



City Update February 2025 PTAC Meeting



Agenda

- Mobility 2024 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- MassDOT Project Update:
Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue
Bridge superstructure
replacements



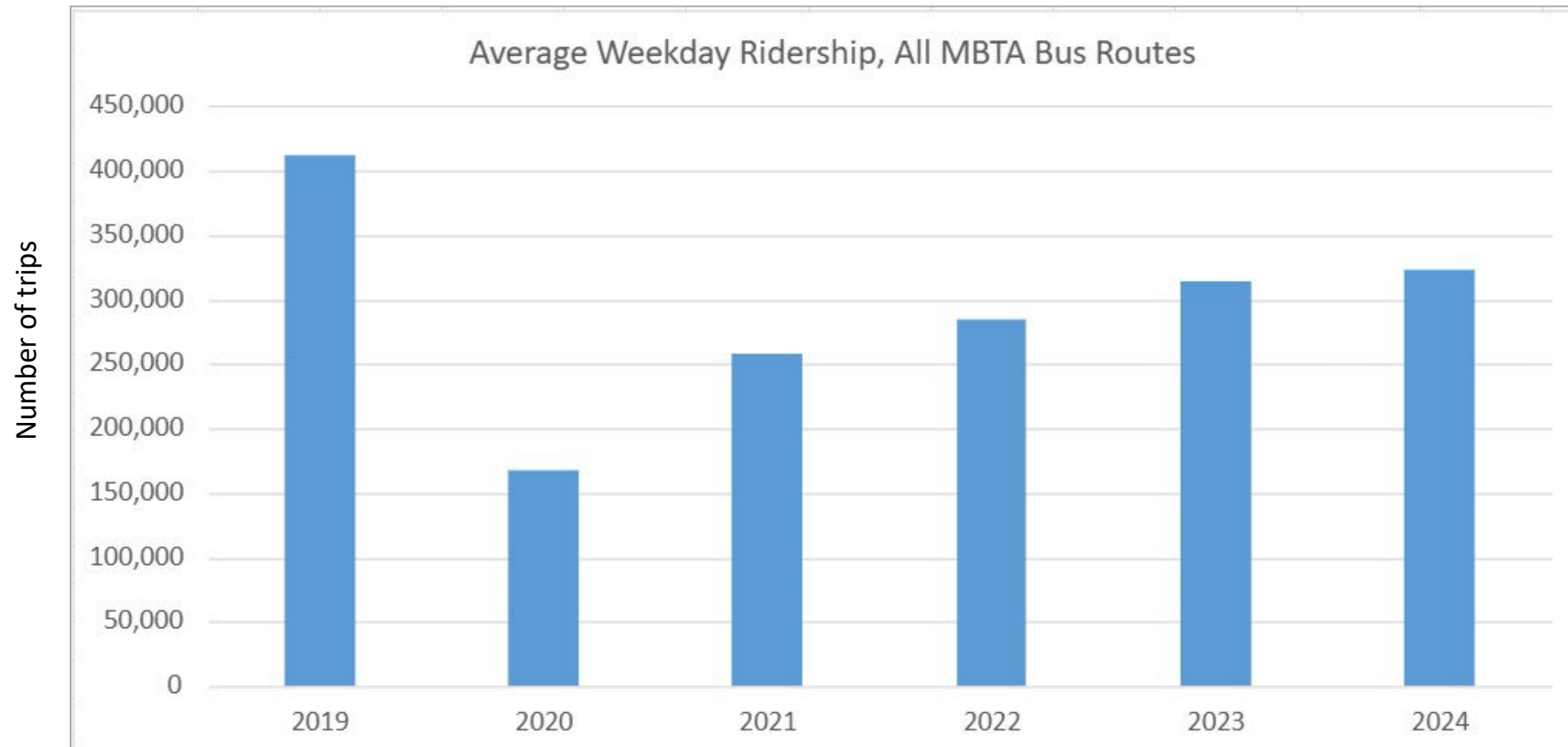
Above: A Medford-Tufts bound Green Line train from Walnut Street in June 2024.

Overview of Annual Mobility KPIs

- Every winter, the Mobility Division publishes an annual progress report we call our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).
- We dig into trends for transit ridership, pedestrian, bike, and motor vehicle traffic, collected speed data, Bluebikes ridership, reported crash data, and more.
- We also report on key safety deliverables such as traffic calming installations and newly constructed safety improvements.
- Preparing and reviewing KPIs helps us learn more about how our transportation environment is changing, see if we met key safety goals, and evaluate our success to prepare for the next year.
- This presentation includes highlights of the annual KPIs with a focus on pedestrian and transit KPIs. To see the full presentation, visit www.somervillema.gov/visionzero.

Travel Patterns: MBTA Bus Ridership

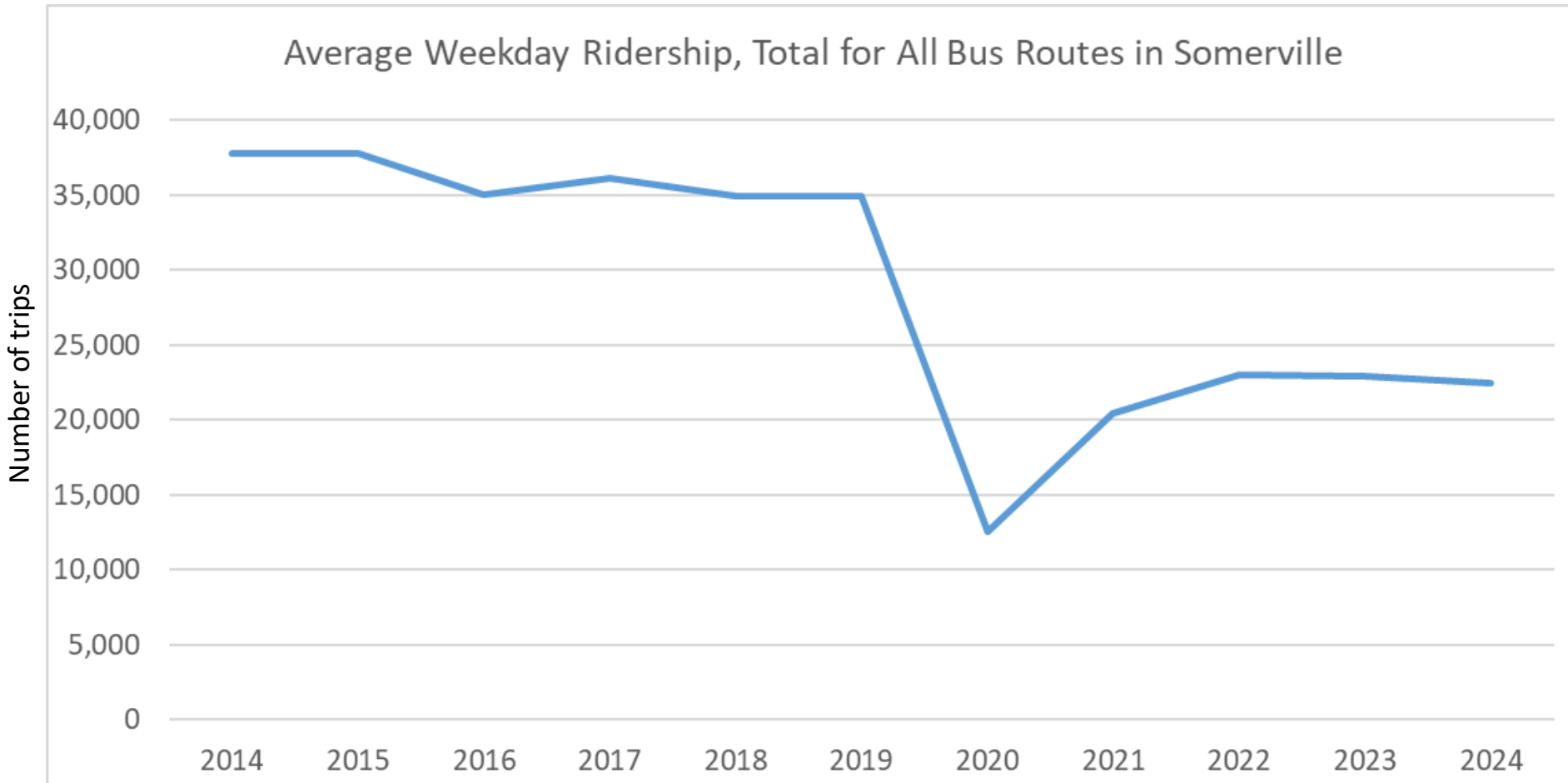
Although regional MBTA bus ridership has increase slowly,
2024 ridership remained significantly below 2019 rates.



