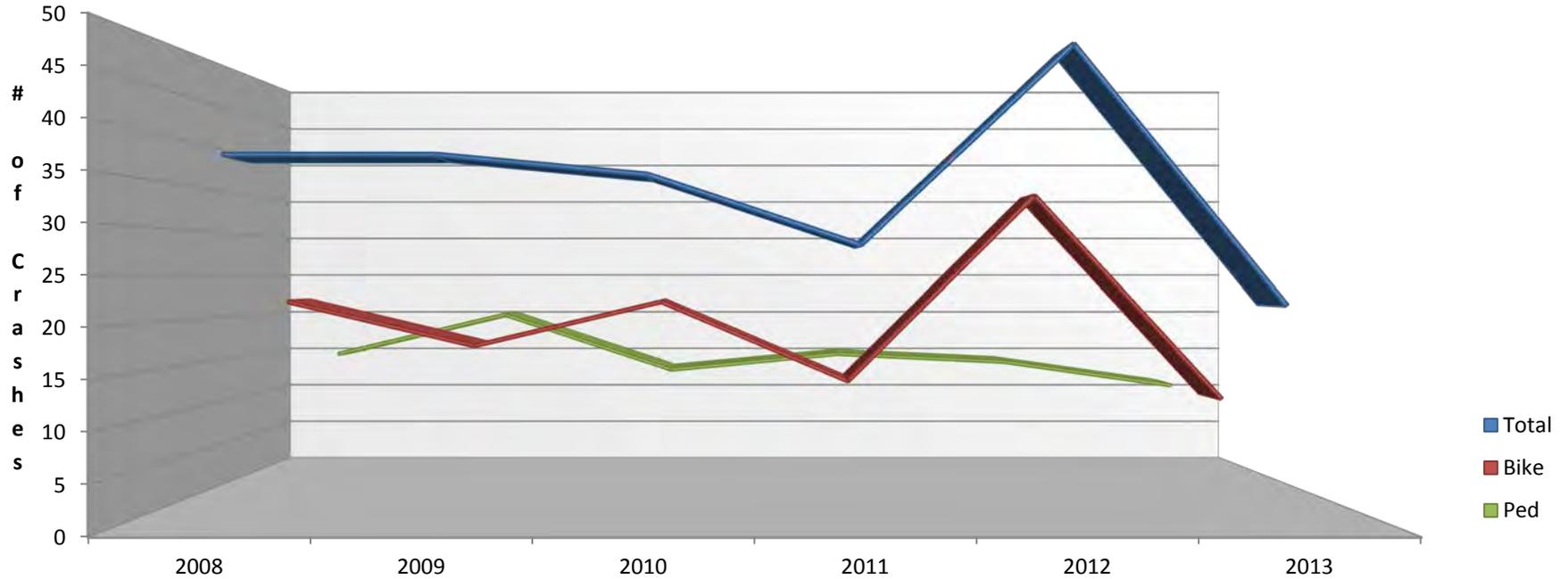
1. Appoint a Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator and establish a standing Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee.
2. Identify critical pedestrian crossings and improve with pavement markings, signs, and traffic control devices
3. Implement a plan to correct all curb ramps at intersections, eliminate tripping hazards, and sidewalk gaps
4. Reduce travel speeds on Losey Boulevard and West Avenue to the speed limit
5. Make connections between on-street bike facilities and the Gundersen Lutheran trail network
6. Begin transforming King Street into a Bike Boulevard
7. Begin work to create two additional Bike Boulevards on 17th Street and Farnam Street
8. Continue planning for a continuous, riverfront trail in La Crosse
9. Complete a connected network of on-street bicycle facilities and directional signs in the heart of La Crosse
10. Begin work on redesign of the US 14/61 – Wisconsin 35 intersection

WHAT THE POLICE CURRENTLY ARE INVOLVED IN.

- Education (Schools, Bike Rodeo, Media,)
- Have a member sit on the Bike/Pedestrian safety committee.
- Sit on county wide Healthy Living coalition that looks at healthy living habits in county.
- Involved with the Safe Routes to school project.
- Use CPTED model in looking at schools, streets and new businesses.
- Enforcement.
- Had 12 Officers take the State Pedestrian & Bicycle Law Enforcement Training.

