

SCHOOL-RELATED CRASH REVIEW

Location: Wayne Avenue at Fenton Street

Crash Date: May 07, 2024

Crash Time: 4:05 PM

Local Case No.: 240021515

Review Date: January 16, 2025

Description of Incident

On Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at approximately 4:05 PM, a pedestrian was traveling westbound across the south leg of the intersection in the crosswalk. A motorist traveling westbound on Wayne Avenue, with a green arrow indication, turned left onto Fenton Street and struck a pedestrian who was established in the crosswalk. The crash report indicated that the pedestrian suffered minor injuries. Daytime weather conditions were clear, and the roadway surface was dry.

Figure 2 illustrates the crash location and direction of pedestrian and vehicle travel.

Location and Site Description

The subject location is Wayne Avenue at the intersection of Fenton Street. Sligo Creek Elementary School (ES) and Silver Spring International Middle School (MS) are located to the east along Wayne Avenue. Sligo Creek ES, located at 500 Schuyler Road, has a current enrollment of 666 students in grades Kindergarten through 5th. Silver Spring International MS, located at 313 Wayne Avenue, has a current enrollment of 1,062 students in grades 6th through 8th.

Sligo Creek Elementary School (ES)

The majority of student arrivals are between 8:55 AM and 9:25 AM and dismissal occurs between 3:50 PM and 4:10 PM.

Silver Spring International (MS)

The majority of student arrivals are between 7:45 AM and 8:15 AM and dismissal occurs between 3:00 PM and 3:20 PM.

Wayne Avenue

Wayne Avenue is classified as a downtown street, is approximately 60 feet wide, and is oriented in the east-west direction. Wayne Avenue is approximately two miles long between MD 384 (Colesville Road) to the west and terminates at Oak View Elementary School to the east. At the crash location, Wayne Avenue has unbuffered sidewalks on both sides of the street. There are no shoulders along the roadway. On the west leg of the crash location, there is a two-way turn-lane that transitions to turn lanes at the signalized intersection.

The posted speed limit along Wayne Avenue is 25 mph. A marked, two-stage pedestrian crossing exists across Wayne Avenue approximately 400 feet west of the subject intersection. Montgomery County RideOn bus stops are installed on the northbound and westbound approaches of the intersection. A “State Law Stop For [Peds] in X-Walk” sign exists in both directions while a “School” sign with a supplemental “Ahead” plaque exists only in the eastbound direction approaching Sligo Creek Elementary School.

Refer to **Figure 1** in the attachments for additional details on the Wayne Avenue segment.

Wayne Avenue at Fenton Street

The intersection of Wayne Avenue at Fenton Street is a signalized, four-legged intersection, with Fenton Street extending northerly and southerly from Wayne Avenue. Fenton Avenue is a multi-lane, marked roadway with on-street parking permitted. On the south leg, there is one (1) receiving southbound lane and three (3) approaching lanes. On the north leg, there is one (1) receiving northbound lane and two (2) approaching lanes. At the intersection of Fenton Street with a driveway approximately 200 feet north of Wayne Avenue, a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) exists. The surrounding area of the intersection lies in a downtown area, servicing commercial businesses. Unbuffered sidewalks exist along both directions of Fenton Street. Pedestrian ramps are provided at the corners of the intersection with continental crosswalk markings for all legs. The eastbound Wayne Avenue and northbound Fenton Street approaches consist of protected-permissive left-turn phasing.

The Wayne Avenue corridor was evaluated to identify potential infrastructure, maintenance activities, and road user behaviors that contribute to increased safety risk at and in the vicinity of the school-related crash location. The Wayne Avenue corridor was reviewed between US 29 (Georgia Avenue) to the west and Cedar Street to the east. Please refer to **Figure 1** for additional information.

Crash History

Crash data obtained from dataMontgomery indicates that 31 incidents occurred within the vicinity of the crash site between January 2020 and December 2023. Of these 31 incidents, 21 crashes occurred within 150 feet of the signalized intersection of Wayne Avenue and Fenton Street, the subject crash incident. The 10 other crashes occurred at nearby intersections, which include Fenton Street at Bonifant Street, Wayne Avenue at driveways, and Fenton Street at the PHB. The 31 crashes reported included eight (8) injury crashes, 23 property damage crashes, and the crash type consisted of four (4) angle collisions, three (3) left turn collisions, one (1) right turn collision, one (1) head on collision, five (5) rear end collisions, six (6) sideswipe collisions, four (4) single vehicle collisions, and seven (7) classified as “other”. There were three (3) pedestrian-related crashes. Two (2) of the incidents occurred during wet pavement conditions, six (6) of the incidents were along an unknown surface, and 13 occurred in the dark/dusk. The incidents are illustrated on **Figure 3**.