Source: MBTA automated passenger counter data

Travel Patterns: MBTA Bus Ridership

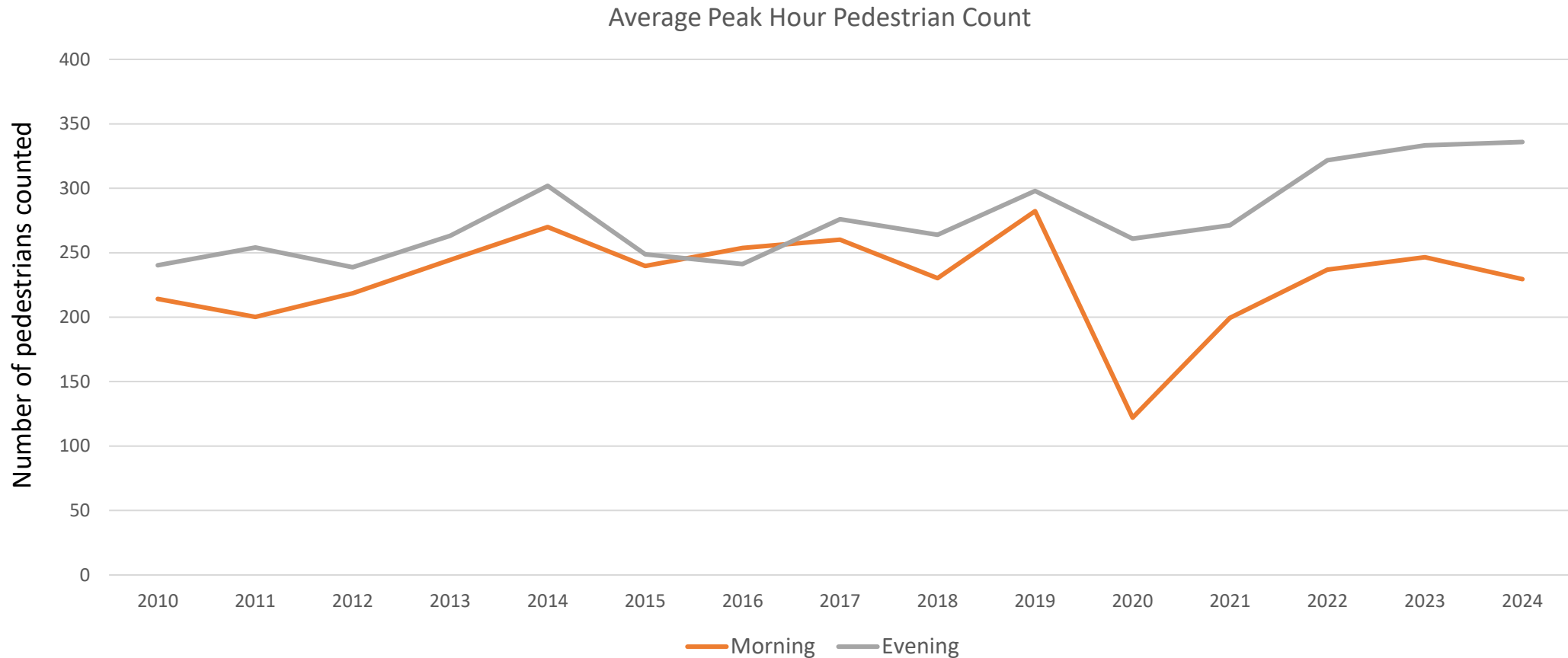
Somerville's bus ridership has also rebounded slowly;
In 2024, we experienced roughly 23,000 bus trips per day.



Source: MBTA automated passenger counter data

Travel Patterns: Pedestrian Traffic

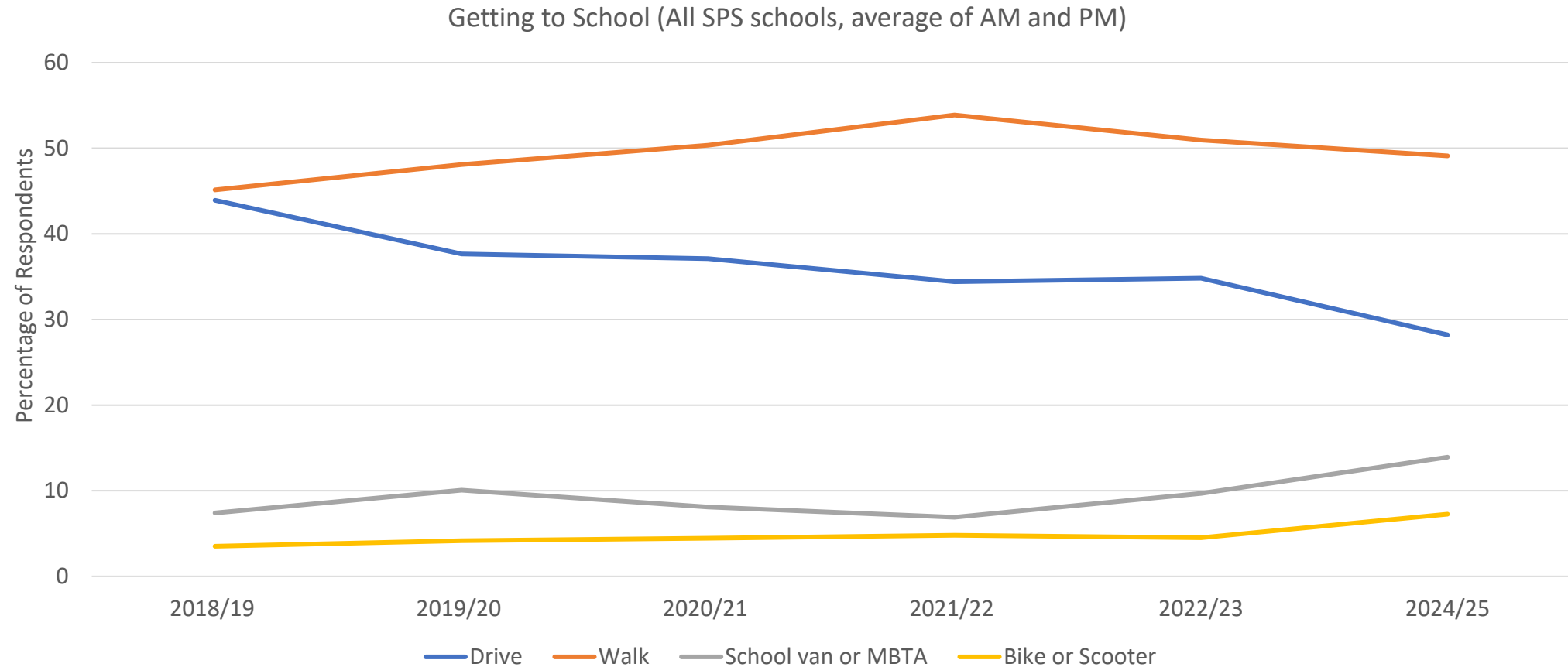
Somerville collects data on pedestrian traffic each year;
2024 data showed our highest-ever evening counts.



