

INVESTING PLACE LOS ANGELES WALKS



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January 23, 2019

Councilmember Mike Bonin and Members of the Transportation Committee
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Date: 1-23-19
Submitted in Tran Committee
Council File No: # 17-1137
Item No.: 11

Via email: john.white@lacity.org

Re: **CF # 17-1137 – Vision Zero Implementation Strategy Fiscal Year 2019-20** Public Comment

Dear Chairperson Bonin:

We, the undersigned organizations, support the proposed Vision Zero Implementation Strategy Fiscal Year 2019-20 from the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT). We collectively appreciate LADOT's understanding of the impact our built environment has on the health and safety of people living and moving around our City. Designing streets for everyone's safety is a social responsibility.

The proposed increased resources and capacity for robust community engagement is a welcome addition to this upcoming year's Vision Zero work plan. We also recognize that LADOT has been working closely with community-based organizations to promote education and understanding of the role street design has on public health and safe communities. This proposal also reflects direct input from community-based organizations and we are thrilled to see LADOT incorporate these recommendations into their own priorities. We are also optimistic that the City of Los Angeles will continue to use equity measures and data to guide future public investments that improve community health and well-being in our historically underserved neighborhoods. Given that accurate and extensive data is imperative for both successful city-wide Vision Zero implementation and for specific Vision Zero projects, we also find it essential that the City fund the two "Vision Zero Data Analysis" positions (previously funded through outside sources).

Community engagement is a critical part of the Vision Zero process to ensure that local residents actively support change for safer streets. Vision Zero is, at its core, a social movement that requires cultural shifts in perception and behavior. Without ownership and guidance from community leaders and local experts, there can be no movement towards a City free from traffic violence. Meaningful and authentic community engagement can only support LADOT implement and deliver Vision Zero projects. We thank you for advocating for safer streets and communities.

Sincerely,

Jessica Meaney
Executive Director
Investing in Place

Emilia Crotty
Executive Director
Los Angeles Walks

Cesar Hernandez
Deputy Executive Director
of Advocacy
Los Angeles County
Bicycle Coalition