LA CROSSE

Bike/Ped Crashes from January Through July

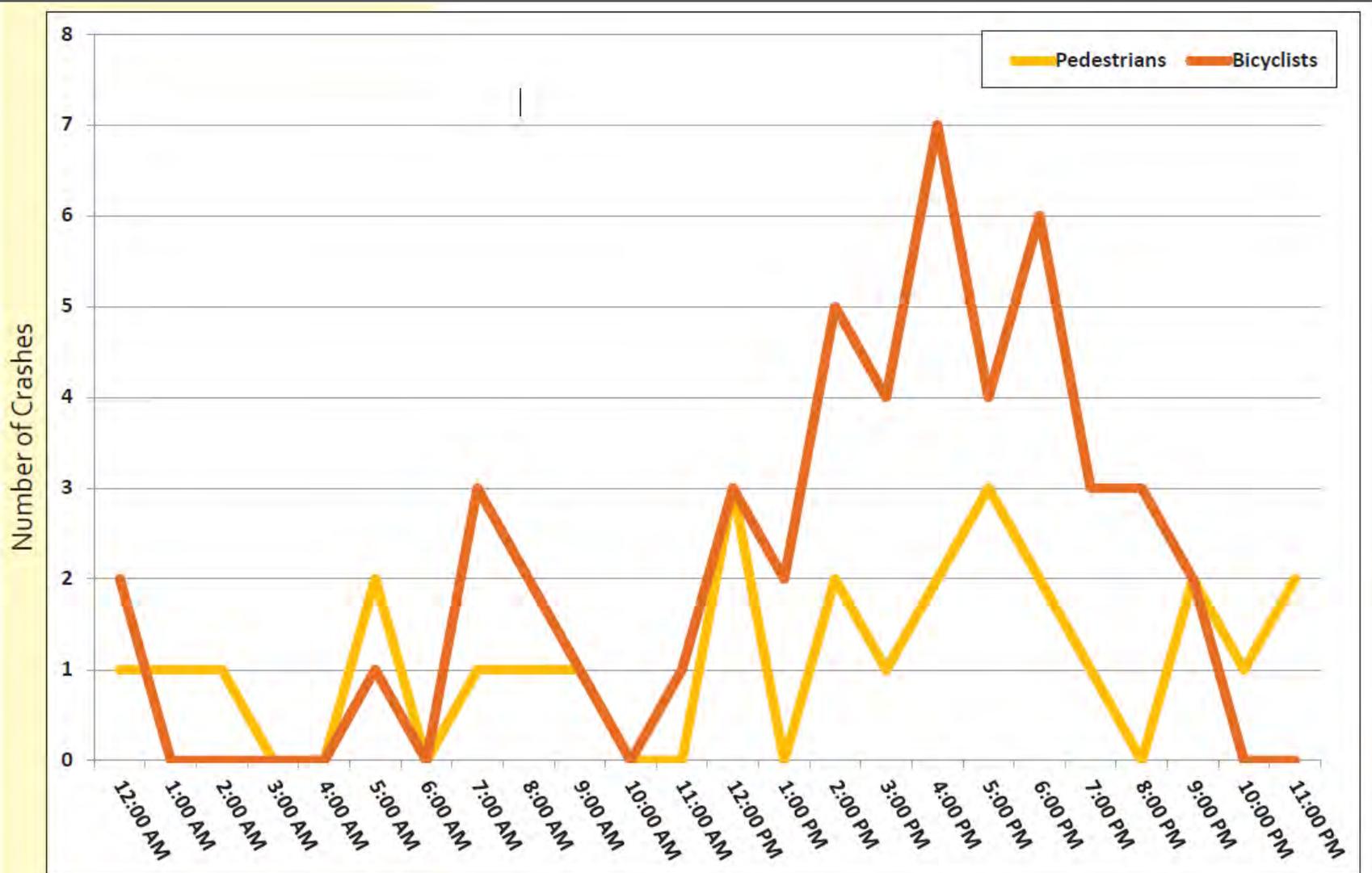


	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	37	37	35	28	48	22
Bike	22	17	22	13	34	11
Ped	15	20	13	15	14	11

BICYCLE COUNTS IN THE LA CROSSE.

