


**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** November 19, 2018

**To:** Honorable City Council  
c/o City Clerk, Room 395  
Attention: Committee Chair

**From:** Seleta J. Reynolds,  General Manager  
Department of Transportation

**Subject:** **Vision Zero Implementation Strategy for the Safety of the Traveling Public (CF 17-1137)**

**SUMMARY**

This report addresses the Vision Zero prioritization methodology, proposes 20 new Priority Corridors and 60 Priority Intersections, and provides a status update on implementation of improvements on existing Priority Corridors. Per Council direction, the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) re-evaluated how it prioritizes safety projects on the City's High Injury Network (HIN) and proposes a new model for identifying Priority Corridors. LADOT also proposes a list of Priority Intersections consisting intersections where a high number of people have died or been seriously injured across all modes (vehicle, motorcycle, bicycle, and pedestrian).

**RECOMMENDATION**

LADOT recommends the Los Angeles City Council:

1. APPROVE the Vision Zero prioritization methodology.
2. APPROVE the list of new Priority Corridor locations. (Attachment 1)
3. APPROVE the list of new Priority Intersections. (Attachment 2)
4. RECEIVE AND FILE the update on Priority Corridors from 2017. (Attachment 3)

**BACKGROUND**

In 2015, Mayor Garcetti signed Executive Directive 10 to establish a goal of zero traffic fatalities by 2025 and included a set of policies and programs to achieve this goal. Vision Zero included the development of the City's first High Injury Network, which identified the 6% of city streets that account for 70% of deaths and serious injuries for people walking.

In January 2017, the City of Los Angeles identified 40 Priority Corridors, a subset of the High Injury Network, to focus its first round of safety improvements. LADOT identified these projects in the Vision Zero Action Plan, adopted by Council in 2017. LADOT has installed safety improvements on each of these Priority Corridors. Additional work continues for some of these original corridors.

On March 21, 2018, Council instructed LADOT to submit a report no later than December of each year with a set of proposed Vision Zero hazard mitigation projects for consideration by Council and for inclusion in the Mayor's proposed budget that seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. Prioritize projects that address known threats to public safety, with consideration given to severity, vulnerability, social equity, and cost effectiveness.
2. Ensure the validity of the High Injury Network and Priority Corridor data.
3. Prioritize projects by greatest impact.
4. Base improvements on collision data.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **New Priority Corridor Methodology**

The High Injury Network (HIN) is a tool to help city departments identify areas with the greatest safety needs throughout the City of Los Angeles. Although the HIN represents only 6% of city streets, the network spans roughly 450 miles. LADOT must use an additional data analysis process to identify Priority Corridors, or streets where the City will prioritize its safety efforts to implement a full suite of safety improvements. This prioritization informs annual work plans and the allocation of resources.

The first round of Priority Corridors, identified in 2017, created a score for each intersection on the HIN. LADOT gave additional weight to intersections with a death or serious injury involving a bicycle or pedestrian, where the intersection was in a high needs community, and where crashes involved a senior or a child.

Per Council guidance, LADOT has identified a new list of Priority Corridors using a new methodology,<sup>1</sup> which ranks corridors on the High Injury Network simply based on the number of people who have been killed or seriously injured across all modes, without additional weighting. LADOT used an algorithm to review the most recent 5-year collision data (2013-2017) and identified the top 20 corridors on the High Injury Network that meet the following criteria:

- A minimum length of 0.5 miles
- A minimum average of 15 people killed or severely injured per mile (KSI/Mile)

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/EHSdocs/PHES/VisionZero/Vision\\_Zero\\_High\\_Injury\\_Network\\_Update.pdf](https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/EHSdocs/PHES/VisionZero/Vision_Zero_High_Injury_Network_Update.pdf)

LADOT applied this algorithm to the remaining corridors on the High Injury Network, with previous Priority Corridors removed, to identify the next group of corridors. This new methodology is aligned with the objectives provided in CF 17-1137.

LADOT also analyzed every intersection in the city, regardless of whether it was on the HIN, to identify intersections with the highest levels of deaths and severe injuries. LADOT recognizes that some of the city's most pressing safety challenges are in singular locations, and not along corridors. LADOT continues to look at new strategies that target high-crash locations.

