



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 14, 2019

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**Government agencies, businesses, citizens
strategize to end traffic fatalities in the DC region.**

*Policy makers, planners and advocates gather at the
third Annual Washington Region Vision Zero Summit.*

WASHINGTON, DC—The third Washington Region Vision Zero Summit will return to the Milken Institute for Public Health on Thursday. Four years ago, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser committed to eliminating all traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2024. In those four years, D.C. has seen an annual increase in traffic deaths. Attendees at this year's Vision Zero Summit will seek to reverse this trend.

Regionwide, 290 people were killed in traffic crashes last year. Over the last four years in the District, 120 people have died from traffic violence.

"These numbers are jarring but also don't tell the heartbreaking stories of loss for the region. Our streets are not designed to protect all road users; they prioritize moving people quickly over moving people safely. Changing those priorities requires intense regional coordination. The Vision Zero Summit provides an opportunity for implementers, experts, advocates, and elected officials to come together to share best practices, reflect on successes and failures, and chart a course for a less deadly future on our region's streets," said Robert Gardner, Advocacy Director for the Washington Area Bicyclist Association.

This year's Summit features regional representatives from all corners of the transportation, traffic engineering, law enforcement, public health, advocacy and political sectors .

The morning keynote will be with DC Department of Health Director Dr. Laquandra Nesbitt, MD, MPH and the lunch keynote will be with D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser.

New to the Summit this year is a Community Listening Session on Traffic Safety, held the evening prior to the Summit at the Anacostia Playhouse in Ward 8, an area of the city with a disproportionate number of crashes. The goal of the event is to keep community voices at the center of the discussions by the policymakers at Thursday's Summit.

"As a designated Level I Trauma Center, we unfortunately see the life-altering results of traffic-related incidents too often," said Kimberly Russo, Chief Executive Officer/Managing



Director at The George Washington University Hospital. “While GW Hospital provides lifesaving, critical care to these individuals, we felt we had to do more to reduce injuries throughout our community. As part of our commitment, we were pleased to be the first hospital involved in DC’s Vision Zero initiative. GW Hospital looks forward to continuing to partner with local organizations, law enforcement and government officials to help make our city safer and bring traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries down to zero.”

The 2019 Washington Region Vision Zero Summit is presented by Uber and JUMP, and sponsored by platinum sponsor Spin, gold sponsors Lyft and DC Bike Ride, silver sponsors car2go joins SHARE NOW, Lime, and Sensys Gatso Group, and bronze sponsors Dero and Zipcar.

Vision Zero is the commitment to end all traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Crashes are avoidable and can be prevented through a swift system wide effort that emphasizes street design to protect vulnerable users.

The Vision Zero Summit is presented by the Washington Area Bicyclist Association and Uber, with support from the District Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office and hosted by George Washington University Hospital at the Milken Institute of Public Health.

The mission of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association is to create a healthy, more livable region by promoting bicycling for fun, fitness, and affordable transportation; advocating for better bicycling conditions and transportation choices for a healthier environment; and educating children, adults, and motorists about safe bicycling.

WABA seeks to achieve this through advocacy, outreach, and education initiatives.

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