Location	2010	2012
7th Street & Main Street	83	152
7th Street & Farnam Street	56	109
Nakomis Avenue & Clinton Street	77	221
3rd Street & Main Street (Onalaska)	61	77
Total	277	559

TIME OF DAY FOR BIKE/PED ACCIDENTS



4 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS FROM STUDY.

- .Reduce travel speeds on major roadways to the speed limit.
- Increase the number of pedestrian patrols.
- Set up mobile speed feedback signs along La Crosse streets to reduce speeding and determine where enforcement measures would be most beneficial.
- Study identified 8 areas in the city for improved enforcement.

MEDIA

- La Crosse has 3 TV stations, Newspaper and several talk radio shows.
- Did a Press Release announcing the program.
- We did interviews and live telecast on all 3 TV stations announcing the Pedestrian enforcement grant and upcoming enforcement action.
- Did 2 live talk radio show talking about the program.
- Notified local groups and committee's that we work with announcing the program.
- Put on our Police Facebook and Twitter announcing the program and enforcement action that was going to be taking place.
- Plan on having media ride along once college student are back in town and we ramp up our fall enforcement.

PEDESTRIAN GRANT

- 3-4 Officers working a 3 hour shift during high traffic time.
- Grant cars are also helped out by regular shift officers if needed.
- Have done it with one decoy officer and 2-3 chase cars to issue citations and warning tickets and also hand out information brochure.
- Also had walk groups concentrating on Pedestrian contact and handing out information brochures and warnings if needed.
- Plan to try and use highway construction signs to announce our enforcement area.



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Did you Know?

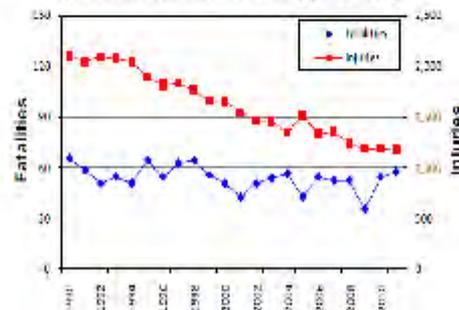
In Wisconsin, in 2011

- one pedestrian was injured or killed every 7.1 hours.
- 1,218 crashes involved pedestrians in Wisconsin in 2011.
- Of these crashes, 57 pedestrians were killed and 1,169 pedestrians were injured.
- Few pedestrian crashes result in property damage only; the pedestrian is almost always injured.
- Over the years, improvements to pedestrian safety have been made in areas such as engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency response.
- The number of pedestrians killed has been steadily declining for the past 20 years.
- **The number of injuries has decreased by 44% since 1990.**

Types/Factors of Pedestrian Crashes

- Street or road crossings are, by far, the most common types of pedestrian crashes. Any street crossing can put a pedestrian in the path of a motor vehicle driver who may not be paying attention or may not have the time to avoid a pedestrian who suddenly steps into the path of the vehicle.
- **Impaired:** Of the 54 crashes in which a pedestrian was killed, 33 (61%) involved either an impaired pedestrian or motorist.
- Of the 1,118 crashes in which a pedestrian was injured, 98 (9%) involved either an impaired pedestrian or motorist.

Pedestrian Fatalities and Injuries (1990-2011)



Current Pedestrian Laws

Based on Wis. Stats. 346.23(1)(2) & 346.2491

- At any crosswalk (marked or unmarked), the operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian, person riding a bicycle, or electric personal assistive mobility device, in a manner which is consistent with the safe use of a crosswalk by a pedestrian who has started to cross the highway.
- In all other cases, pedestrians, bicyclists, and riders of electric personal assistive mobility devices shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles lawfully proceeding directly ahead on a green signal.
- No operator of a vehicle proceeding ahead on a green signal may begin a turn at a controlled intersection or crosswalk when a pedestrian or bicyclist or rider of an electric personal assistive mobility device crossing in the crosswalk on a green or walk signal would be endangered or interfered with in any way.

ENFORCEMENT TAKEN

- Done 10 enforcement stings.
- Had a total of 177 enforcement actions taken (Warnings/Citations).
- Average about 17.5 contacts per 3 hour session.
- Also 4 warrant arrest made.
- Have not had any negative feedback from the community.

FINAL THOUGHTS.

La Crosse Police Department

