

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Strategic Plan and Citywide School Safety Assessment Study.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. DIRECT the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to report in 60 days relative to the specific types of criteria used to prioritize Safe Passages program services, what program measures can save the most lives, and the inclusion of factors such as gun and gang violence, cell-phone use and texting, and the availability of transit.
2. RECEIVE and FILE the LADOT report to Council dated March 20, 2014 (attached to the Council file), relative to the SRTS Strategic Plan and Citywide School Safety Assessment Study.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the LADOT. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

In a report to Council dated March 20, 2014, LADOT discusses the SRTS Strategic Plan and Citywide School Safety Assessment Study. The SRTS initiative was created to safely increase the number of children who walk or bike to school by providing funding for pedestrian-friendly street engineering, education, and encouragement programs directed towards students, parents, and communities. LADOT's goals are to create a data driven, comprehensive SRTS Plan; increase communication and building strong partnerships between City agencies, LAUSD, and stakeholders for SRTS projects and programs; align, dedicate, and organize the City workforce for increased efficiency and effectiveness in developing and implementing SRTS School projects; and, formulate a funding strategy to enhance the City's competitiveness in seeking transportation or non-transportation funds to implement SRTS Plan and related projects.

At its meeting held March 26, 2014, the Transportation Committee discussed the report with LADOT staff. Department representatives reviewed the program objectives, data transparency, and discussed how that data will be used to prioritize future pedestrian projects and grant applications. During the public comment period, speakers emphasized the importance of community outreach and making use of partnerships with community-based organizations. The Committee Chair suggested that the Department broaden outreach efforts to school campus staff for the purpose of improving the inclusion of parents and parent groups, as well as Council office staffs. Further, a Committee member advised the Department to review program methodology and data indicators to ensure coverage for schools located throughout the entire City of Los Angeles, including the San Fernando Valley. Committee members went on to suggest that LADOT factor in other school route safety factors such as crime and violence and distracted driving. The Committee recommended that Council receive and file the LADOT report, and direct the Department to report in 60 days relative to the issues mentioned above.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
BONIN:	YES
KORETZ:	YES
LABONGE:	ABSENT
PARKS:	ABSENT
KREKORIAN:	YES

JAW

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-