

Rose Park Neighborhood Council – Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

April 24th, 2019 (Wednesday) – 5:00 pm – Missoula Senior Center (705 S. Higgins)

Leadership Team Members in Attendance: Roula Agne, Julie Devlin, Tate Jones, Katie LaPointe, Elizabeth Williams, Michael Painter.

Others in Attendance: Karen Gasvoda (Office of Neighborhoods), Casey Erickson (Rose Park NC), Jeff Miller (Lewis & Clark NC), Jeff Lamson (Lewis & Clark NCLT), Andie Conlon (National Wildlife Federation), Penelope LaPointe (Rose Park NC / RPNC LT Morale Officer)

Co-Chair Katie LaPointe called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Introductions & welcome.

Traffic Statistics Analysis – Lewis & Clark NC / South Avenue – Jeff Miller, Lewis & Clark NC resident, gave a report on his analysis & study of available traffic statistics (traffic counts, accident information, and traffic control / safety devices in place) in the Lewis & Clark neighborhood, including boundary streets. Lewis & Clark NC has been in discussion with Ben Weiss regarding traffic control & traffic safety devices in their neighborhood. Jeff also provided recommendations for collecting better data in support of neighborhood requests for traffic control or traffic safety devices. Additional recommendations neighborhoods might consider to help reduce accidents include (1) increasing police patrol / monitoring, (2) improving driver & pedestrian awareness, and (3) increasing signage and decreasing speed limits. (Note: Jeff Miller gave a similar presentation at Lewis & Clark NC's General Meeting on March 6th – slides from Jeff's presentation may be available on the City's website.)

Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the January 23, 2019 Rose Park Neighborhood Council Leadership Team meeting were approved.

National Wildlife Federation – Garden for Wildlife – Andie Conlon, currently serving as Education & Outreach Assistant in the Missoula office of NWF, discussed their ongoing efforts to certify gardens & parks in our community to help provide wildlife habitat. Andie handed out information regarding the certification process & noted that NWF will be partnering with Missoula Urban Demonstration (MUD) on two upcoming Rain Barrel Workshop events – May 18th & June 22nd from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at MUD (1527 Wyoming).

Review of Neighborhood Projects

- Julie Devlin reported that she believes she has enough funding collected for the Traffic Circle project @ Crosby & Cleveland. (Ben Weiss had requested that the funds be in hand by May 1st in order to get the project started this year.)
- Painter briefly discussed recommendations regarding improvements to the Slant Street Gateway. Roula asked for descriptions of the neighborhood grants which still have funds available to help with the project – she offered to help with a “change of scope” for those grants once a plan is approved. Painter asked that the May Rose Park NC Leadership Team meeting be held at the Slant Street Gateway (weather permitting) – that was approved by voice vote. Painter will notify others who have expressed interest in working on the project and invite them to attend as well.
- Missoula Parks & Rec has scheduled a Memorial Rose Garden Volunteer Work Day for this Saturday – LT members were encouraged to promote that work session and attend if possible.

Public Comment – Jeff Lamson, member of the Lewis & Clark NC Leadership Team (but who also owns property in Rose Park NC) expressed concerns about MCPS students crossing busy Missoula roadways (S. Russell St.) if the proposed school boundary changes are implemented.

Community Forum Reports – Julie gave a report on the January & February Community Forum meetings. January presenters included: Shane Stack (MT DOT) & Katie Klietz (Big Sky Public Relations) gave an update on the Russell Street project, Carol Garlington (Moose Can Gully NC's Leadership Team) led a discussion on City-Wide NC priorities. February presenters included: Kaia Peterson (Franklin School PTA) on the Franklin School Garden & Playground (funded in part by a neighborhood grant), Tara Osendorf (Development Services) on the Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan, and Tom Zavitz & Garin Wally (Development Services) on the Urban Fringe Development Area.

Painter reported on March's Community Forum – presenters included: Bob Hayes (Storm Water Superintendent) on the Storm Water Facility Utility & Operations Plan, Vince Caristo (Mountain Line) on Mountain Line Transit's work in progress.

Office Of Neighborhoods Report – Karen reported on current Office of Neighborhood projects:

- The Office of Neighborhoods is moving – the new location will be in the building currently housing the Office of Housing & Community Development (400 Ryman St.), next door to the City Council Chambers.
- Office of Neighborhoods is holding a Traffic Circle Appreciation event at Bonner Park on Tuesday, May 21st – hopefully to sign up neighbors to “adopt” traffic circles in their neighborhood which do not at present have volunteer caretakers. (There are 3 such traffic circles in Rose Park NC.)

Next Meeting – The next Rose Park Neighborhood Council Leadership Team meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 22nd, 2019, at 5:00 pm at the Slant Street Gateway. (Directly across Mount Avenue from Missoula City Fire Department Station #2 @ 247 Mount Ave. This is also the intersection of Franklin & Plymouth.)

Submitted by Painter April.25.2019

Lewis & Clark Neighborhood

2007-2017 Accident Assessment –

Methods, Outcomes, & Shared Issues

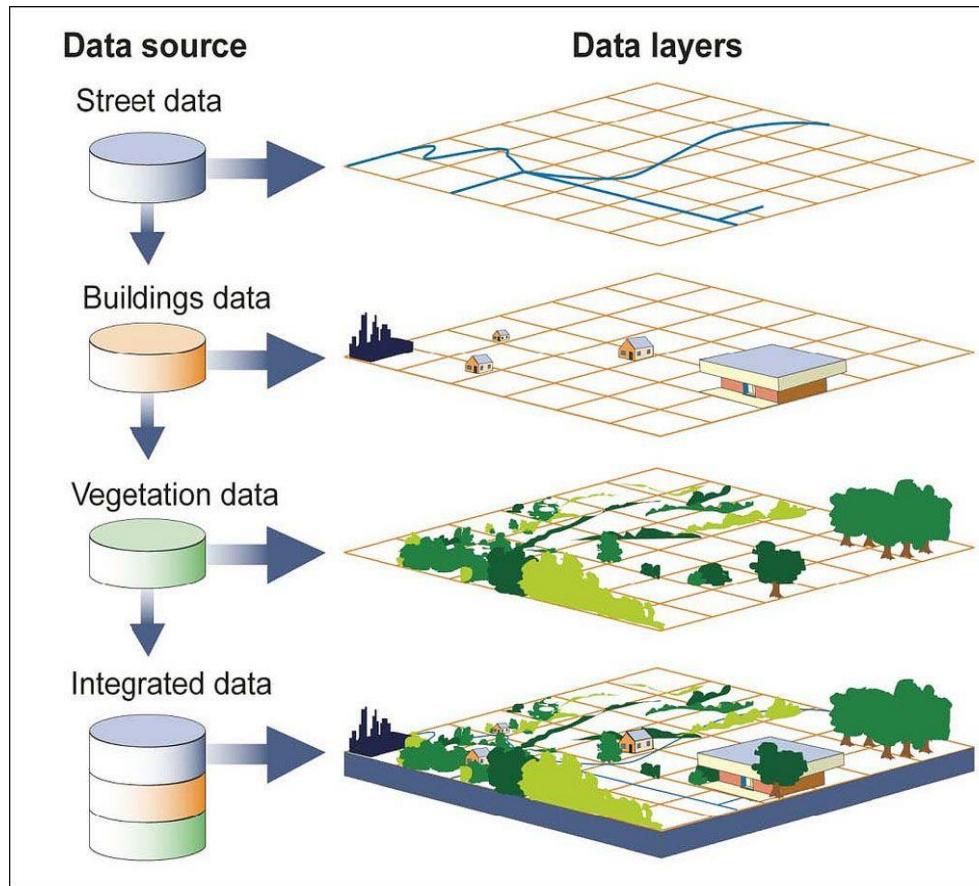
JD Miller

Introduction

- Identifying issues & problems requires accurate and precise information & data.
- Focus on Traffic Data [a GIS approach]
- Asking Questions is important.
- Getting answers is essential to decision making.

What is GIS?

