Problem Background

According to World Health Organization (https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/the-top-10-causes-of-death), road traffic injuries were the tenth leading cause of death globally in 2010. With 1.35 million road traffic deaths globally in 2016, and millions more sustaining serious injuries and living with long-term adverse health consequences, it was not surprising that in 2016, road traffic injuries were ranked as the eighth leading cause, up by two places.

It is also anticipated that by 2030, death by road traffic injuries will be ranked as the seventh leading cause. Globally, road traffic crashes are a leading cause of death among young people, and the main cause of death among those aged 15–29 years.

This project aims to determine if the severity of accidents can be predicted using the following factors:

- Location (general location of the collision)
- Collision Address Type (whether alley, block or intersection)
- Date of the Incident
- Time of the Incident
- Weather Conditions
- Road Conditions
- Light Conditions

Target Audience

Drivers

This will be particularly helpful for drivers, particularly those in the 15 – 29 years age group. These young drivers may not be experienced to deal with driving under certain conditions and the outcome of this project could help them in applying safe driving techniques.

Law Enforcement

The information can be used in a road safety campaign. It could also be used by law enforcement in setting up patrols at “hotspots” based on the various factors indicated above.

Hospitals

Knowing the factors that contribute to the severity of road traffic injuries could aid in reducing preventable deaths.

Governments / Local Authorities

Authorities could re-look at infrastructure design to minimize collisions. Also, reduction in severe injuries from traffic collisions could lead to savings in medical and rehabilitation spending.