Source: City of Somerville [annual pedestrian count program at 42 locations](#)

Travel to Patterns: Getting to School

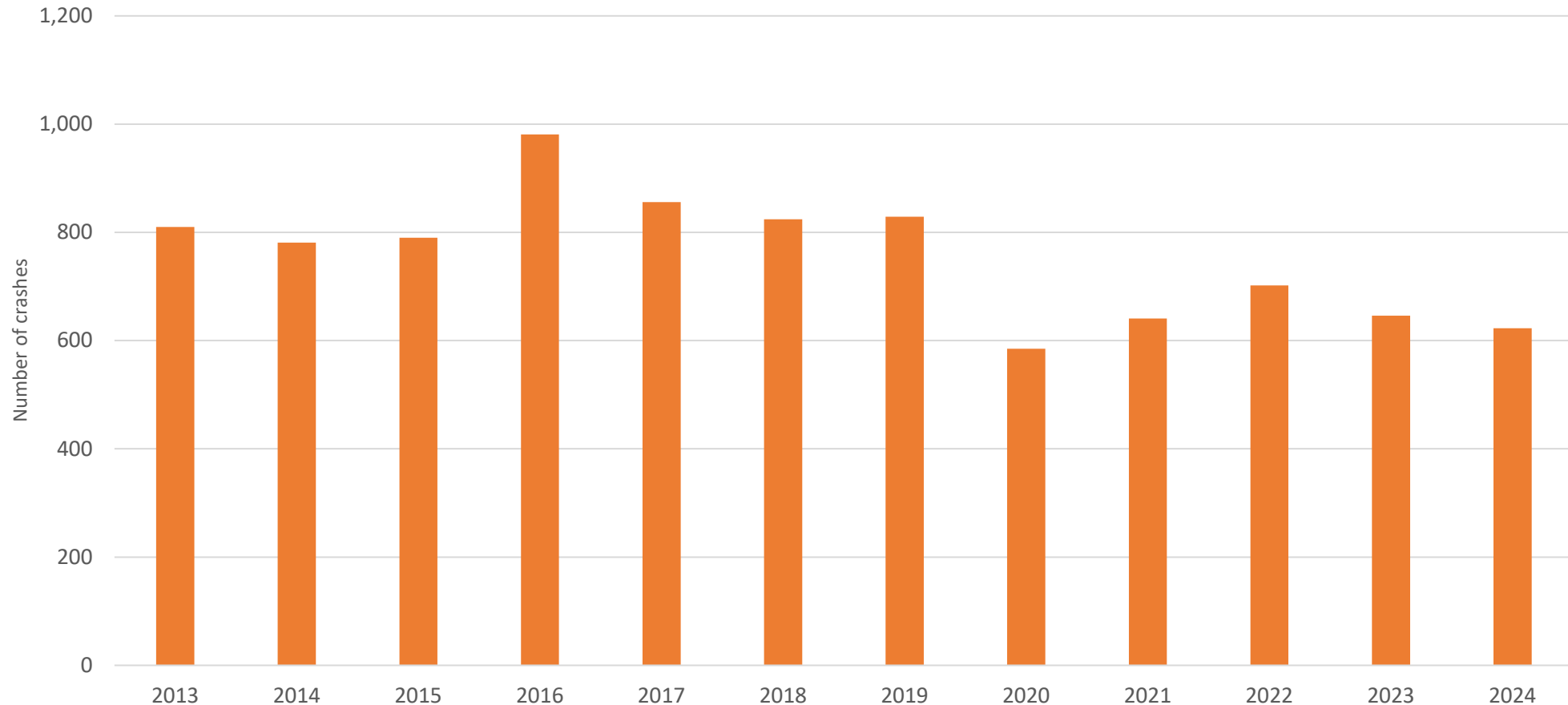
Somerville surveys our school families on travel preference;
Roughly 55% of students rely on walking and biking.



Source: Somerville Public Schools annual travel survey

Safety Trends: Reported Crashes

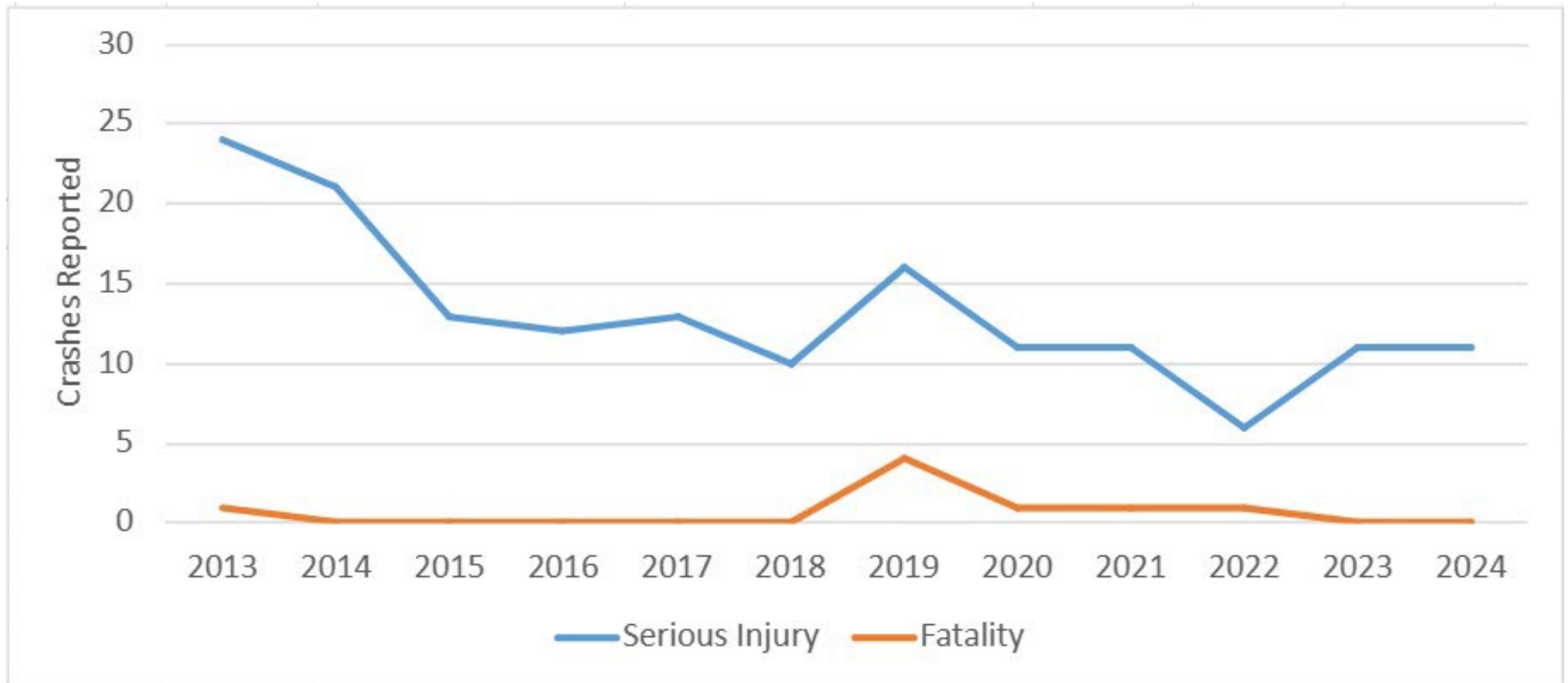
Reported crashes in Somerville continued to decrease in 2024;
With 623 total crashes reported for the year.