Objective 1 - Prioritize Projects that Address Public Safety, with Consideration Given to Severity, Cost Effectiveness, Vulnerability, and Social Equity.

LADOT uses a three-phased project implementation approach for cost effectiveness. Phase 1 implementation includes low cost treatments, such as roadway re-striping, signs, and other lower cost measures. Some of these improvements, such as painted intersection tightenings or buffered bike lanes, are considered pilots of more permanent safety improvements. Phase 2 safety improvements include new or upgraded traffic signals that strengthen Phase 1 improvements. The City installs Phase 3 concrete treatments on streets to make improvements permanent and change the character of the street.

Half of the proposed 2019 Priority Corridors are located in communities within the top quintile of the Los Angeles Health Atlas' Community Health and Equity Index. By committing approximately half of the Vision Zero Priority Corridor resources to these communities, the 2019 Priority Corridors advance the City's social equity goals. At Council direction, LADOT can further prioritize projects within the list of 2019 Priority Corridors based on party vulnerability, severity, and social equity.

Objective 2 – Ensure the Validity of the High Injury Network and Priority Corridor Data.

Vision Zero collision data comes from the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS), the California standard for traffic collision reporting. Law enforcement officials file a collision report for a crash, which they transmit to the State of California for validation and standardization. Collisions are available in SWITRS within five (5) months of the crash, which is now down from a lag time of nearly two years.

LADOT used SWITRS to establish its HIN in 2015 and then updated the HIN in early 2018. To ensure the validity of the HIN per Council direction, LADOT closely examined the underpinning data in late 2017 and made changes to the HIN as part of its analysis.

In summer 2018, LADOT applied the newly-created prioritization algorithm to streets on the HIN to identify new Priority Corridors. This prioritization process went through robust validation and quality assurance. Once satisfied with the data, LADOT cross-checked the KSI/mile data with agency partners.

### Objective 3 - Prioritize Vision Zero Projects by Greatest Impact.

The 2019 Priority Corridor methodology selects street segments with the highest number of severe or fatal injury (KSI) collisions. By implementing projects on the High Injury Network, and prioritizing projects based on KSI/mile, the greatest reductions of injuries and fatalities are likely to result. The order in which we propose and implement projects, addressing the Priority Corridors first, reflects this objective.

### Objective 4 - Base Vision Zero Improvements on Collision Data.

LADOT engineers and planners design roadway improvements based on collision diagrams to identify correctable collision patterns and the appropriate safety countermeasures. For example, LADOT noticed that a number of fatal collisions occurred during left-turning vehicle movements. LADOT overlaid spatial data for these types of crashes with LADOT's existing signal infrastructure and discovered that most of these collisions happened at locations without protected left turns. Where resources allow, LADOT will upgrade existing signals to include protected left turns. For reference, the Vision Zero Safety Toolkit describes many of LADOT's currently deployed safety countermeasures and the collision patterns addressed by each.<sup>2</sup>

### **New Priority Corridors**

The table in Attachment 1 includes 23 new Priority Corridors with the highest rates of serious and fatal injuries. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) operates three (3) of these corridors. LADOT will share this data directly with Caltrans so they can investigate safety improvements at these locations. LADOT will focus on the remaining 20 corridors within the jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles.

### **New Priority Intersections**

Attachment 2 includes a list of proposed Priority Intersections. Addressing the City's highest KSI intersections, especially those not already captured within a Priority Corridor, is essential to achieving Vision Zero goals. The list excludes three (3) intersections that meet this criteria but where significant safety improvements have recently been made and the resulting safety benefit may not have been captured by the data.<sup>3</sup>

Attachment 4 displays a map of both the new Priority Corridors and the new Priority Intersections.

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<sup>2</sup> Vision Zero Safety Toolkit, <http://visionzero.lacity.org/safety-toolkit/>

<sup>3</sup> These intersections are La Tuna Canyon Rd and Route 210 E/B Off-Ramp; Hollywood Blvd and Highland Ave; and Alvarado St and Wilshire Blvd.