Field Observations and Findings

Field observations were performed on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 9 AM. Weather conditions were clear, and the roadway surface was dry. However, conditions were cold, and snow cover remained from the previous weekend storm. Pedestrian and vehicular activity was high during the observation period. Pavement markings across the intersection are in good condition. Ongoing construction is occurring along Wayne Avenue through the subject segment and affects the sidewalks on the north side of Wayne Avenue.

Pedestrian phases for every crossing are automatically activated during the traffic signal cycle. Right turns on red are restricted for all approaches.

Recommendations

The following measures were identified as a result of this review:

1. Recommend installing “Turning Vehicles Yield to Pedestrians” signs on signal mast arm displays for all approaches.

Site Photograph



Photo 1. Taken from southeast corner looking westbound along Wayne Avenue at south leg crossing. Approximate crash location.



Photo 2. Intersection view from north east corner.

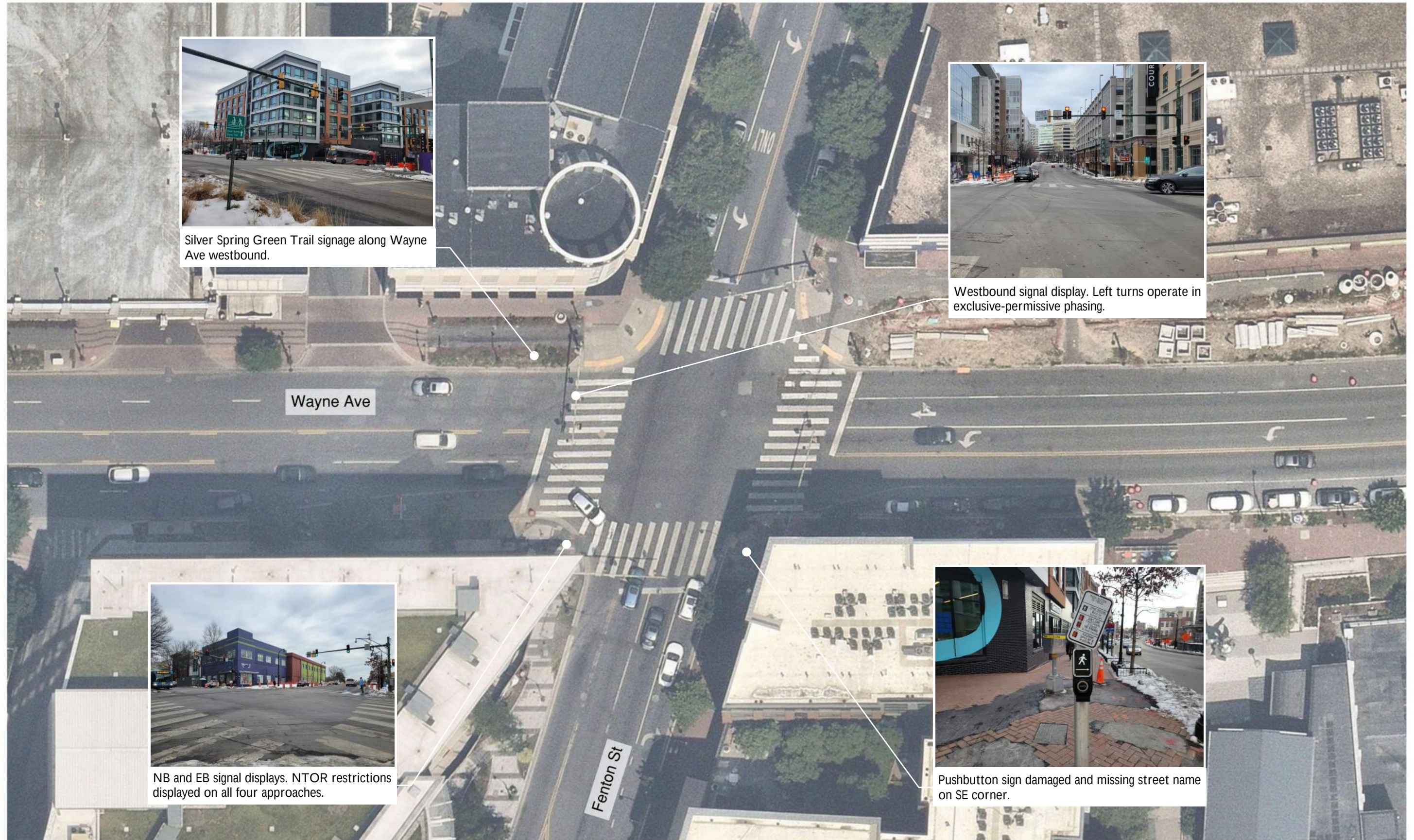


Figure 1 - Wayne Ave Corridor Observations

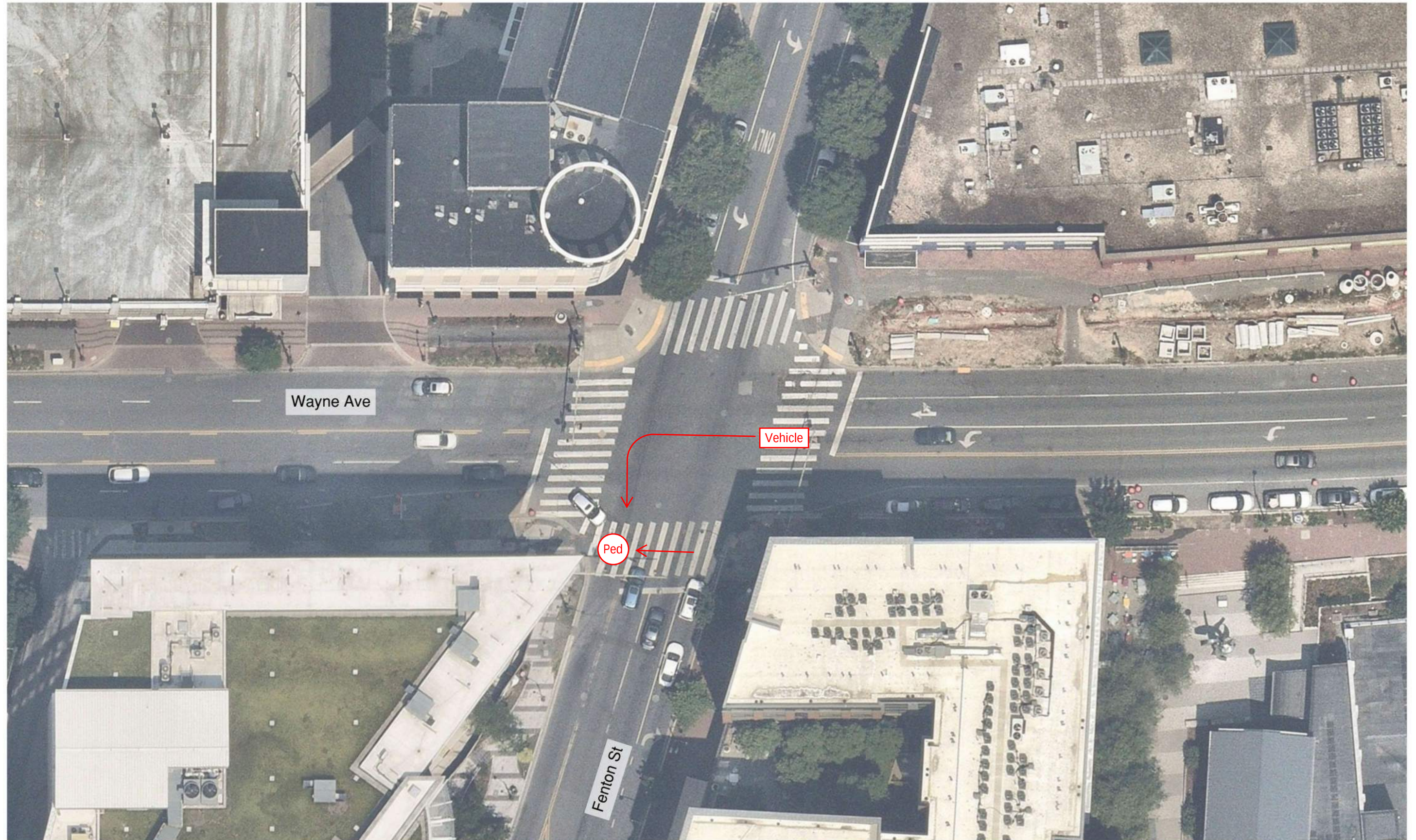


Figure 2 - Crash Diagram

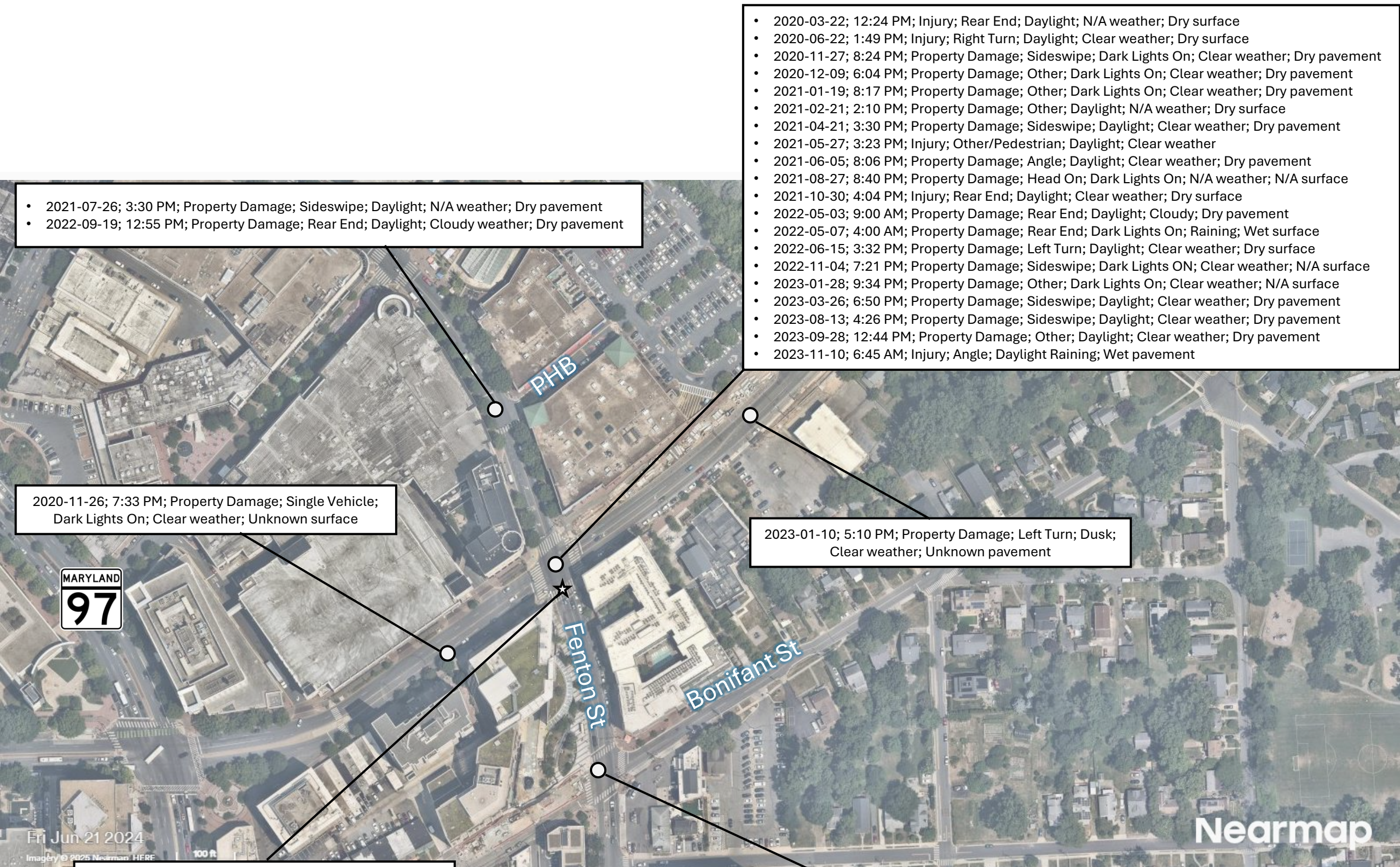


Figure 3 – Crash History (2021-2023)