Computer based mapping of layers of information



- Data are shown as *points, lines, and polygons*.
- Multiple & Different layers can be shown
- Looks like a paper map

Mapping Data

- **GIS** [QuantumGIS]
 - bit of a learning curve but very useful and *free*
- **Open Street Map** - Base map of streets
 - On-line, *free* to download and use
- Other sources of data
 - **City Accident Reports** (Jane Kelly; Ben Weiss) [*free*]
 - **State Traffic Site** (Traffic count data) [*free*]
 - **GPS locations** for: Crosswalks & Stop Signs, Stop Lights, Yield Signs, => all existing features [*free*]

Limitations of data used to answer the questions

- Traffic Crash data are
 - time limited [period 2007 through 2017 or 11 Years].
 - and arranged into various groups/categories.
- Traffic Count data are
 - Numbers on specific streets and
 - at specific times [day, month, year]
- GPS data [feature at a location]

Map of Events provided by City

Boundary Roads 2006-2016

(From Excel file LC-Main)

Look at the colors of the dots.
Greenish = Inside L&C
Bluish = Boundary of L&C

Types of Data available

Categories of events in City Accident Reports

Crash Record	ID number
Crash Date	Date
Crash Occurrence	Day of Week
Collision	16 types
Junction Related	4 types
Weather, Road Surface, Light Conditions	8 types, 5 types, 5 types
Fatalities, Vehicles, Pedestrians	Number (count)
Injuries	Number (count)
Most Severe	5 types
Contributing Circumstance a & b	5 types
First Harm	7 types
First Harm 2	13 types
Y-Coordinate / X-Coordinate	Montana Grid System

Data Conversions & Analysis

- **Latitude / Longitude** in **decimal degrees** derived from Montana Grid System (gives points / places)
- **Street Name** can be **identified** by plotting points and using a street map of Missoula
- **Crash_Date** was separated by **Day, Month, Year** for analysis

Analysis [in Excel]

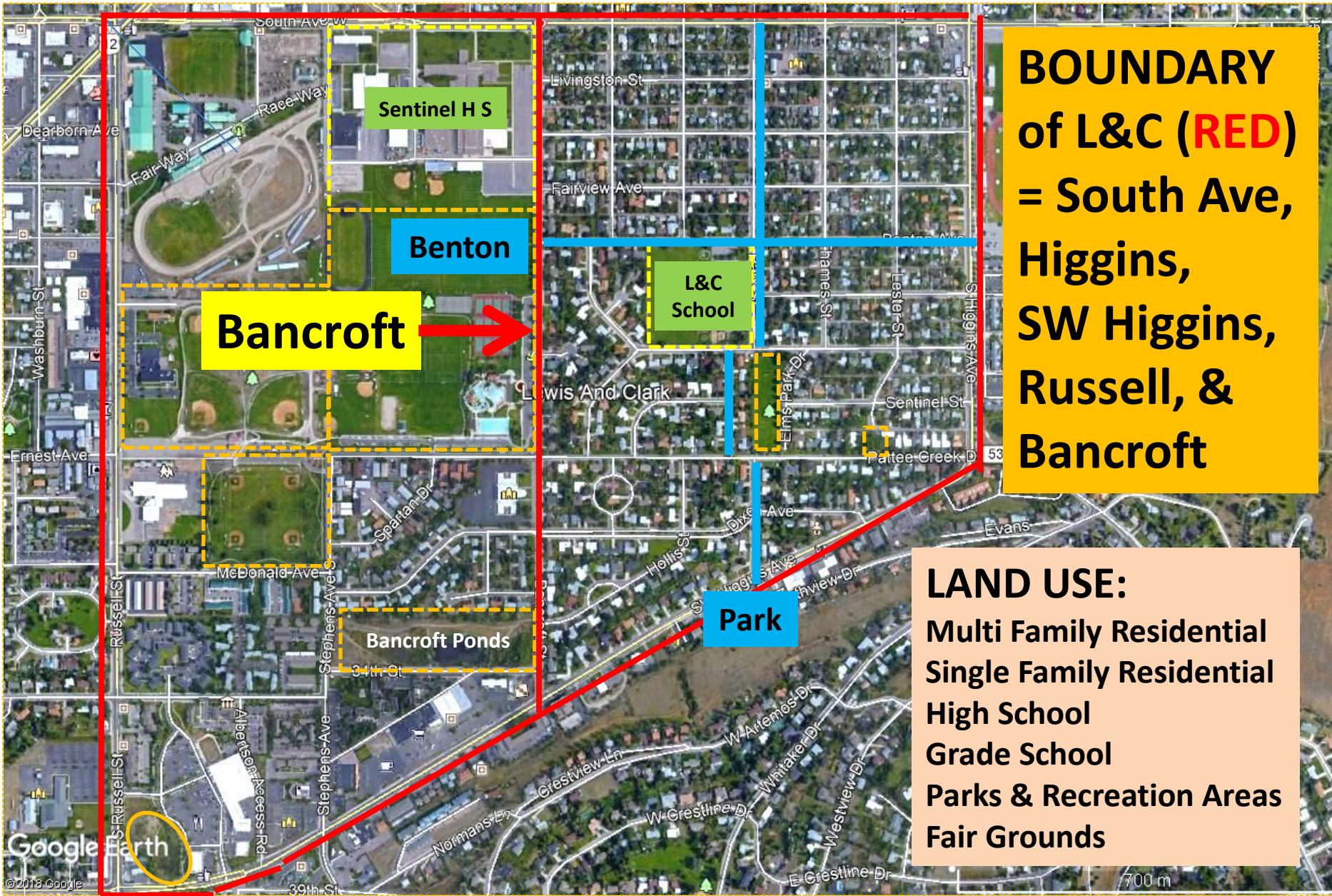
- counted within the groups / categories of the data
- used **GIS** (computer mapping) and **graphs** to illustrate the extracted information

Asking Questions

Does the Lewis & Clark neighborhood have traffic problems / issues?

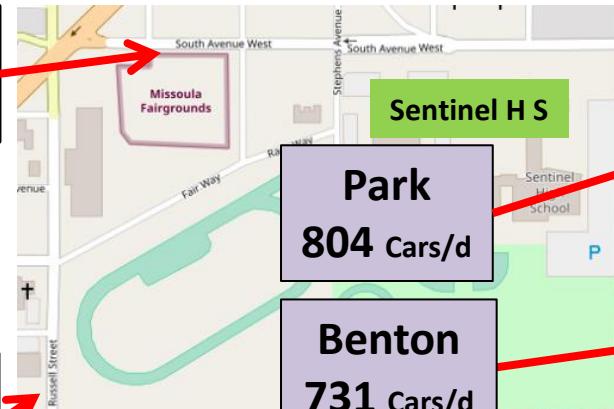
- **How much traffic occurs in the L&C?** [Counts at Places]
- **What type of traffic problems/issues occur?**
[Summary graphs &/or Maps]
- **Where do Accidents Occur?** [Mapping Points by Type of Collision]
- **When do Accidents Occur?** [Year, Month, Day]
- **What are the conditions when accidents occur?**
[Weather & Light_Conditions, Road_Surface]
- **How severe are the accidents?** [First_Harm X First_Ha_2]
- **What are the options for solutions?**

Lewis & Clark Neighborhood



How much traffic occurs in the L&C?