Source: MassDOT IMPACT crash data portal; retrieved 1/21/25

Safety Trends: Reported Crashes

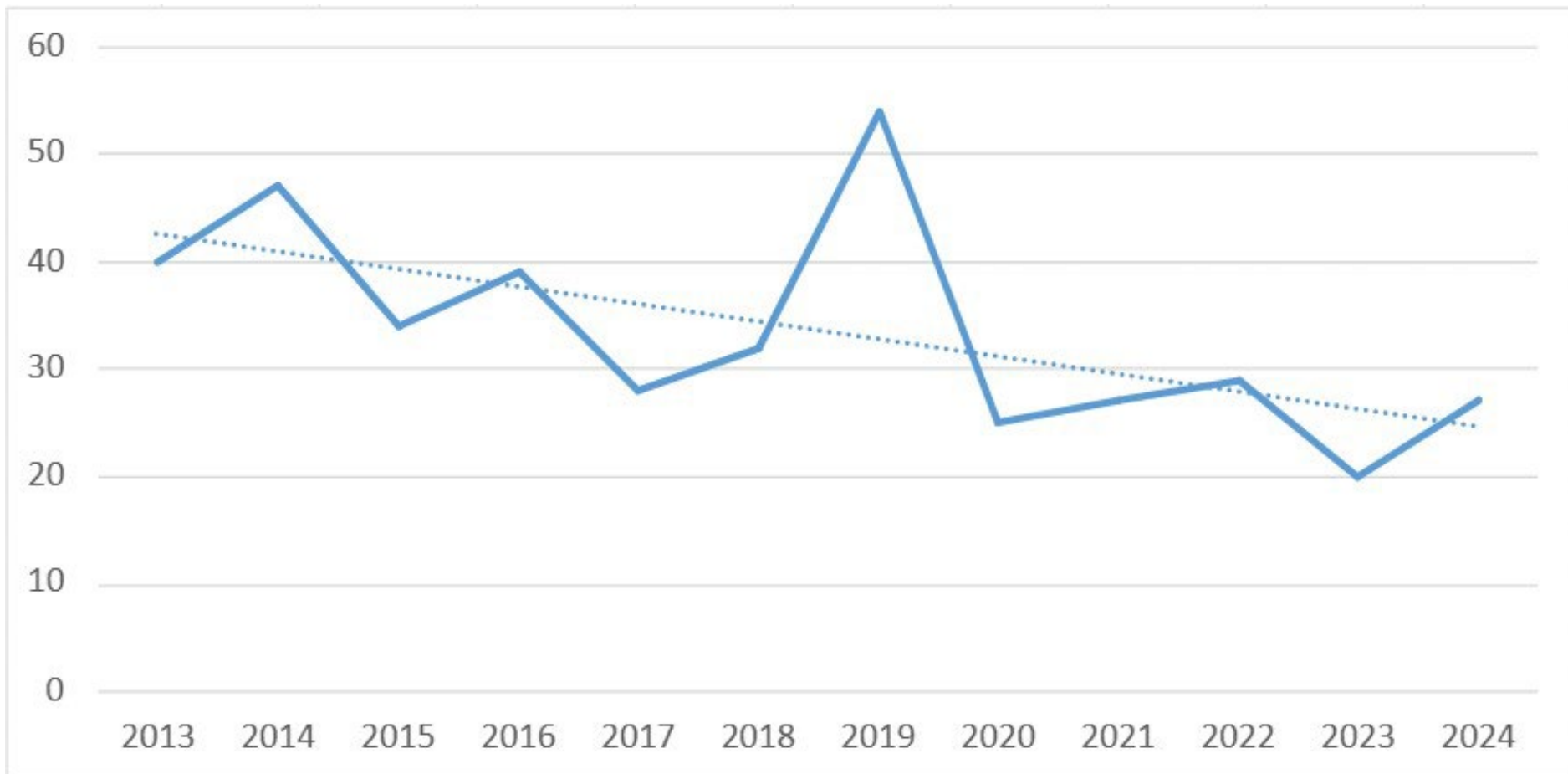
In 2024, Somerville experienced 11 severe injury crashes;
But had no fatal crashes for the second year in a row.