**Work Done on Existing Priority Corridors**

In 2017, LADOT began an intensive effort to install safety treatments on Priority Corridors. Safety features installed as part of Phases 1 and 2 include continental crosswalk upgrades, speed feedback signs, interim intersection tightenings, crosswalk paddle signs, leading pedestrian intervals, nighttime flashing yellow operation, flashing yellow beacons for existing crosswalks, and pedestrian scramble crosswalks.

LADOT has completed Phase 1 safety improvements on 17 of the first 40 Priority Corridors, and the Department is continuing installation of treatments on 13 additional corridors where we have already installed some treatments. The remaining ten (10) corridors are integrated with the City's Street Reconstruction Program and other Departmental workplans and projects. The table in Attachment 3 indicates LADOT's progress on Phase 1 for the first Priority Corridors. Streets are marked as either having Phase 1 treatments complete or planned, or as awaiting work on other projects.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

This memorandum does not request additional funds for implementation of these projects. LADOT will submit budget requests to address work on the new Priority Corridors and Intersections in the City's upcoming budget process.

Attachments

**Attachment 1 - PROPOSED 2019 PRIORITY CORRIDORS**

| #  | Priority Corridor Name | From Street        | To Street         | KSI/<br>Mile | Length<br>(Miles) | Council<br>District |
|----|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1  | <b>IMPERIAL</b>        | ATHENS WAY         | VERMONT AVE       | 21.06        | 0.76              | 8                   |
| 2  | <b>LA BREA</b>         | ADAMS BLVD         | COLISEUM ST       | 19.26        | 1.04              | 10                  |
| 3  | <b>NORMANDIE</b>       | LOMITA BLVD        | PACIFIC COAST FWY | 18.44        | 0.54              | 15                  |
| 4  | <b>HIGHLAND</b>        | FRANKLIN PL        | SANTA MONICA BLVD | 18.26        | 0.93              | 4,13                |
| 5  | <b>LINCOLN*</b>        | COMMONWEALTH AVE   | VENICE BLVD       | 17.9         | 1.12              | 11                  |
| 6  | <b>WOODMAN</b>         | SHERMAN WAY        | SATICOY ST        | 17.5         | 0.57              | 2,6                 |
| 7  | <b>GAFFEY</b>          | 14TH ST            | O'FARRELL ST      | 17.43        | 1.03              | 15                  |
| 8  | <b>MANCHESTER</b>      | MCKINLEY PL        | VERMONT AVE       | 17.42        | 1.78              | 8,9                 |
| 9  | <b>WESTERN</b>         | LEXINGTON AVE      | RUSSELL AVE       | 17.34        | 0.75              | 13                  |
| 10 | <b>BEVERLY</b>         | NORMANDIE PL       | WESTMORELAND BLVD | 17.13        | 0.76              | 13                  |
| 11 | <b>VERMONT</b>         | GAGE ST            | 79TH ST           | 17           | 1                 | 8                   |
| 12 | <b>WESTERN</b>         | 3RD ST             | WASHINGTON BLVD   | 17           | 2                 | 4,10                |
| 13 | <b>HOLLYWOOD</b>       | FULLER AVE         | LYMAN PL          | 16.35        | 3.61              | 4,13                |
| 14 | <b>LA CIENEGA</b>      | GUTHRIE AVE        | WHITWORTH DR      | 16.35        | 1.16              | 5,10                |
| 15 | <b>SUNSET</b>          | L. RON HUBBARD WAY | SELMA AVE         | 16.29        | 4.17              | 4,13                |
| 16 | <b>VICTORY</b>         | FULTON AVE         | WHITSETT AVE      | 16.17        | 0.99              | 2                   |
| 17 | <b>NORMANDIE</b>       | BEVERLY BLVD       | MELROSE AVE       | 15.97        | 0.5               | 13                  |
| 18 | <b>PICO</b>            | 2ND AVE            | WESTERN AVE       | 15.88        | 0.57              | 10                  |
| 19 | <b>CULVER</b>          | CENTINELA AVE      | SLAUSON AVE       | 15.86        | 0.63              | 11                  |
| 20 | <b>VERMONT</b>         | 7TH ST             | BEVERLY BLVD      | 15.78        | 1.14              | 10,13               |
| 21 | <b>LINCOLN*</b>        | BLUFF TRAIL ROAD   | MANCHESTER AVE    | 15.67        | 0.51              | 11                  |
| 22 | <b>SANTA MONICA*</b>   | BROCKTON AVE       | SEPULVEDA BLVD    | 15.62        | 1.09              | 5,11                |
| 23 | <b>VENTURA</b>         | GARDEN GROVE AVE   | WHITE OAK AVE     | 15.59        | 0.64              | 3,4                 |