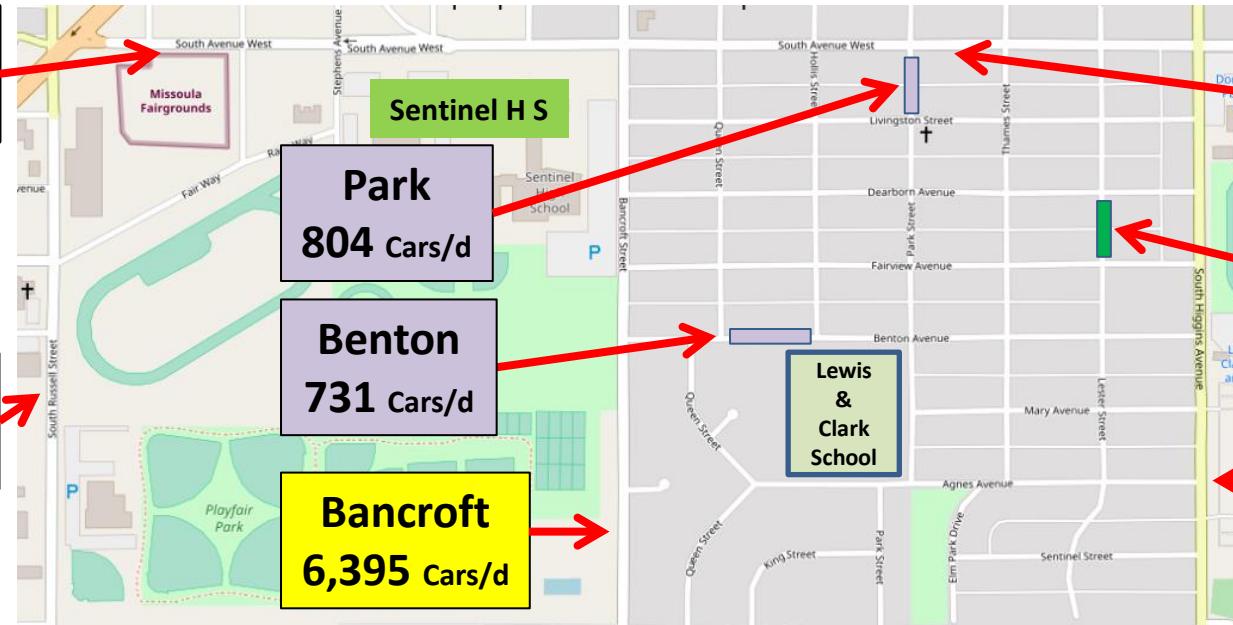
South
3,104 Cars/d



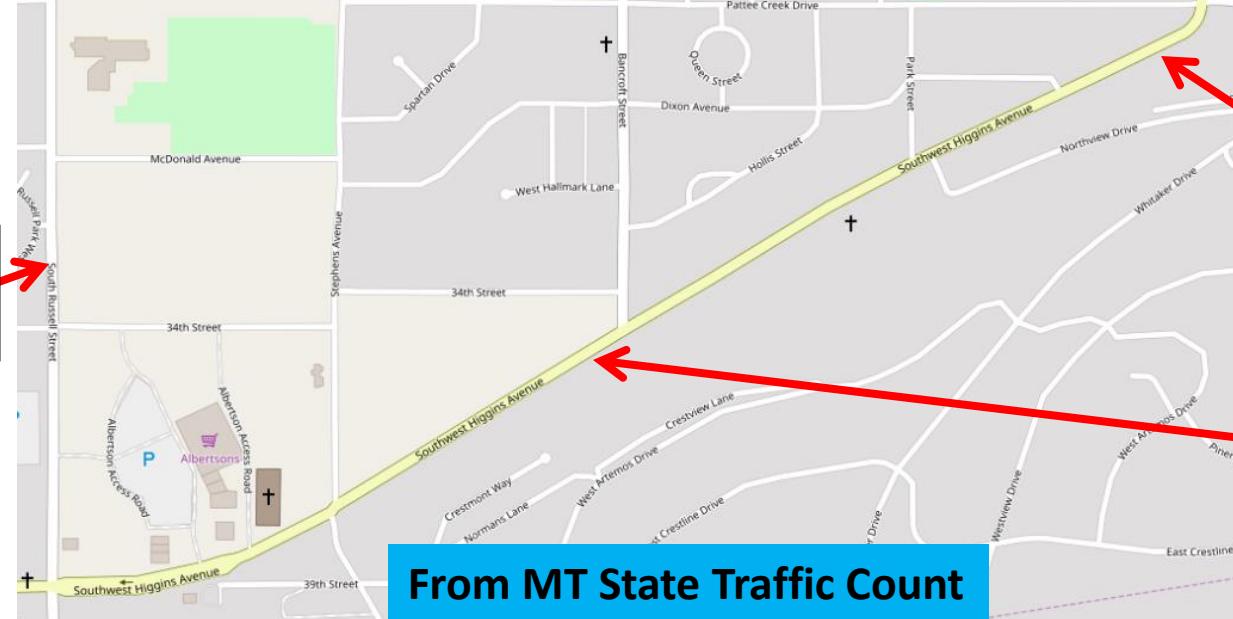
Russell
13,384 Cars/d

Benton
731 Cars/d

Bancroft
6,395 Cars/d



Russell
10,513 Cars/d



South
5,352 Cars/d

Lester
231 Cars/d

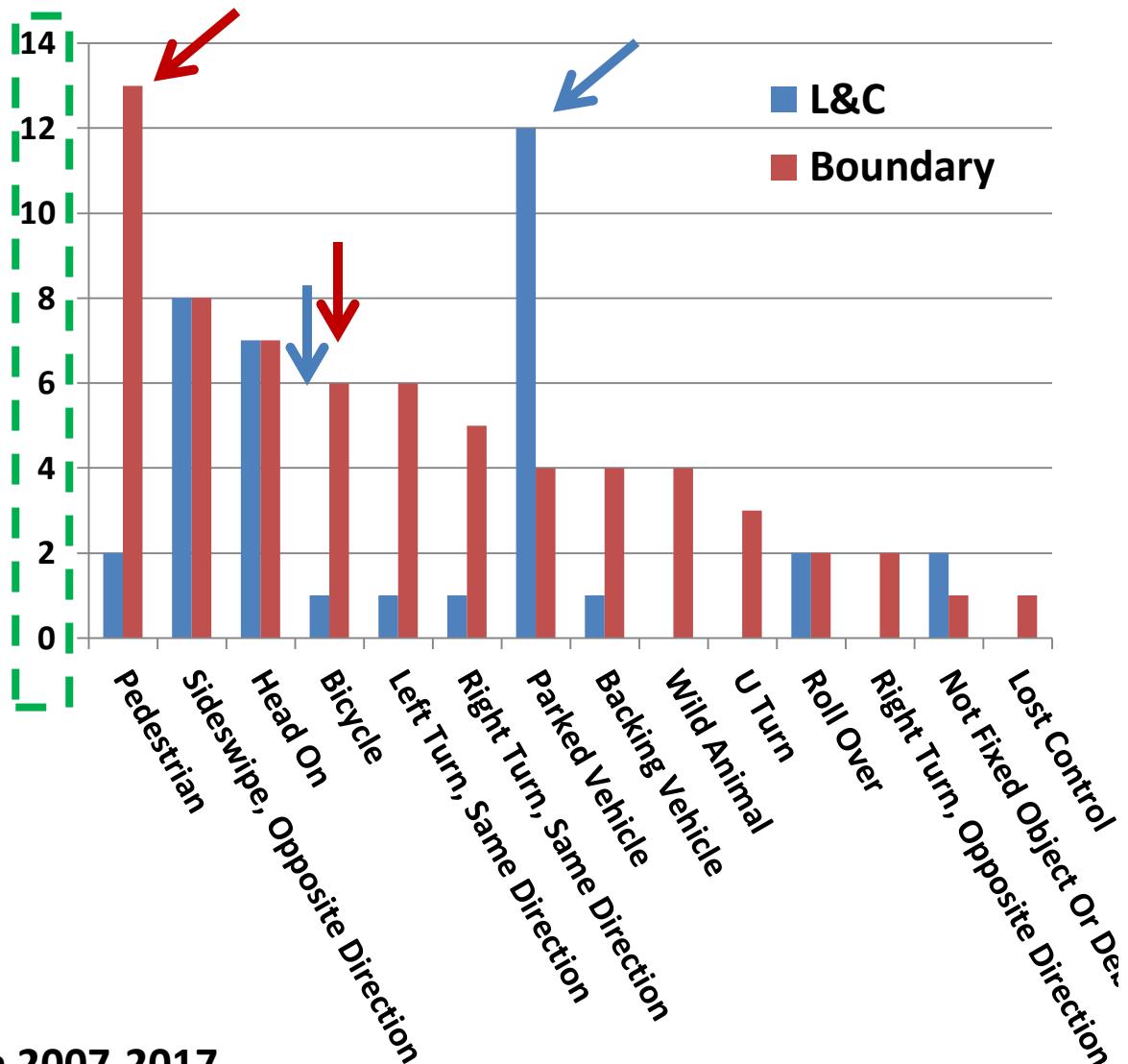
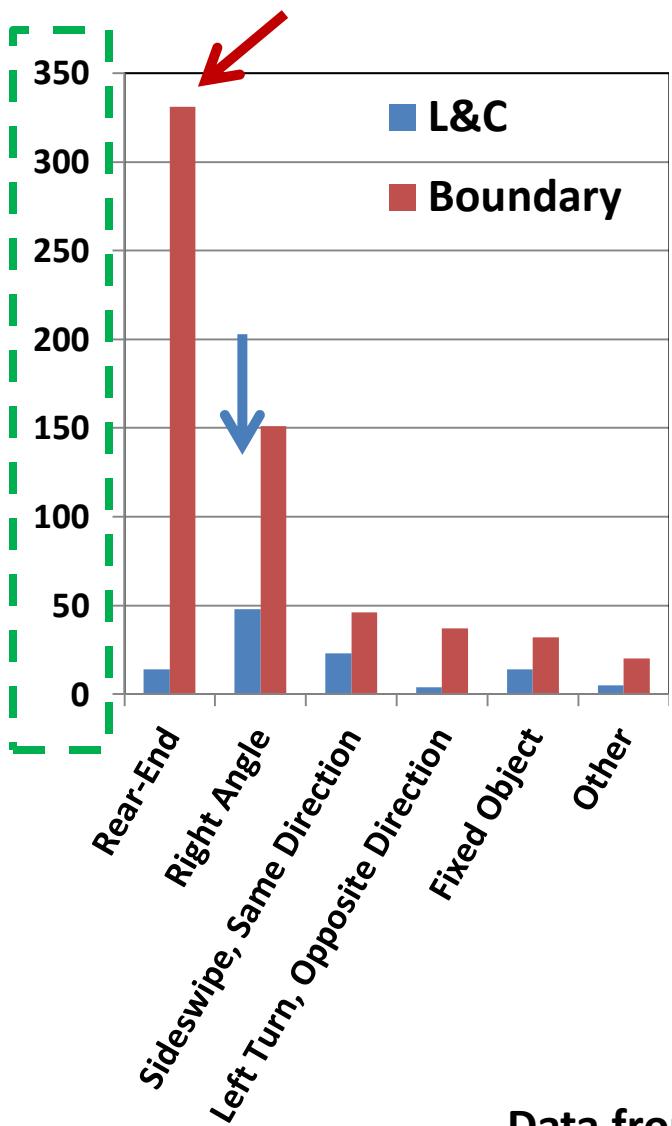
Higgins
10,878 Cars/d