Source: MassDOT IMPACT crash data portal; retrieved 1/21/25

Safety Trends: Pedestrian Crashes

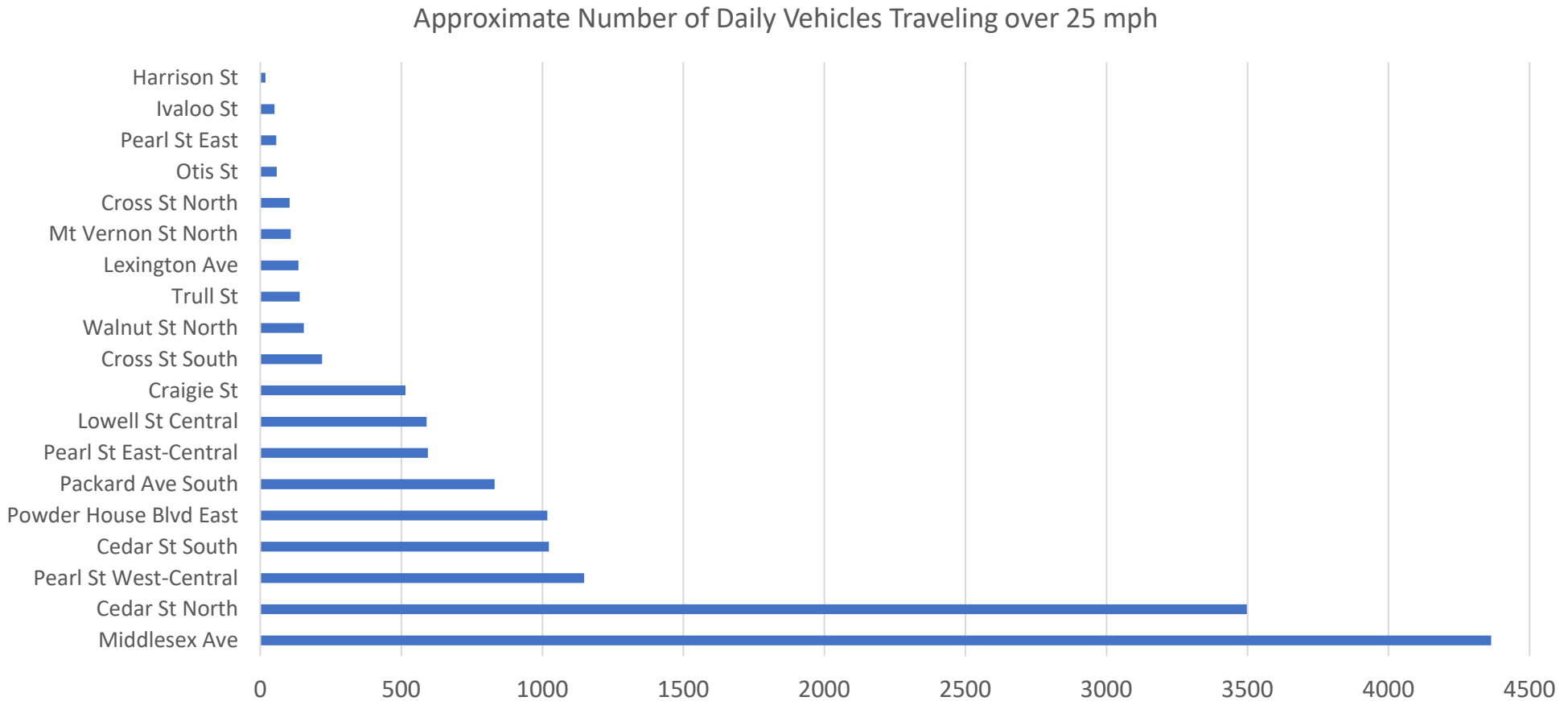
Pedestrian crashes reported in Somerville increased in 2024,
But overall trend is downward.



Source: MassDOT IMPACT crash data portal; retrieved 1/21/25

Safety Trends: Speed Data

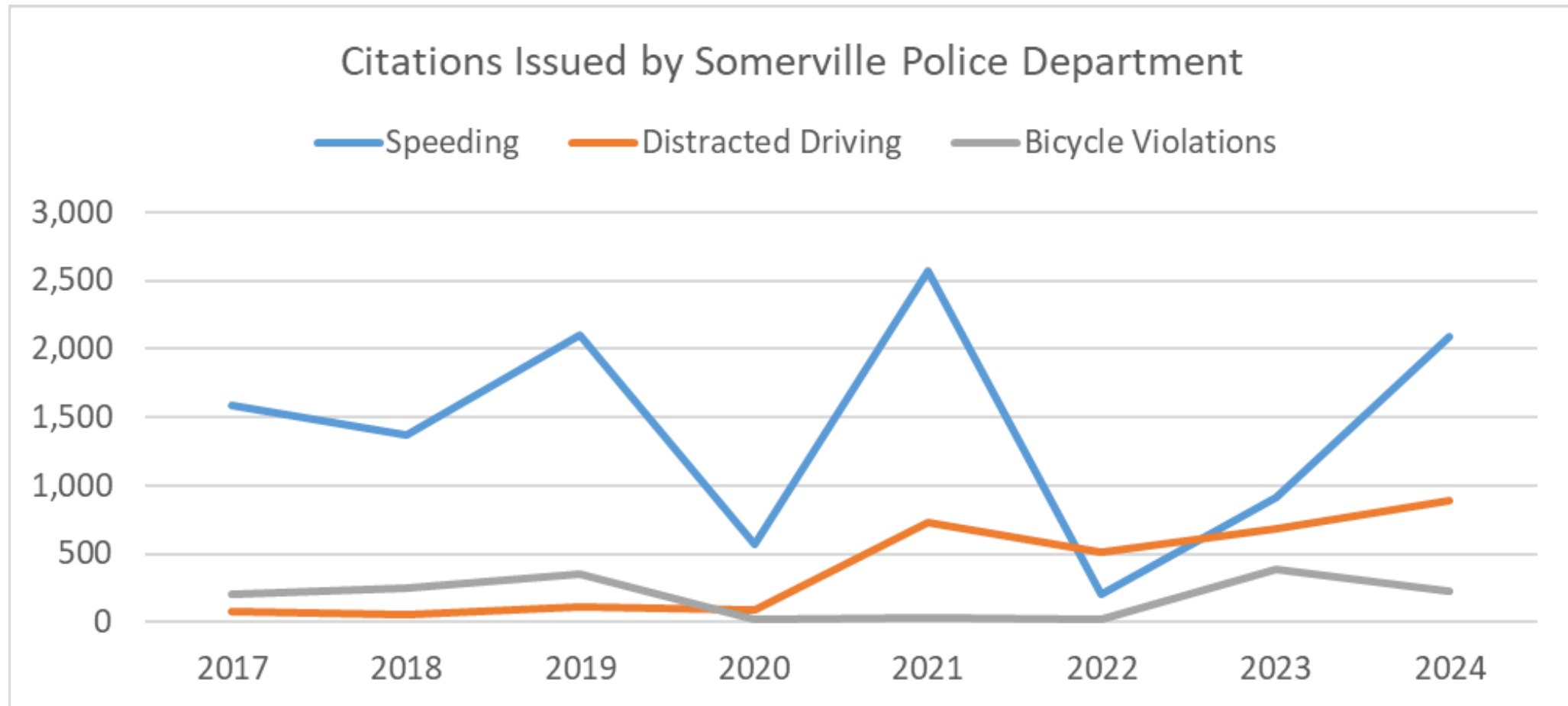
Our speed data collection program continues to grow,
The City collected data for 46 streets in 2024.



Source: City of Somerville Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR) devices

