Hello Midtown,

As a follow up to my last post about the 2022 Strategic Plan, I wanted to provide some more details about Midtown’s traffic component. As mentioned in that post, the goal is to reduce crashes by 15% in the three main corridors (Beltline, Mineral Point Rd, and E Washington Ave) by providing proactive enforcement and high-visibility in these areas.

Based on data from the DOT, which tracks where crashes occur, and staying within the corridors identified by MPD, Midtown selected the following locations to focus on for hazardous traffic enforcement:

* MINERAL POINT RD AT S GAMMON RD
* MINERAL POINT RD AT WHITNEY WAY
* MINERAL POINT RD CORRIDOR BETWEEN WHITNEY AND GAMMON
* BELTLINE AT VERONA RD

You may see officers—alone or in teams—at these locations over the summer. At each location there are certain times of day when more crashes occur, so in the interest of efficiency, we will also be encouraging greater efforts during those higher-frequency periods. Officers are strongly encouraged to issue citations for hazardous violations such as speeding, red-signal violations, stop sign violations and etc. MPD will be tracking how much time officers are able to spend in each location and the number of overall crashes in an effort to assess the impact of officer efforts.

Although we are prioritizing these four locations, we are not ignoring other complaints, and will address those as time and resources allow. Importantly, even in our focus areas, it should be understood that officers will continue to be, first and foremost, first responders who handle calls and follow up on cases as necessary.

Remember if you have a traffic complaint please report it to:

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/reportaproblem/trafficenforcement.cfm>

Finally, traffic stops are inherently risky—officers do not know who they are stopping, drivers are often not happy to be stopped, and other vehicles are a significant danger, especially on the Beltline. Please remember to move over or slow down when approaching an officer out on a traffic stop. If you are stopped, pull over as soon as safely possible, remain in your vehicle, and follow the officers’ instructions…and remember they are working to increase your safety as a driver and member of our community!

Thank you,

Captain Freedman