Higgins
8,594 Cars/d

SW Higgins
11,984 Cars/d

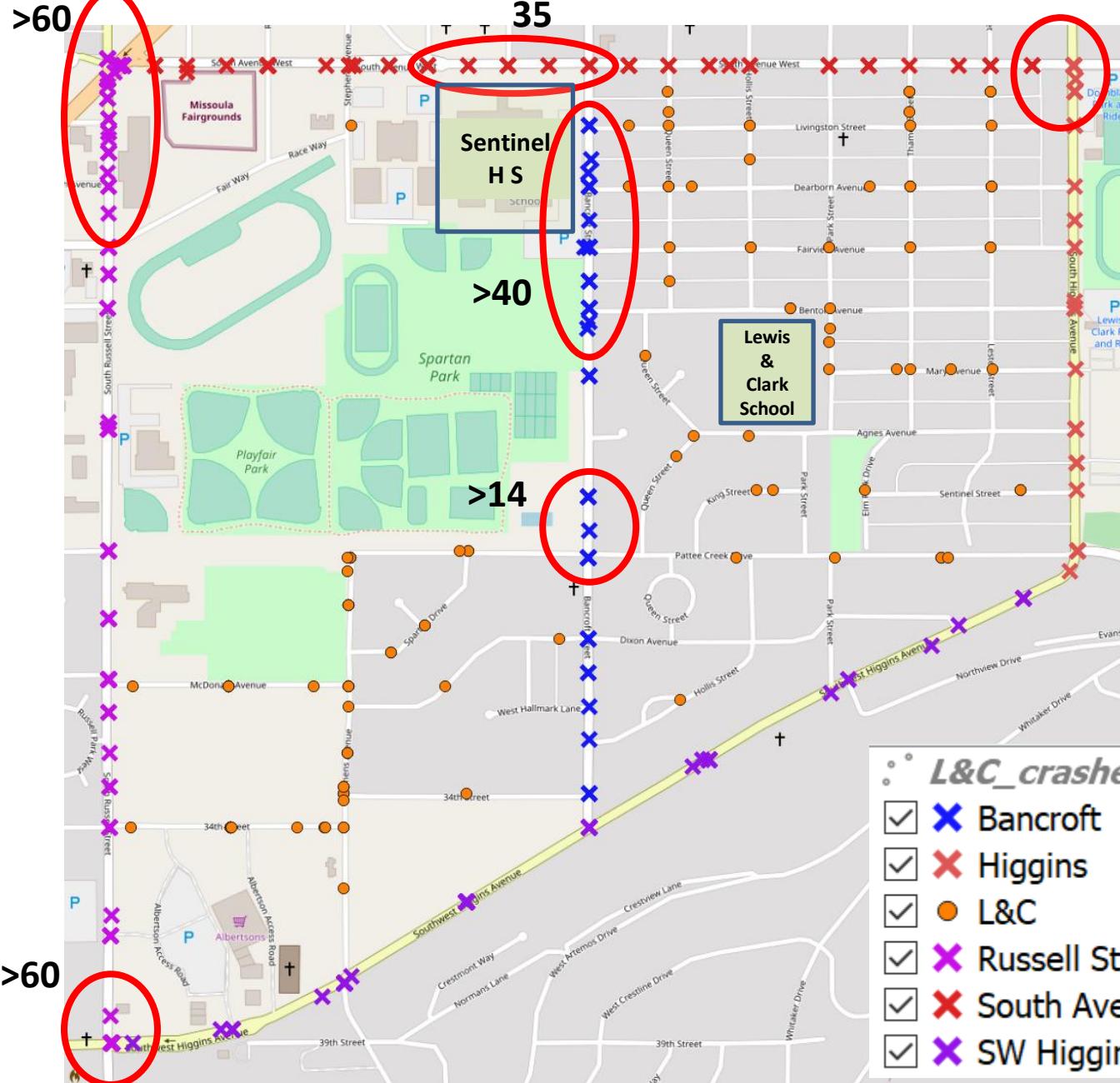
From MT State Traffic Count

What Type of Accidents Occur?



Data from 2007-2017

Where do Accidents Occur



Bancroft = 70

Higgins = 77

Russell St = 325

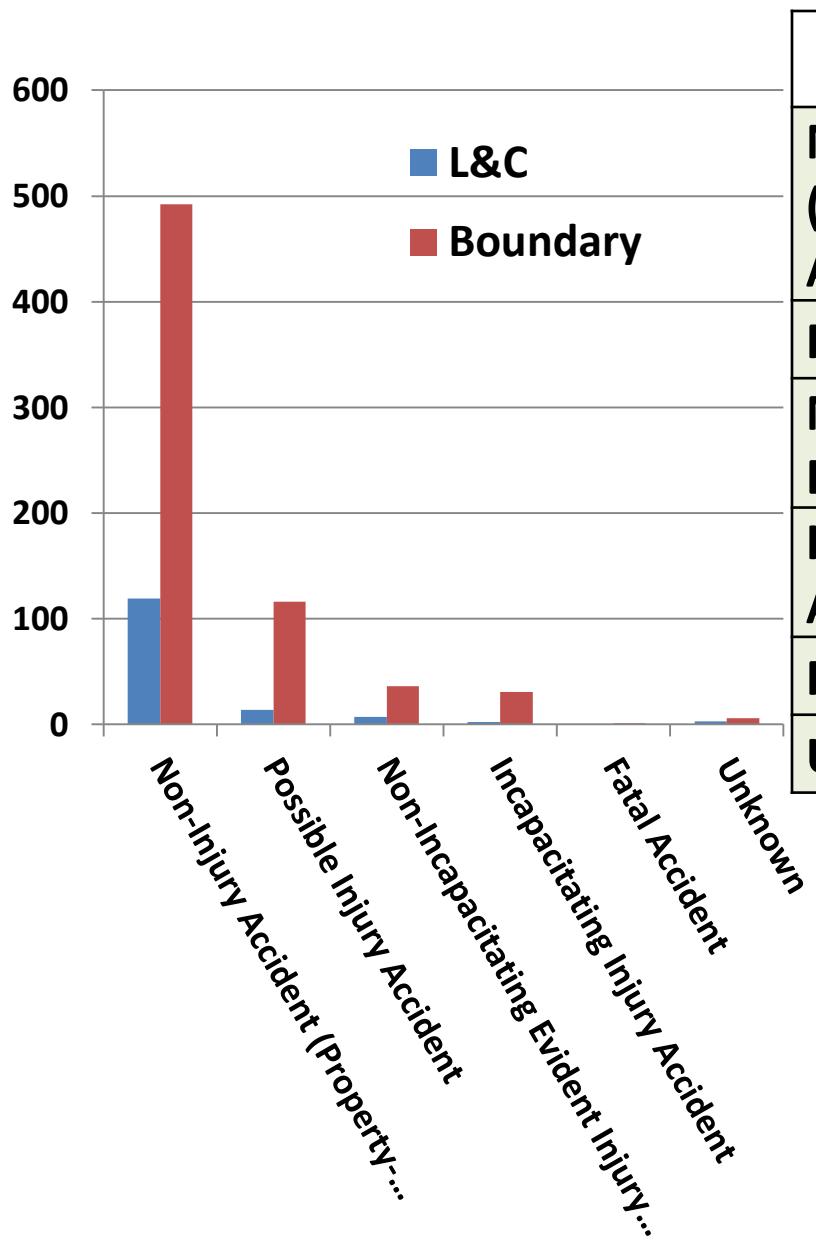
South Ave = 97

SW Higgins = 113

Sum = 682 (82.5%)

L&C = 145 (17.5%)

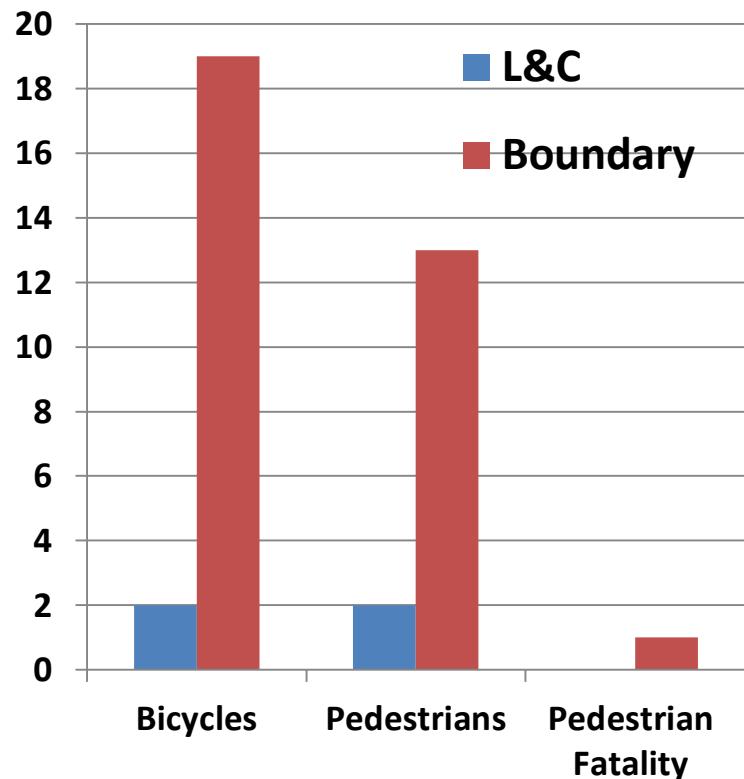
How severe are the accidents?