Data: SWITRS, 2013-2017

\*Denotes that this corridor is a state highway maintained and operated by Caltrans

**Attachment 2 - PROPOSED 2019 PRIORITY INTERSECTIONS**

| Rank | Intersection                            | KSI | Council District |
|------|---|-----|------------------|
| 1    | Pacific Coast Hwy & Temescal Canyon Rd* | 9   | 11               |
| 2    | Gaffey St & Westmont Dr                 | 8   | 15               |
| 2    | Roscoe Blvd & Winnetka Ave              | 8   | 3                |
| 2    | Vernon Ave & Central Ave                | 8   | 9                |
| 2    | Vista Del Mar & Imperial Hwy            | 8   | 11               |
| 2    | Hollywood Blvd & Western Ave            | 8   | 13               |
| 7    | Tampa Ave & Roscoe Blvd                 | 7   | 3                |
| 7    | Burbank Blvd & Woodley Ave              | 7   | 6                |
| 7    | Manchester Ave & Vermont Ave            | 7   | 8                |
| 12   | La Brea Ave & Adams Blvd                | 6   | 10               |
| 12   | Victory Blvd & Coldwater Canyon Ave     | 6   | 2                |
| 12   | Florence Ave & Hoover St                | 6   | 8                |
| 12   | Olympic Blvd & Orme Ave                 | 6   | 14               |
| 12   | Pacific Coast Hwy & Figueroa Pl*        | 6   | 15               |
| 12   | Sherman Way & Hayvenhurst Ave           | 6   | 6                |
| 12   | Sunset Blvd & Fairfax Ave               | 6   | 4                |
| 12   | Victory Blvd & Wilbur Ave               | 6   | 3                |
| 12   | Victory Blvd & Reseda Blvd              | 6   | 3                |
| 12   | Lincoln Blvd & Washington Blvd*         | 6   | 11               |
| 12   | Sepulveda Blvd & Century Blvd*          | 6   | 11               |
| 12   | Foothill Blvd & Balboa Blvd             | 6   | 12               |
| 12   | Wilshire Blvd & Western Ave             | 6   | 10               |
| 12   | Culver Blvd & Slauson Ave               | 6   | 11               |
| 27   | Burbank Blvd & Hayvenhurst Ave          | 5   | 6                |
| 27   | Nordhoff St & Woodley Ave               | 5   | 12               |
| 27   | Lassen St & Winnetka Ave                | 5   | 12               |
| 27   | Parthenia St & Woodley Ave              | 5   | 12               |
| 27   | Van Nuys Blvd & Woodman Ave             | 5   | 6                |
| 27   | Highland Ave & Pat Moore Way            | 5   | 4                |
| 27   | Adams Blvd & Buckingham Rd              | 5   | 10               |
| 27   | Devonshire St & Balboa Blvd             | 5   | 12               |
| 27   | Pacific Coast Hwy & Normandie Ave*      | 5   | 15               |
| 27   | Pacific Ave & Rose Ave                  | 5   | 11               |
| 27   | Crenshaw Blvd & Washington Blvd         | 5   | 10               |
| 27   | La Brea Ave & Rodeo Rd                  | 5   | 10               |
| 27   | Valley Circle Blvd & Victory Blvd       | 5   | 3                |
| 27   | Seaside Ave & Navy Way                  | 5   | 15               |
| 27   | Mission Rd & Valley Blvd                | 5   | 1                |

