

## The Neighborhood Safe.

### NEIGHBORHOOD PRIMACY.

The primary mission of every city, as has been mentioned many times by CharacterTowns.org, is to protect people and households in their homes and neighborhoods. Neighborhood safety is the paramount issue of every city.

### THE ROLE OF CITIES IN ASSURING SAFETY.

Safety is a concern in many aspects of live. “Street crimes” are on the list along with traffic, health care, fires, sexual harassment, bullying, school shootings, flooding and other dangers to persons or properties.

### POLICE, FIRE AND EMT.

Small cities and towns devote a large portion of their budgets to police, fire and emergency service operations and equipment. The focus, as it should be, is on crime prevention and reaction, fire responses and EMT calls from residents with health care emergencies.

Programs described below address crime: Neighborhood Crime Watch and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design [CPTED]. Home inspections, fire safety classes, CPR courses and many other activities are conducted by public safety organizations. And, police, fire and rescue professionals have certification programs and equipment requirements that meet national standards.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY.

Cities, counties, state and federal agencies are increasingly called upon to respond to floods, storm damages and other natural catastrophes that befall local communities. Prevention programs based on sophisticated plans are effective but not always implemented.

### TRAFFIC SAFETY.

Cities plan for transportation facilities driven, in part, by accident information. Prevention, or reduction, of traffic accidents due to congestion, drunk/text driving, poor road conditions and weather is possible. Traffic fatalities in America are declining, in total. Fatalities for motorcyclists, pedestrians and pedalcyclists has risen.

#### FATALITY ANALYSIS REPORTING SYSTEM (FARS) ENCYCLOPEDIA.....NHTSA

	<u>1998</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2018</u>
Vehicle Occupants	33088	26791	24221
Motorcyclists	2294	5312	4985
Pedestrians	5228	4414	6283
<u>Pedalcyclists</u>	<u>760</u>	<u>718</u>	<u>854</u>
TOTAL	41501	37423	36560

LINK: <https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Main/index.aspx>

### COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Planning is the art and science of anticipating events and making accommodations that prevents or mitigates an anticipated dangers. In addition to crime, fire, floods, heart attacks and traffic fatalities there are three, at least, big events on the horizon: autonomous vehicles, climate change and 5G.

Each has its exigencies. The impacts of each can be expected to arrive in our communities with some certainty. The time is here to make plans and develop programs to prevent or mitigate their potential dangers. And these aren't associated with the tougher social problems of bullying, school violence and sexual harassment.