Safety Trends: Speed Data

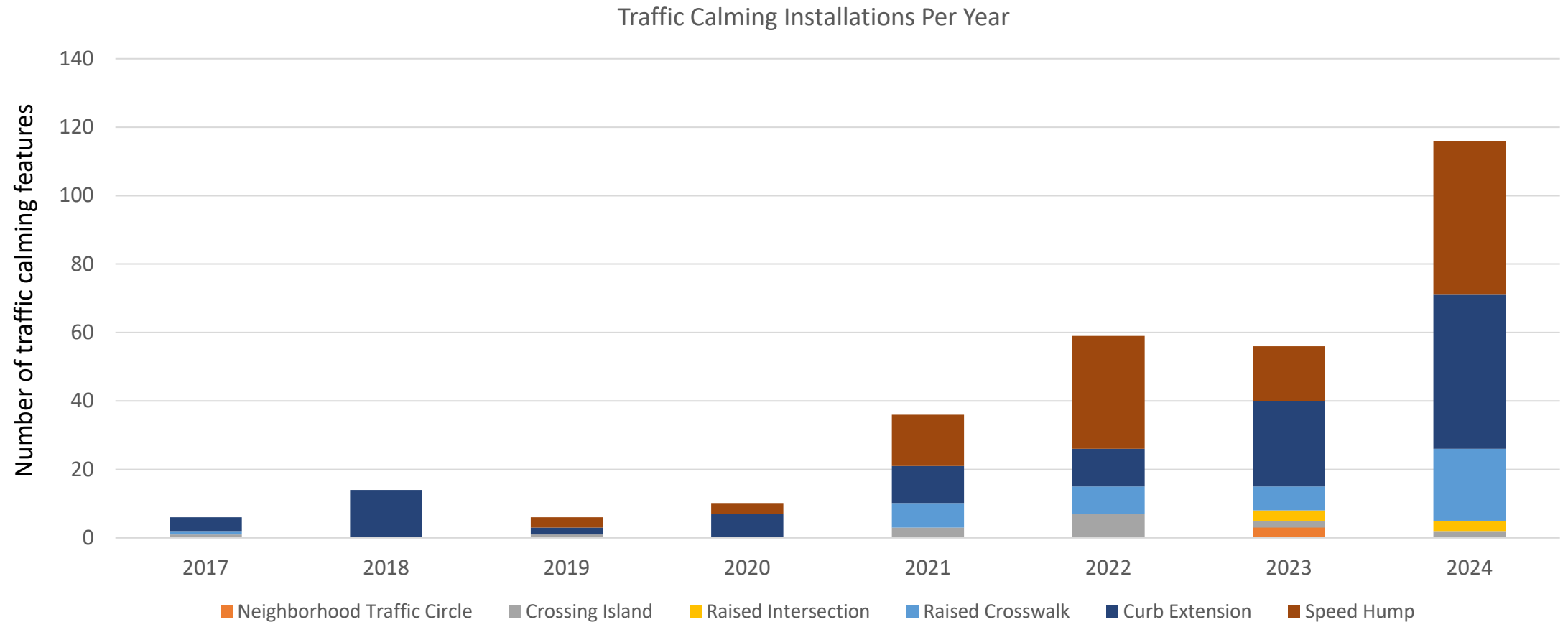
Traffic citations are another data point to understand safety;
Speeding and distracted driving are common violations.



Source: Somerville Police Department public data dashboard

Our Strategies: Traffic Calming Installations

In order to improve safety and respond to resident demand;
Somerville built more than 100 traffic calming features in 2024.



Source: City of Somerville traffic calming database

Our Strategies: Pre- & Post-Implementation Speed Hump Data

The City's speed hump program improves safety;

Our data show fewer people driving are speeding after construction.

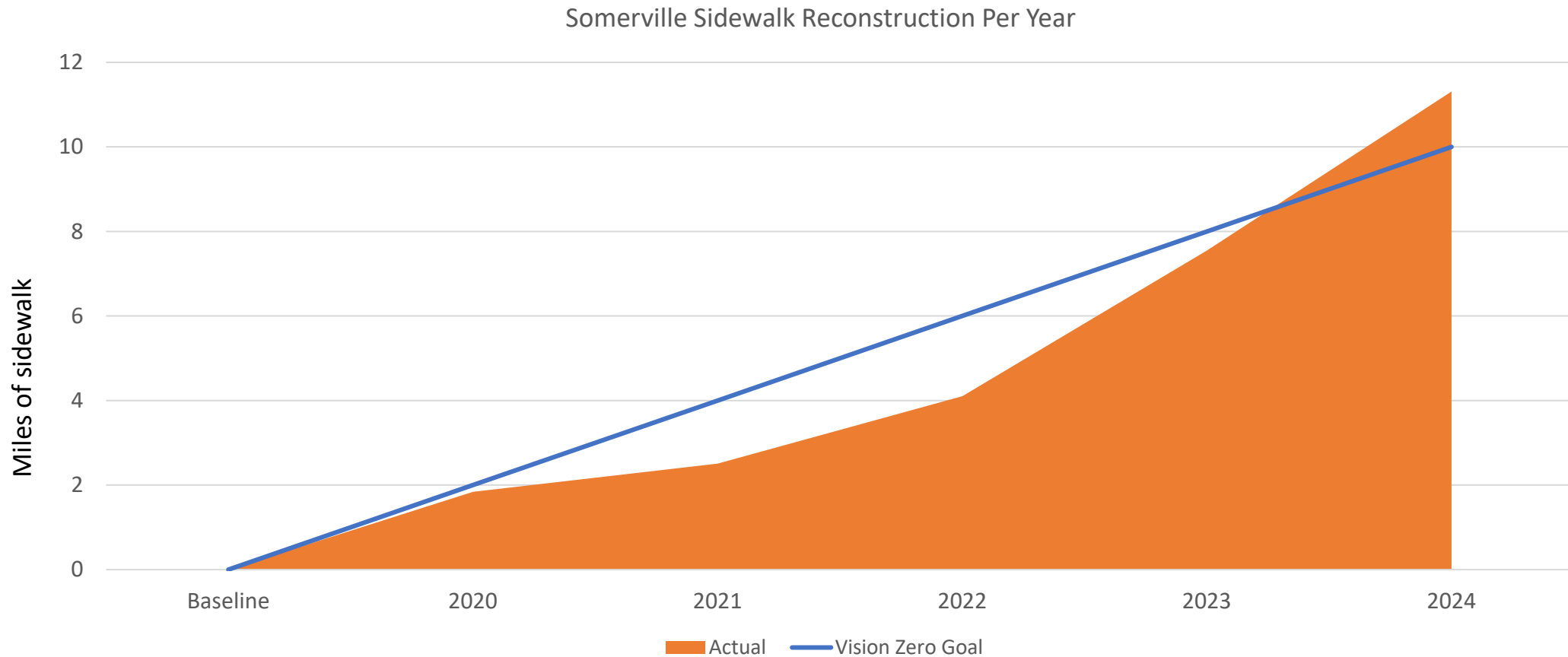
- Cross Street at Fountain Avenue
 - Vehicles traveling 25mph before: **36%**
 - Vehicles traveling 25mph after: **6%**
- Marshall Street at Evergreen Avenue
 - Vehicles traveling 25mph before: **22%**
 - Vehicles traveling 25mph after: **13%**
- Florence Street at playground
 - Vehicles traveling 25mph before: **20%**
 - Vehicles traveling 25mph after: **3%**



Above: Speed hump on Florence Street.