|    |  |   |    |
|----|--|---|----|
| 27 | Pacific Coast Hwy & Vermont Ave*           | 5 | 15 |
| 27 | Culver Blvd & Jefferson Blvd               | 5 | 11 |
| 27 | Sepulveda Blvd & Parthenia St              | 5 | 6  |
| 27 | Sherman Way & Bellaire Ave                 | 5 | 2  |
| 27 | Imperial Hwy & Figueroa St                 | 5 | 8  |
| 27 | Arlington Ave & Martin Luther King Jr Blvd | 5 | 8  |
| 27 | Washington Blvd & Ocean Ave                | 5 | 11 |
| 27 | Nordhoff St & Balboa Blvd                  | 5 | 12 |
| 27 | Manchester Ave & Broadway                  | 5 | 8  |
| 27 | Roscoe Blvd & Reseda Blvd                  | 5 | 12 |
| 27 | Florence Ave & Avalon Blvd                 | 5 | 9  |
| 27 | Topanga Canyon Blvd & Parthenia St*        | 5 | 12 |
| 27 | Carson St & Normandie Ave                  | 5 | 15 |
| 27 | Sherman Way & Woodman Ave                  | 5 | 2  |
| 27 | Lankershim Blvd & Oxnard St                | 5 | 2  |
| 27 | Central Ave & Imperial Hwy                 | 5 | 15 |
| 27 | La Brea Ave & Washington Blvd              | 5 | 10 |
| 27 | Pacific Coast Hwy & Sunset Blvd*           | 5 | 11 |
| 27 | Manchester Ave & Figueroa St               | 5 | 8  |
| 27 | Gage Ave & Broadway                        | 5 | 9  |
| 27 | Sunset Blvd & Highland Ave                 | 5 | 13 |
| 27 | La Cienega Blvd & Olympic Blvd             | 5 | 5  |

Data: SWITRS, 2013-2017

\*At least one intersecting street is a State Highway maintained and operated by Caltrans



**Attachment 3 – 2017 PRIORITY CORRIDOR UPDATE**

| #  | Primary Street   | From Street      | To Street       | Miles | Council District | Phase 1 Complete | Additional Phase 1 Work Planned | Other Work Plan* |
|----|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1  | 3RD ST           | Normandie Ave    | Vermont Ave     | 0.5   | 10               | x                |                                 |                  |
| 2  | 6TH ST           | Rampart Blvd     | Beaudry Ave     | 1.4   | 1                | x                |                                 |                  |
| 3  | 7TH ST           | Figueroa St      | Olive           | 0.3   | 14               |                  |                                 | x                |
| 4  | ADAMS BLVD       | Fairfax Ave      | Crenshaw Blvd   | 1.6   | 10               |                  | x                               |                  |
| 5  | ALVARADO ST      | 6th St           | 7th St          | 0.2   | 1                | x                |                                 |                  |
| 6  | ANAHEIM ST       | Figueroa St      | Henry Ford Ave  | 2.2   | 15               |                  | x                               |                  |
| 7  | AVALON BLVD      | San Pedro St     | 120th St        | 6.4   | 8, 9, 15         |                  |                                 | x                |
| 8  | BROADWAY         | MLK Blvd         | Century Blvd    | 4.5   | 8, 9             |                  | x                               |                  |
| 9  | CENTRAL AVE      | Jefferson Blvd   | 17th St         | 1.4   | 9, 14            |                  | x                               |                  |
| 10 | CRENSHAW BLVD    | 79th St          | Pico Blvd       | 5.7   | 8, 10            | x                |                                 |                  |
| 11 | FIGUEROA ST      | MLK Blvd         | Imperial Hwy    | 5.5   | 8, 9             |                  | x                               |                  |
| 12 | FLETCHER DR      | Riverside Dr     | San Fernando Rd | 0.8   | 13               |                  | x                               |                  |
| 13 | FLORENCE AVE     | Crenshaw Blvd    | Central Ave     | 4.3   | 8, 9             |                  | x                               |                  |
| 14 | HOOVER ST        | Vernon Ave       | Manchester Ave  | 3.0   | 8, 9             | x                |                                 |                  |
| 15 | LA BREA AVE      | Adams Blvd       | Pico Blvd       | 1.1   | 10               | x                |                                 |                  |
| 16 | LANKERSHIM BLVD  | Chandler Blvd    | Victory Blvd    | 1.4   | 2                | x                |                                 |                  |
| 17 | MAIN ST (NORTH)  | 6th St           | 7th St          | 0.1   | 14               |                  |                                 | x                |
| 18 | MAIN ST (SOUTH)  | MLK Blvd         | Imperial Hwy    | 5.5   | 8, 9             |                  |                                 | x                |
| 19 | MANCHESTER AVE   | Western Ave      | Vermont Ave     | 1.0   | 8                | x                |                                 |                  |
| 20 | N BROADWAY       | Mission Rd       | N Spring St     | 1.5   | 1                | x                |                                 |                  |
| 21 | N FIGUEROA ST    | Ave 43           | York Blvd       | 2.1   | 1                |                  | x                               |                  |
| 22 | NORMANDIE AVE    | Vernon Ave       | I-10            | 2.4   | 8, 9 (1, 10)     | x                |                                 |                  |
| 23 | PICO BLVD (EAST) | Western Ave      | Union Ave       | 1.9   | 1, 10            |                  | x                               |                  |
| 24 | PICO BLVD (WEST) | Robertson Blvd   | La Cienega Blvd | 0.4   | 5                | x                |                                 |                  |
| 25 | RESEDA BLVD      | Parthenia St     | Victory Blvd    | 2.9   | 3, 12            |                  |                                 | x                |
| 26 | ROSCOE BLVD      | I-405            | Woodman Ave     | 2.3   | 6                |                  |                                 | x                |
| 27 | SATICOY ST       | Topanga Cyn Blvd | Jordan St       | 0.2   | 3                | x                |                                 |                  |