PERCENT	L&C	Boundary
Non-Injury Accident (Property-Damage-Only Accident)	82.1	72.1
Possible Injury Accident	9.7	17.0
Non-Incapacitating Evident Injury Accident	4.8	5.3
Incapacitating Injury Accident	1.4	4.5
Fatal Accident	0.0	0.1
Unknown	2.1	0.9

Data from 2007-2017

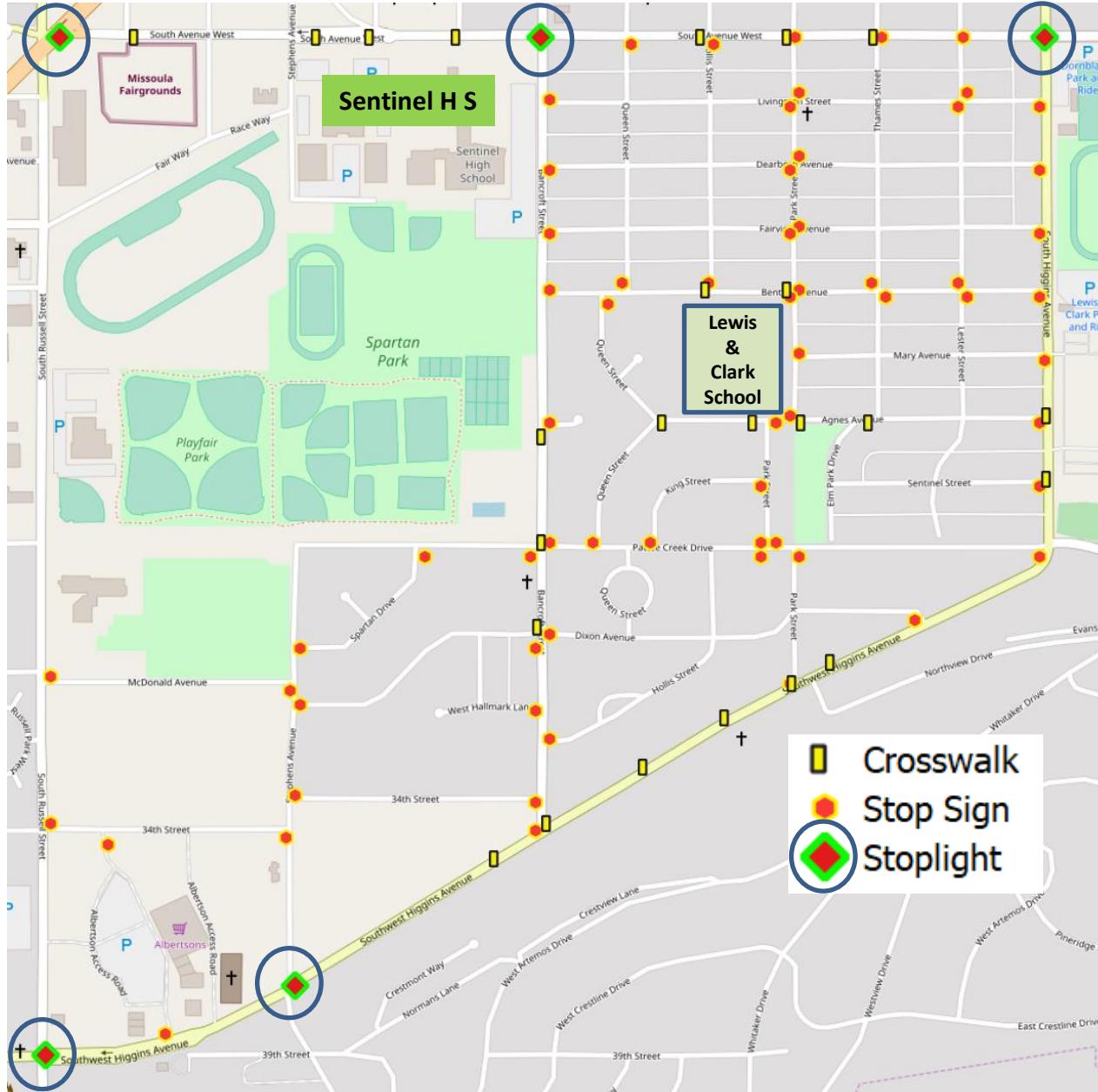
Most Important Accidents



PERCENT	L&C	Boundary
Bicycles	9.5	90.5
Pedestrians	13.3	86.7
Pedestrian Fatality	0.0	100

Data from 2007-2017

Stoplights, Stop Signs & Crosswalks



Stoplights

Stoplights = 4

Flashing Stop = 1

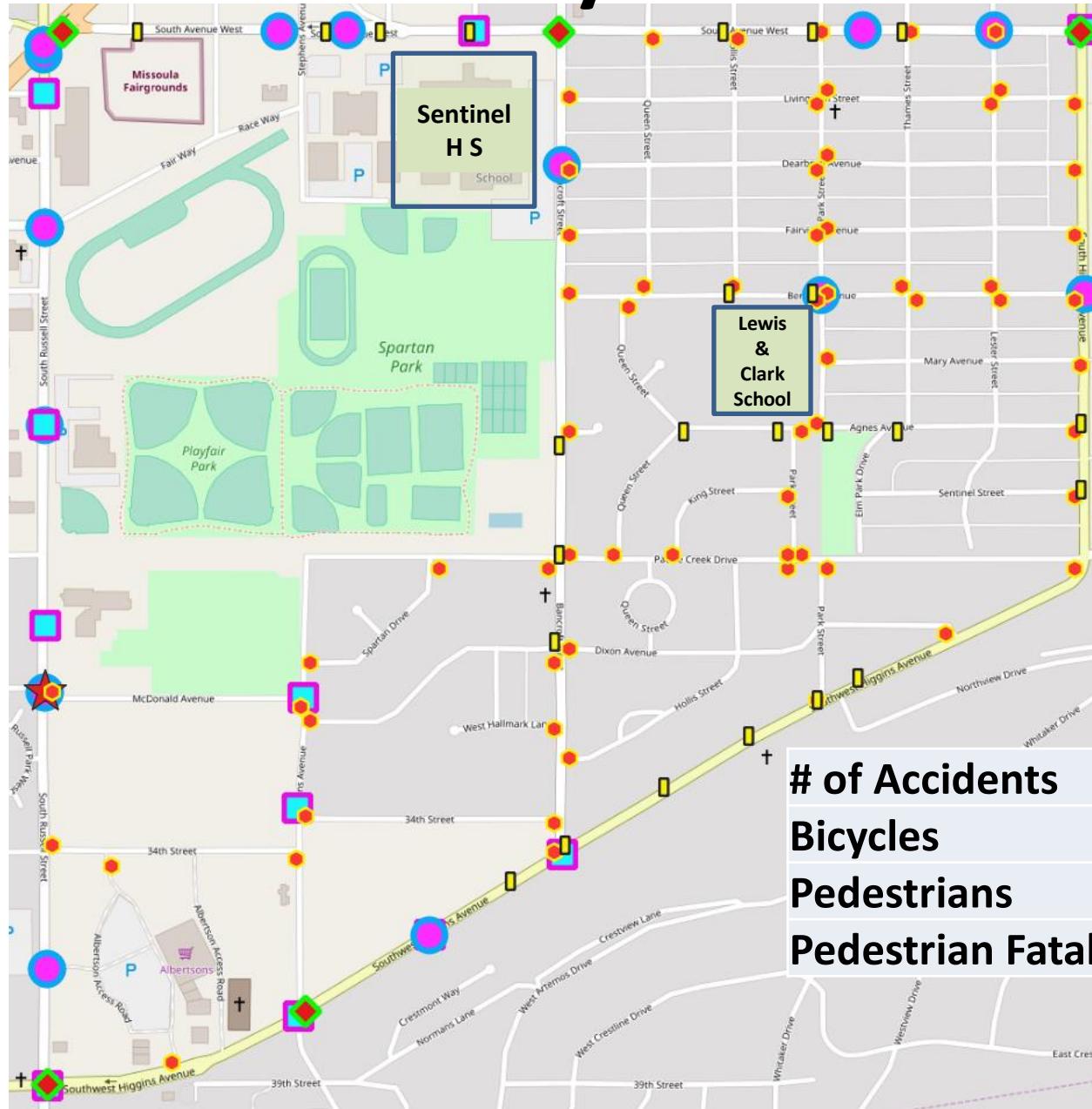
Stop Signs

Within L&C = 37

Boundary = 31

Crosswalks = 24

Pedestrian & Bicycle Accidents 2007-2017



Pedestrians_Bicycles

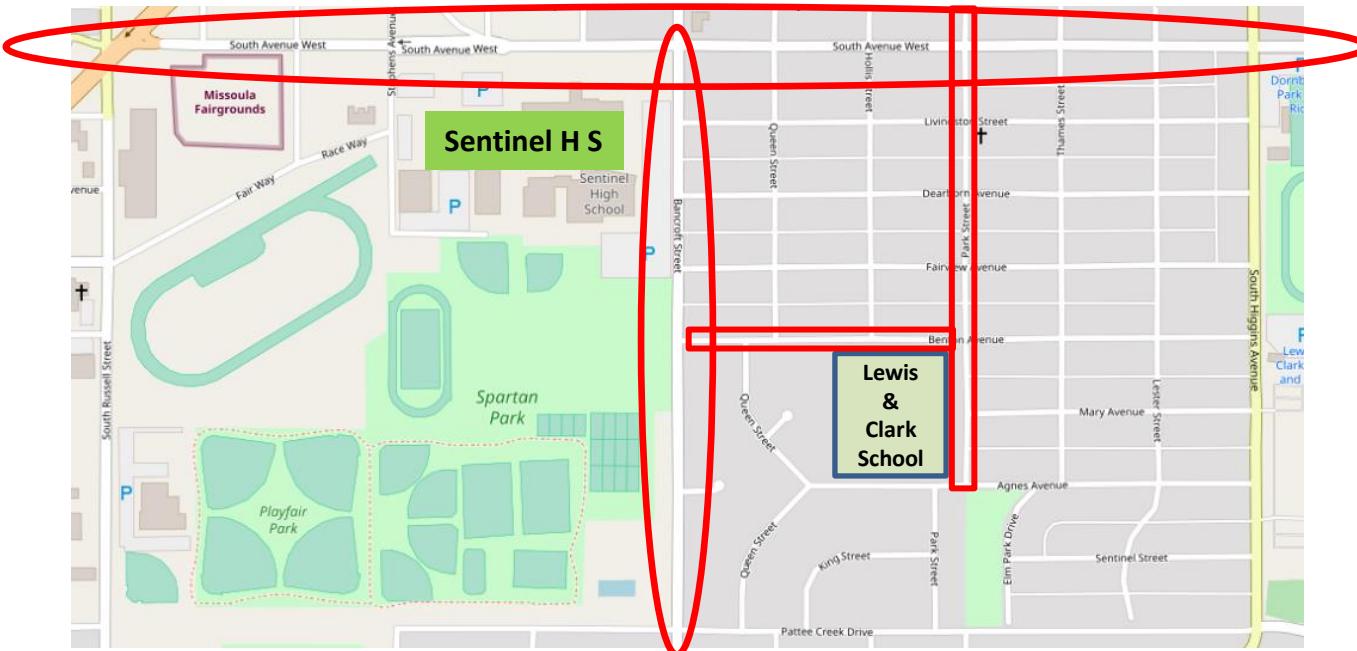
- Pedalcycle (Pink Circle)
- Pedestrian (Cyan Square)
- Pedestrian Fatal (Red Star)

