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**Has New York City Vision Zero Reduced Accidents, Injuries and Deaths?**

Vision Zero is the idea of having a traffic system which has no serious injuries or deaths. The idea started almost 20 years ago in Sweden based on the idea that deaths *can* be prevented so we have the obligation to do so at any cost. There are several overarching principles such as ethics (Human life and health are paramount and take priority over mobility and other objectives of the road traffic system) and safety (road traffic systems should take account of human fallibility and minimize both the opportunities for errors and the harm done when they occur); and then actionable changes such as appropriate speed limits and road designs.

Shortly after Bill de Blasio became mayor in January 2014 he created New York City Vision Zero with the goal of eliminating traffic fatalities by 2025. It is comprised of many different initiatives such as a citywide reduction of the speed limit from 30 miles per hour to 25, increasing enforcement of traffic laws and structural changes such as speed humps. As of now it has been almost two years since the plan was put into place, and many of the initiatives are in progress or complete. The city’s official report on the first year shows that fatalities were down and that it is due to vision zero changes. But have New York City roads truly become safer and if so can we attribute that to vision zero?