|                    |                      |               |                 |     |          |   |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----|----------|---|
| <b>SEPULVEDA</b>   |                      |               |                 |     |          |   |
| 28                 | <b>BLVD</b>          | Nordhoff St   | Rinaldi St      | 3.0 | 7        | x |
| 29                 | <b>SOTO ST</b>       | Wabash Ave    | 8th St          | 1.9 | 14       | x |
| 30                 | <b>SPRING ST</b>     | Temple        | 9th St          | 1.2 | 14       | x |
| 31                 | <b>TEMPLE ST</b>     | Beverly Blvd  | Beaudry Ave     | 2.3 | 13, 1    | x |
| <b>VAN NUYS</b>    |                      |               |                 |     |          |   |
| 32                 | <b>BLVD</b>          | Beachy Ave    | San Fernando Rd | 1.5 | 7        | x |
| <b>VENICE BLVD</b> |                      |               |                 |     |          |   |
| 33                 | <b>(EAST)</b>        | Arlington Ave | Figueroa St     | 2.8 | 1, 9, 10 | x |
| <b>VENICE BLVD</b> |                      |               |                 |     |          |   |
| 34                 | <b>(WEST)</b>        | Beethoven     | Inglewood       | 0.8 | 11       | x |
| <b>VERMONT AVE</b> |                      |               |                 |     |          |   |
| 35                 | <b>(NORTH)</b>       | Pico Blvd     | Adams Blvd      | 1.0 | 1, 8     | x |
| <b>VERMONT AVE</b> |                      |               |                 |     |          |   |
| 36                 | <b>(SOUTH)</b>       | Gage Ave      | Vernon Ave      | 1.6 | 8, 9     | x |
| 37                 | <b>VERNON AVE</b>    | Western Ave   | Central Ave     | 3.0 | 8, 9     | x |
| <b>WASHINGTON</b>  |                      |               |                 |     |          |   |
| 38                 | <b>BLVD</b>          | La Brea Ave   | Vermont Ave     | 3.2 | 1, 10    | x |
| 39                 | <b>WESTERN AVE</b>   | Century Blvd  | Washington Blvd | 6.5 | 8, 10    | x |
| 40                 | <b>WILSHIRE BLVD</b> | Rampart Blvd  | Valencia St     | 0.9 | 1        | x |

**\*Other Work Plan** includes the Complete Streets Program, Main and Spring Forward, Safe Routes to School, or projects already underway as part of another agency's work plan.

# Vision Zero

## Proposed Priority Corridors and Intersections for 2019 Work Plan