# of Accidents	L&C	Boundary
Bicycles	2	19
Pedestrians	2	13
Pedestrian Fatality	0	1

Data from 2007-2017

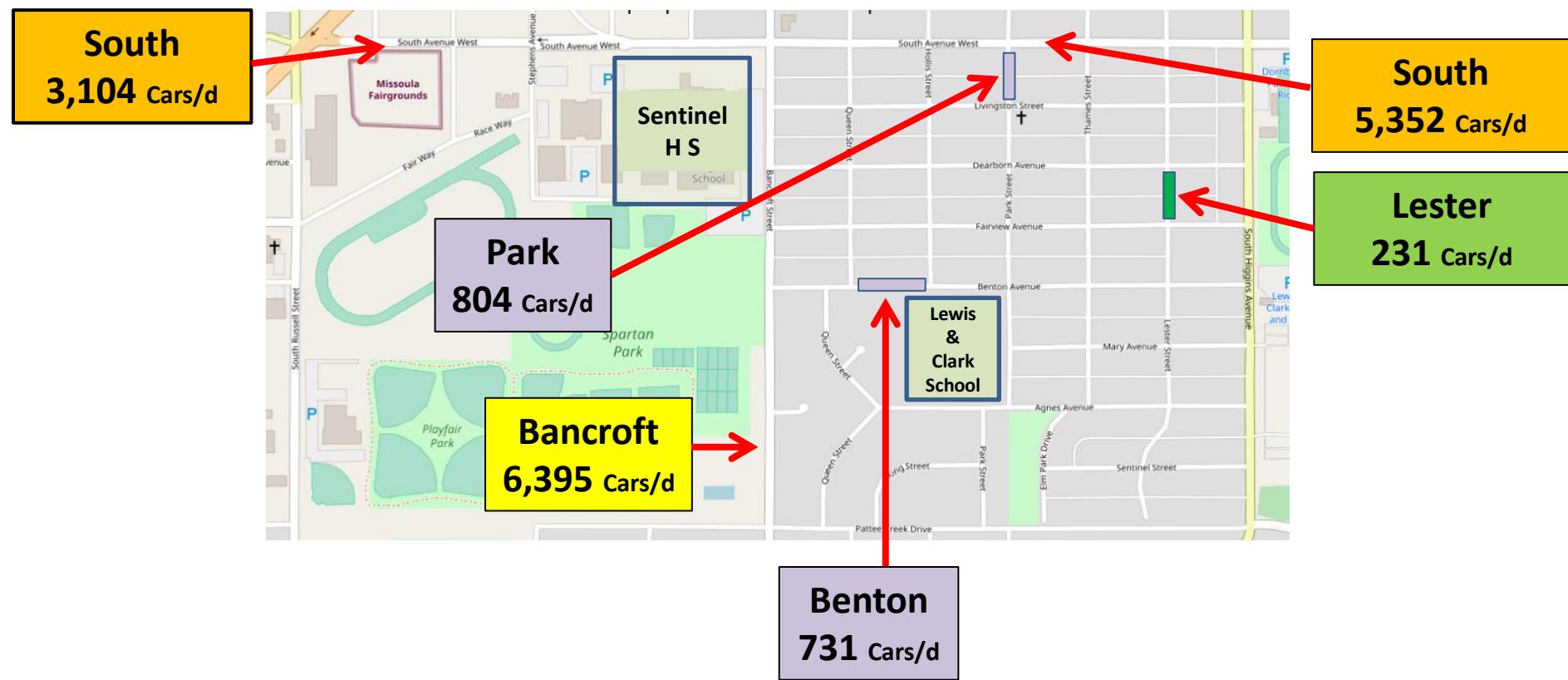
Our Shared Boundary

South Ave, Bancroft, and Park & Benton



ISSUES: Kids crossing South Ave
Going to and from Lewis & Clark School
Going to and from Sentinel High School
Going to and from sport areas and swimming

How much traffic occurs on our shared Boundary?

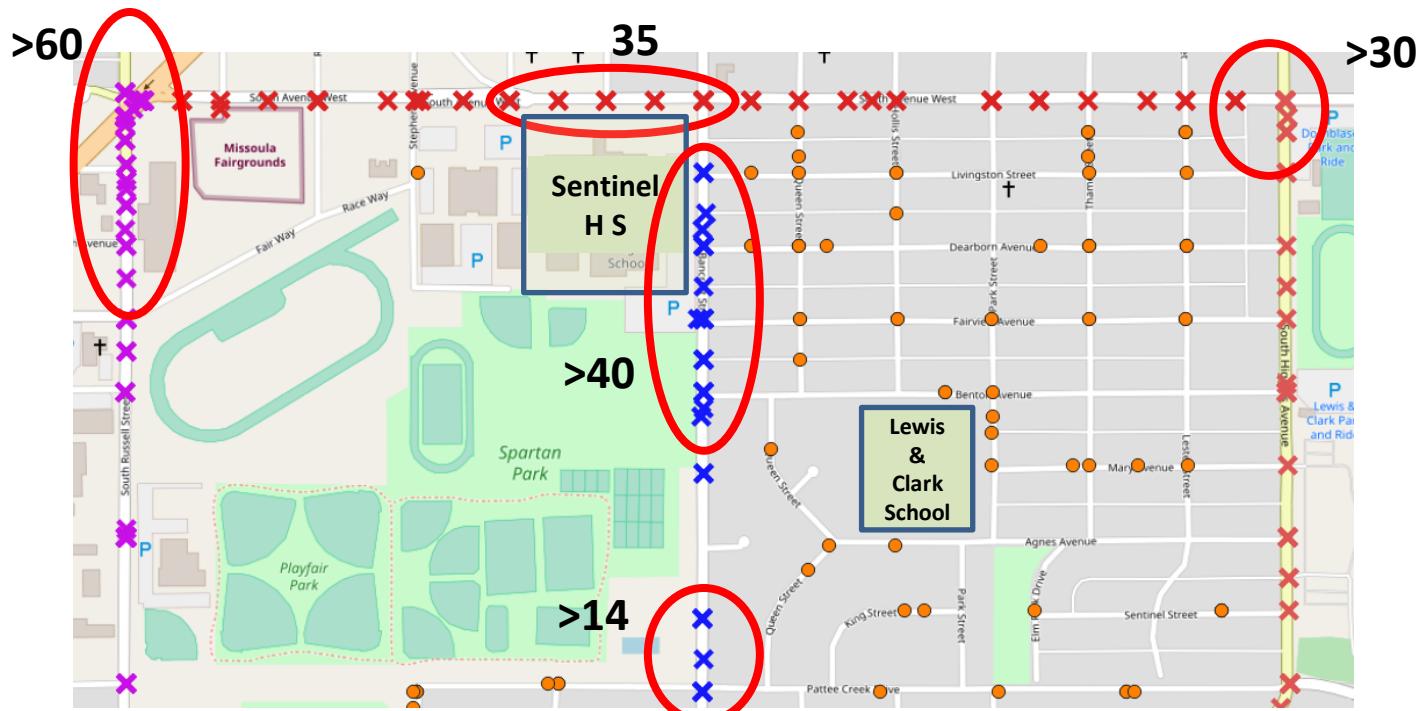


From MT State Traffic Count Arrows indicate location of data collection

Data from 2017-2018

How many accidents occur on our shared Boundary?