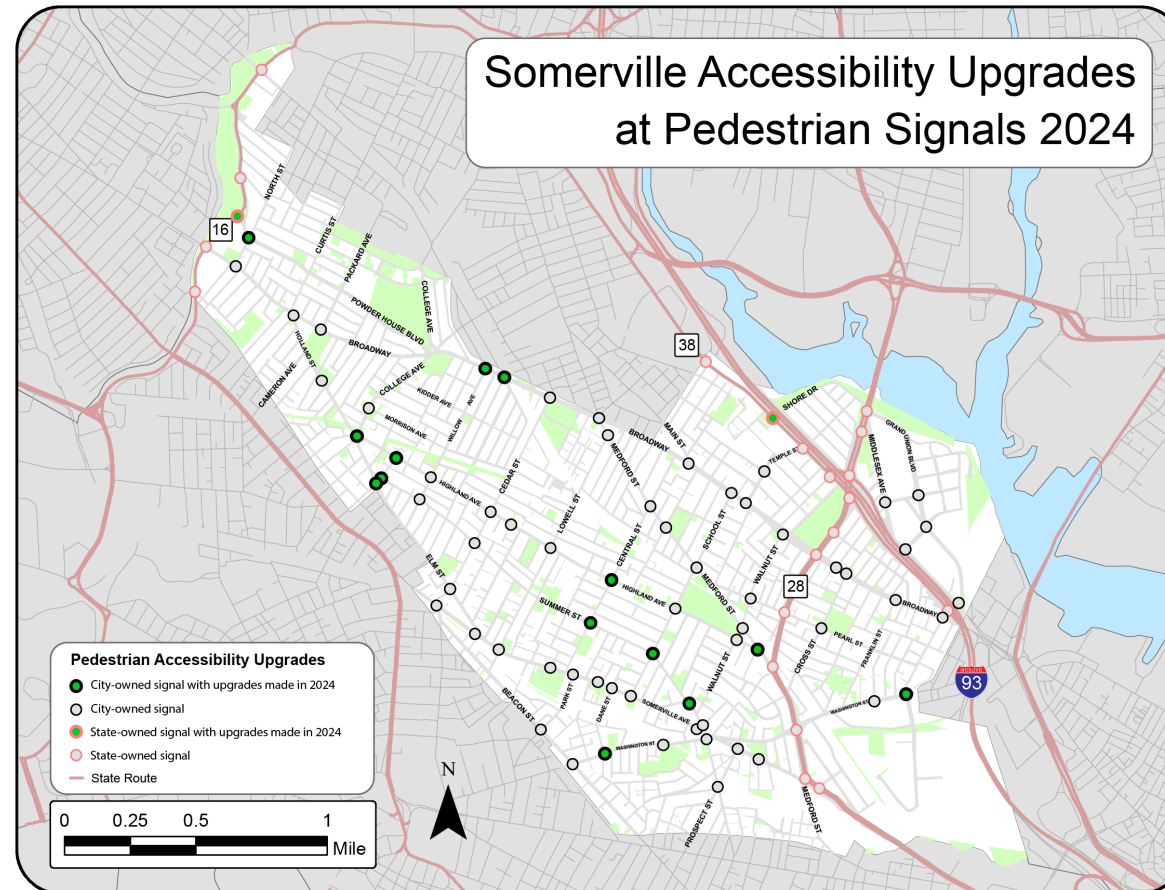
Our Strategies: Sidewalk Reconstruction

The City reconstructs approximately 2 miles of sidewalk annually
To help improve safety, accessibility, and quality of life.



Our Strategies: Pedestrian Signal Upgrades

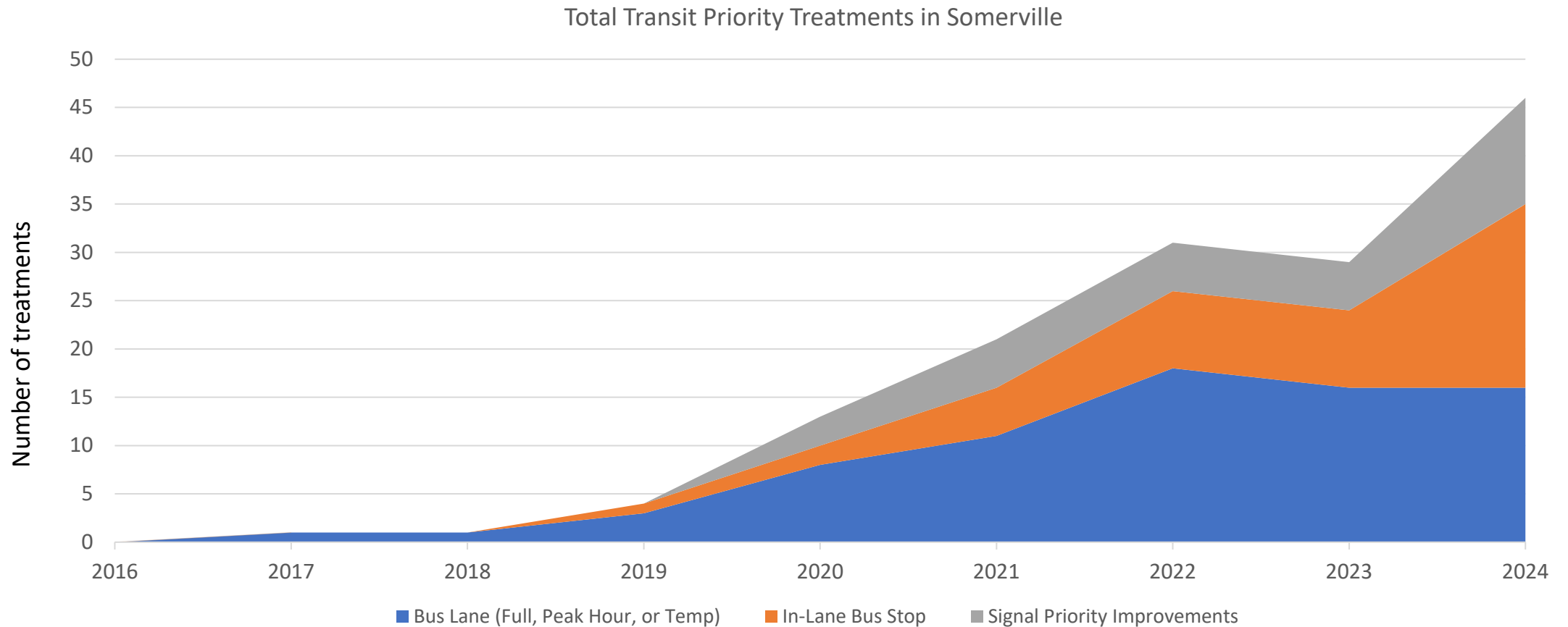
Traffic signal management was a focus area in 2024,
We replaced push buttons and countdown timers at 16 signals.



Source: Engineering Division traffic signal database.

Our Strategies: Transit Signal Priority

Transit priority infrastructure is essential for reliable bus service;
In 2024, we upgraded 6 transit signals and built 11 in-lane bus stops.



Annual Mobility KPIs Continued

- More KPIs available in the full presentation that include:
 - Number of outreach events
 - Bike count data trends
 - Preliminary red-light running data collection at select intersections
 - Number and types of inquiries to the Mobility Division
 - Motor vehicle traffic counts at select intersections
 - And more!

Visit www.somervillema.gov/visionzero to read the 2024 KPIs and review presentations from 2023 and 2022.

Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project

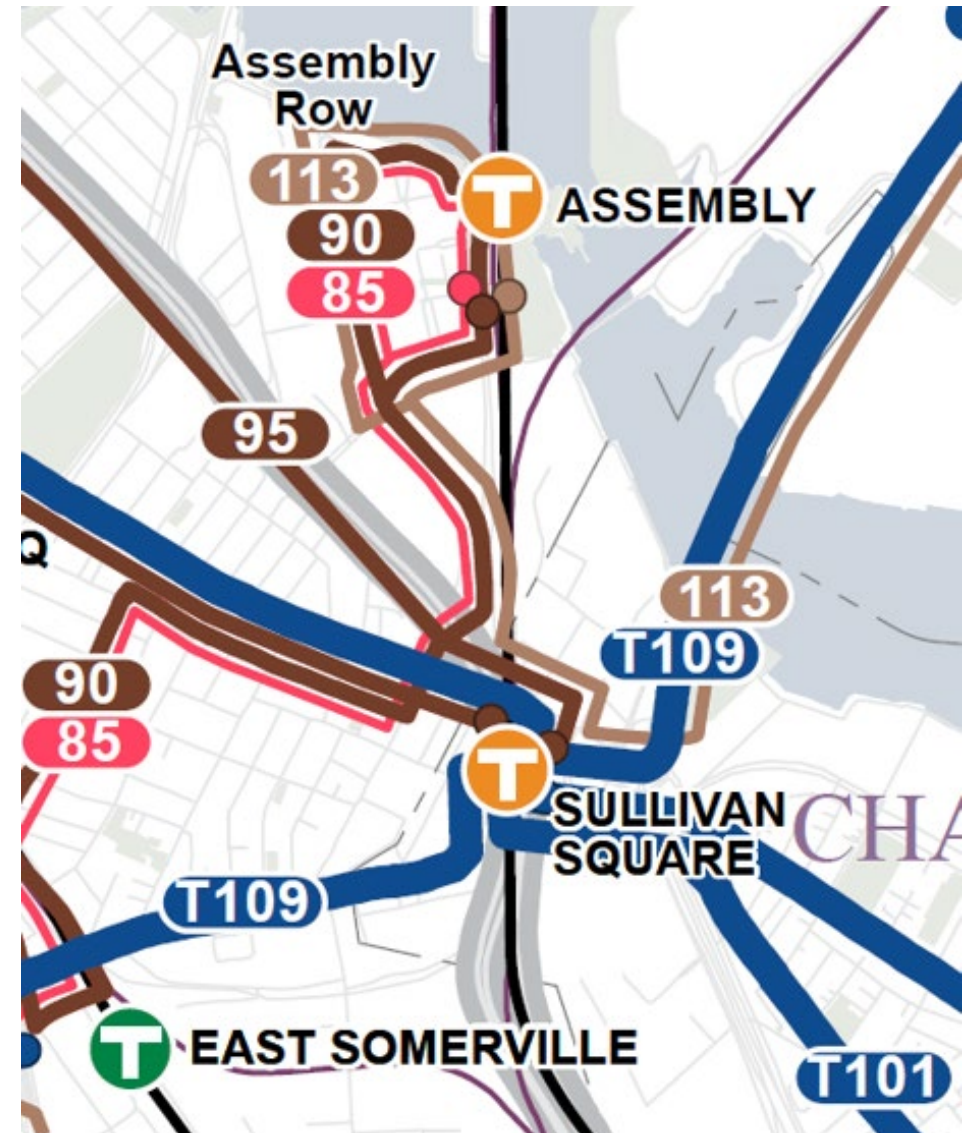
- The Maffa Way Bridge & Mystic Avenue Bridge carry vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, and transit traffic over the MBTA's Orange Line and Commuter Rail in Boston and Somerville.
- I-93 runs over both bridges.
- The Somerville<>Boston city line is approximately on the east side of both Bridges.
- **This construction project will replace these two deteriorated bridge structures.**

At right – an overview of the project area and context



Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project

- Community members and city staff have requested that improved transit, pedestrian, and bicycle connections be incorporated into this project to better connect the two cities to each other and to bus and rail rapid transit services.
- Although primarily a bridge replacement project, it will set the cross section for these key connections between Somerville and Boston and is a once in a generation opportunity to ensure the best possible design as well as future flexibility.
- We have advocated MassDOT for lower design speeds, general purpose lane drops, dedicated transit lanes, transit signal priority, wider sidewalks, and separated bicycle facilities.



Above: The MBTA Bus Network Redesign proposals in the Project Area

Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project

- Bridge replacement work began in 2024 while the final design for the surface was still being developed. This allowed for continued conversations about multimodal design to take place without holding up critical bridge replacements.
- Phase 1 Construction began in Spring 2024 which reconstructed half of both bridges.
- Phase 2 construction will begin in Spring 2025 which will reconstruct the other half of both bridges.
- Both phases have been coordinated with MBTA shutdowns to perform critical work while trains are not operating below the structures.
- Both bridges are expected to be fully open in Summer 2026 with final completion expected by the end of 2026.

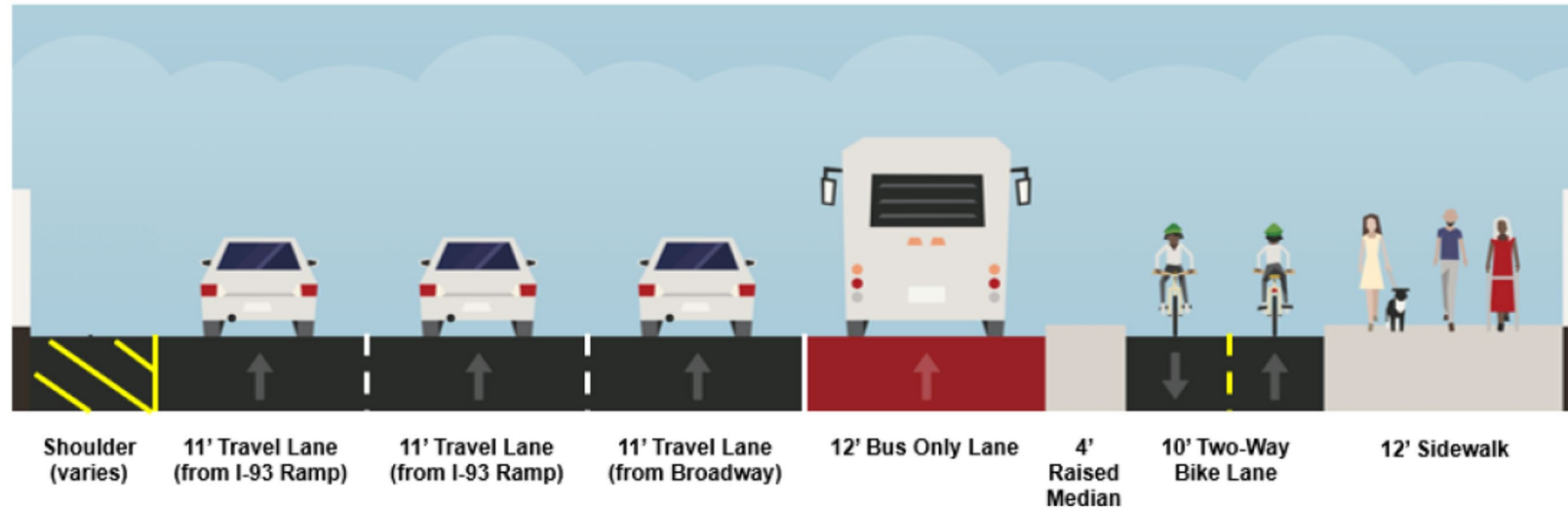


Above: The in-progress deck of the Broadway/Maffa Way bridge over the Commuter Rail and Orange Line Tracks, and under I-93, from August 2025, during Phase 1 of construction.

Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project

Maffa Way Bridge Final Condition - 2026

- Previous public information meetings have shared proposed cross sections for both bridges, shown at right.
- Somerville has continued to advocate for further design improvements.
- The next meetings are:
 - Monday, February 24 at 6:00 p.m. at the Schrafft's City Center, Café
 - Wednesday, February 26 at 6:00 p.m. at the Somerville Central Public Library
- **MassDOT will share project updates as well as an updated design for multimodal transportation improvements.**



Mystic Ave Bridge Final Condition - 2026