Data from 2007-2017, inclusive

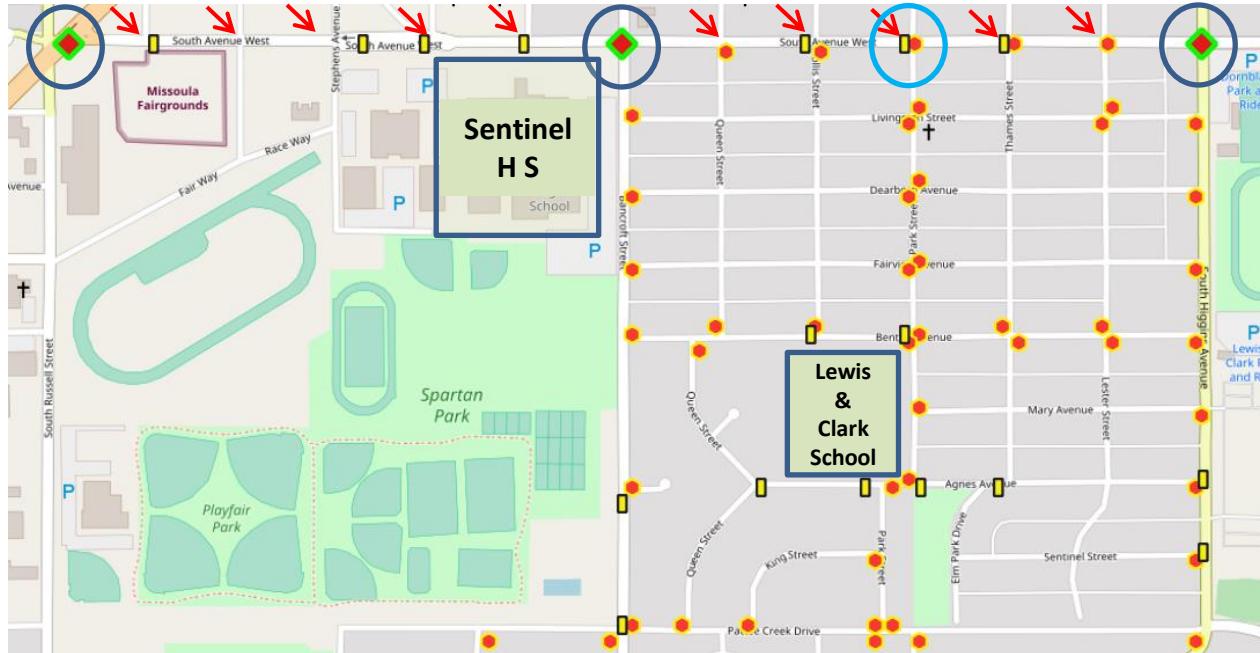


Traffic accidents recorded on South Ave = 97.
There is no indication of whether a vehicle was turning into/out of L&C or Rose Park Neighborhoods or just traveling on South Ave.

Stoplights, Stop Signs & Crosswalks to cross South Ave

Data from 2007-2017, inclusive

→ = presumed
Stop Sign



- Crosswalk
- Stop Sign
- ◆ Stoplight

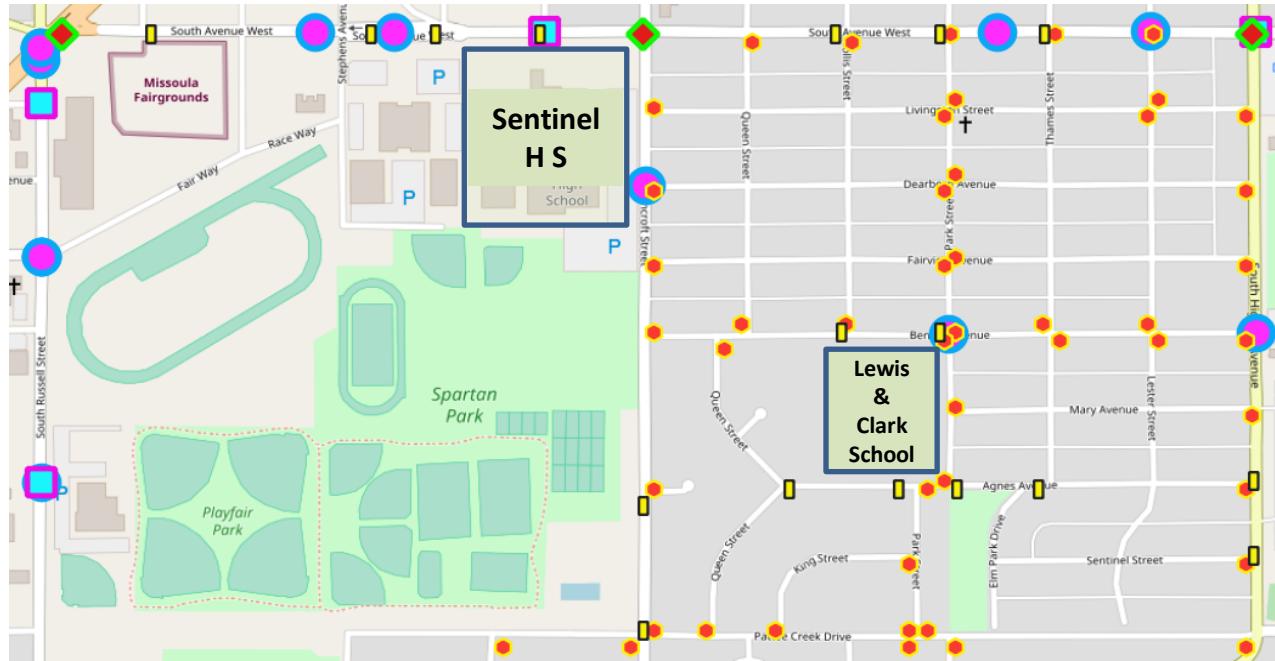
Flashing Stop= 1

Stop Signs = 14

Crosswalks = 6

**1 Crosswalk with a Guard.
Every corner is a crosswalk,
if pedestrian is present**

Crosswalks, lights and pedestrian and bicycle accidents



The greatest risk is going to and from school and recreation areas

Data from 2007-2017, inclusive

Pedestrians_Bicycles
● Pedalcycle
■ Pedestrian

Need Better Data

- Traffic flow distribution in neighborhoods
- Traffic numbers on multiple streets
 - (not just a few)
- Speed analysis of traffic

Significant gaps occur in the necessary data

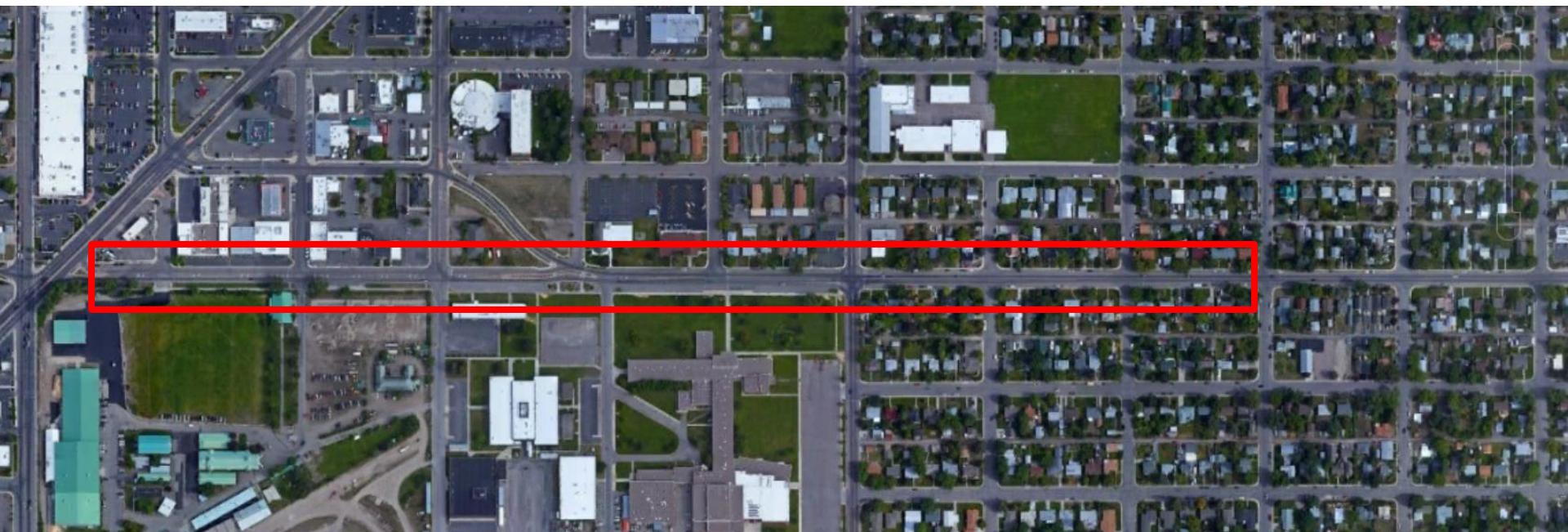
**We need to identify problems and issues
based on data, not opinion.**

&

**We need to be creative and effective in
finding solutions**

There are Solutions

There are Solutions



- Change South Avenue to **25 MPH**
(at least between Park and in front of the fair grounds)

There are Solutions

Bus Stop but
no painted
crosswalk



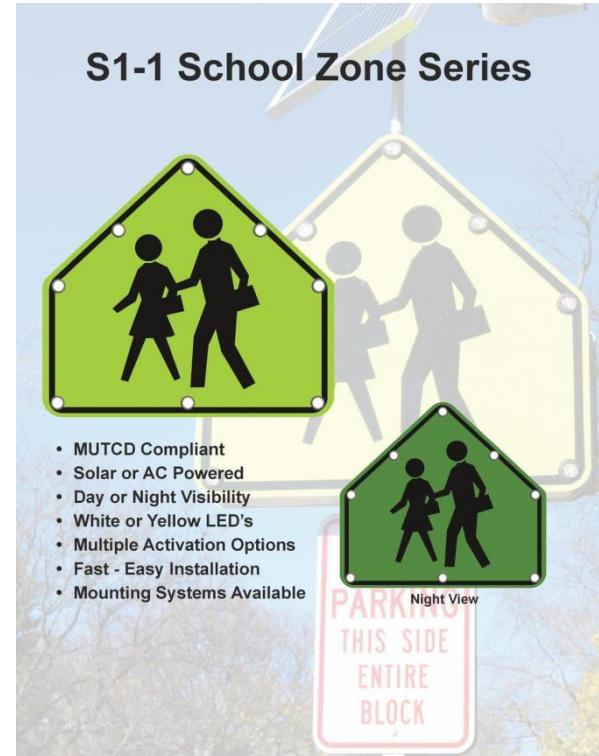
- Create a **SCHOOL ZONE** with a **20 MPH** limit
- (like at Paxson School on Higgins)
- Install multiple, painted **crosswalks** where children cross



**30" Solar Powered
Flashing Crosswalk
Sign \$999.99**



**Pedestrian operated
flashing signs**



**Flashing LED S1-1
School Crossing Sign
\$1,509.00**

There are Solutions



Install a Pedestrian Refuge Island in front of the High School

Note the walk through gap and the signs. Pedestrian operated flashing signs are better.

Imagine the School here



Note the fencing that guides pedestrians to the crosswalk

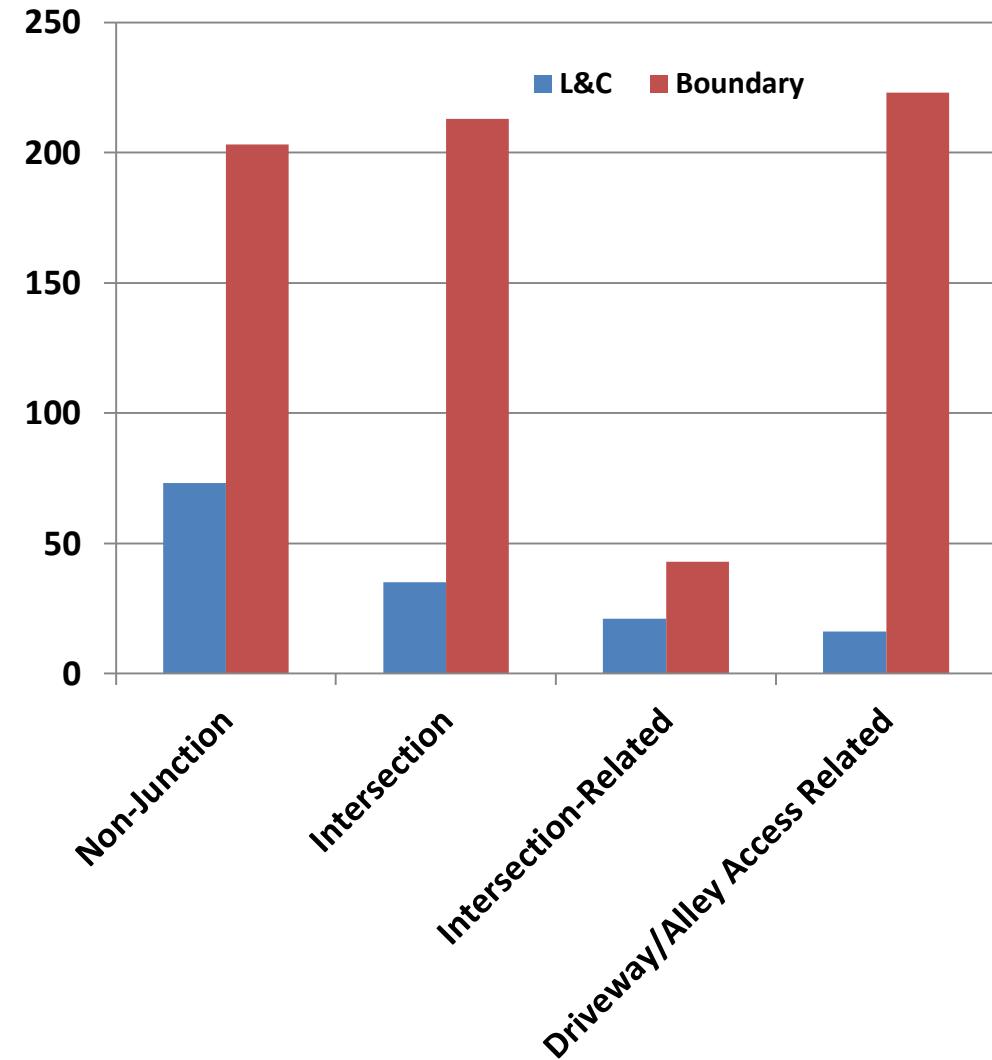
There are Solutions

- Increase **Police Monitoring** of identified problem areas.
- **Improve driver awareness** via reminders about speed limits, courteous behavior in the paper and at the High School.
- Increased number of **SPEED LIMIT** signs on South Ave and on streets entering the neighborhoods

I look forward to our neighborhoods working together to address our shared issues

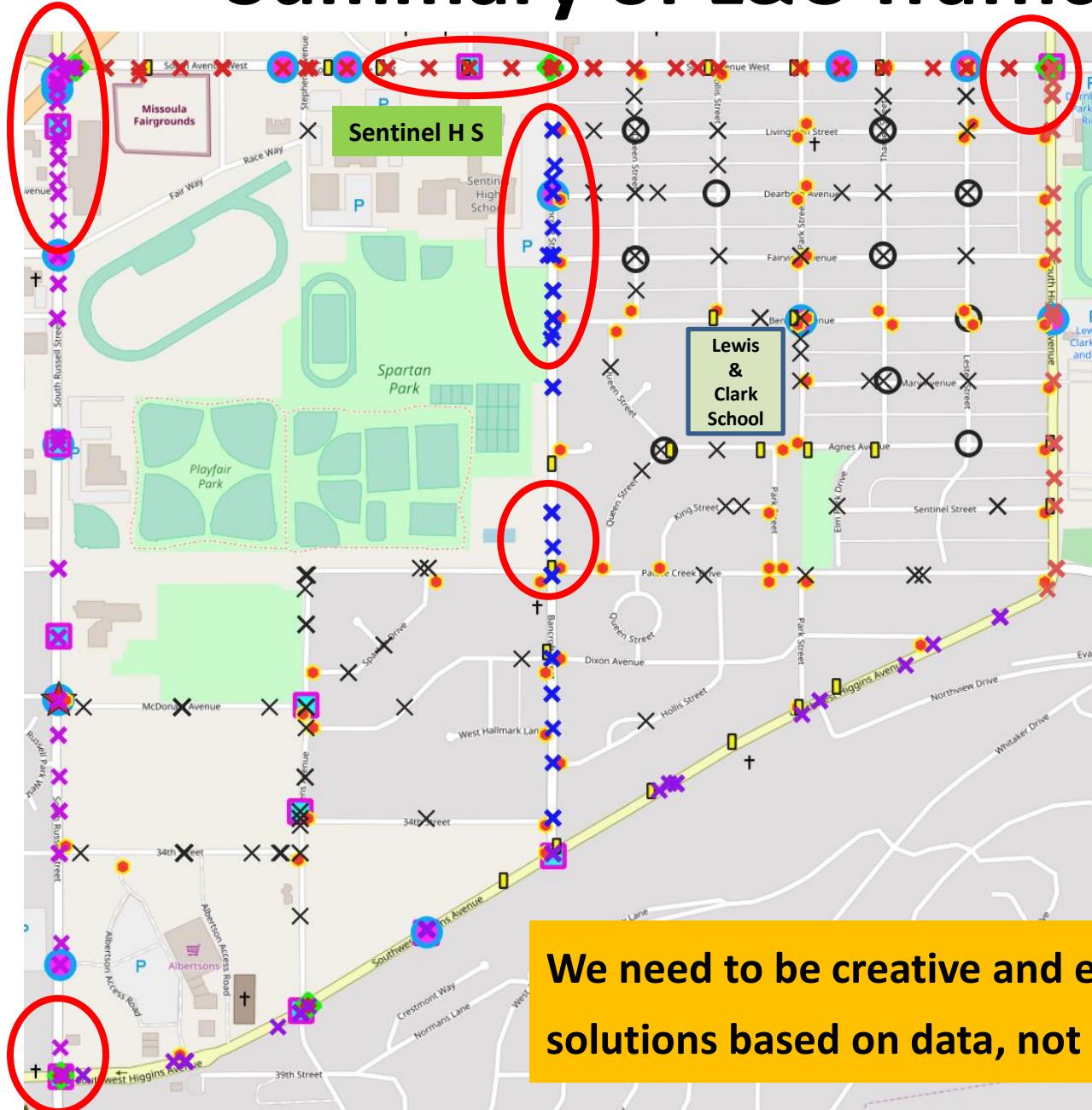
Thank for your attention

Where Do Accidents Occur?



PERCENT	L&C	Boundary
Non-Junction	50.3	29.8
Intersection	24.1	31.2
Intersection-Related	14.5	6.3
Driveway/Alley Access Related	11.0	32.7

Summary of L&C Traffic Data



**Traffic circles
are not an
appropriate
answer
without having
analyzed traffic
distribution
data and speed
data**