
MEMORANDUM

Public Works Department

DATE: August 22, 2022

TO: Mountain View Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee
San Jose Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

FROM: Priyoti Ahmed, Transportation Planner, City of Mountain View
Ria Hutabarat Lo, Transportation Manager, City of Mountain View
Jesse Mintz-Roth, Vision Zero Manager, City of San Jose

SUBJECT: **Vision Zero Update**

RECOMMENDATION

Consider and provide feedback on Vision Zero efforts from the City of Mountain View and the City of San Jose.

BACKGROUND

Vision Zero Policy

Across the world, Vision Zero is recognized as an integrated set of policies, plans, and programs based on the philosophy that the loss of life from traffic crashes is unacceptable and preventable and that the transportation system should be designed to protect human life and to anticipate error so that the consequence of a crash is not severe injury or death. To this end, one of the first actions of Vision Zero cities is adoption of a Vision Zero policy that makes a public commitment to the above philosophy and establishes clear goals with a timeline.

Multi-Departmental and Community Engagement

Best practices for Vision Zero typically includes seven steps:

1. Analyze collisions and conditions;
2. Set clear goals with timelines;
3. Make public commitments;

4. Engage multiple departments;
5. Engage the community;
6. Develop an action plan that encompasses Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Engagement, Emergency response, Evaluation, and Enforcement (7Es); and
7. Implement, evaluate, and update.

The establishment of a Vision Zero Working Group and engagement activities are, therefore, essential elements of the Vision Zero process.

Vision Zero Action Plan and Local Road Safety Plan

The core component of Vision Zero planning is development of a Vision Zero Action Plan (VZAP). The VZAP typically uses a multi-pronged hot-spot approach to transportation safety at locations with a collision history by addressing key factors in behaviors (such as driving under the influence (DUI), speeding, and encroaching in pedestrian right-of-way) and improving corridors on the High-Injury Network (HIN) using the 7Es.

A similar plan is the Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP), which uses a systemic safety analysis to identify engineering improvements that may be implemented at locations with similar characteristics to locations where fatal and severe injury collisions have occurred. The completion of an LRSP is an eligibility criterion for some California funding sources.

Vision Zero Implementation

Vision Zero policies are typically implemented through programs that encompass the 7Es to address transportation safety in a comprehensive way. Engineering or infrastructure strategies are reflected in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

ANALYSIS

City of Mountain View Vision Zero Efforts

Vision Zero Policy

On [December 10, 2019](#), the Mountain View City Council (Council) adopted a Vision Zero Policy. The Vision Zero Policy outlined four key principles and established the goal of eliminating fatal traffic crashes by 2030. Council also established more incremental goals of a 50% decrease in the number of traffic crashes involving fatalities or severe injuries by 2030, which represents a larger subset of crashes compared to the number of fatal crashes, and a 15% reduction in the

number of fatalities or severe injuries from collisions every three years. Deliberation on Vision Zero was supported by analysis, which identified the City's HIN, key crash contributing factors, and other issues related to fatal and severe injury crashes (killed or seriously injured (KSI)).

Multi-Department and Community Engagement

Mountain View's Vision Zero Working Group is a multi-disciplinary, internal forum to collaborate on improving transportation safety. The working group is comprised of staff from multiple departments and divisions, including Public Works (Traffic, Capital Projects, Transportation), Public Services, Communication, Fire, Community Services, Library, Sustainability, Planning, and Police. This group meets on an ad hoc basis to review and provide input on Vision Zero-related activities.

Community engagement on Vision Zero in Mountain View has focused on key actions under way. For example, outreach and engagement activities for the Vision Zero Policy included education and outreach at community events, such as Library story time and community festivals, in addition to yard signs, social media outreach, and community meetings focused on Vision Zero. Similar outreach and engagement has occurred for the VZAP/LRSP. Additionally, the City of Mountain View is currently developing a scope of work for Vision Zero and Active Transportation Outreach, which is expected to cover both education and engagement.

Vision Zero Action Plan

The City of Mountain View is currently working to develop an integrated VZAP/LRSP. On March 30, 2022, the Mountain View Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (B/PAC) reviewed and provided feedback on collision analysis that identified roadway and land use factors associated with higher-than-average KSI collisions, a list of proven countermeasures developed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and project priority criteria to evaluate and recommend locations and potential safety improvement projects. A draft VZAP/LRSP report is expected to be presented to the Mountain View B/PAC in late 2022/early 2023.

Implementation

Key elements of Vision Zero implementation include education and engagement activities under the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program as well as engineering/infrastructure improvements along the HIN. Since 2019, the HIN has been used as a criterion for prioritizing transportation safety enhancements. Key CIPs that are now being planned or designed along the HIN include:

- El Camino Real Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements (with Caltrans repaving);
- Shoreline Boulevard Bus Lane project and Stierlin Road Pedestrian/Bicycle Improvements;

- Rengstorff Grade Separation;
- Middlefield Complete Streets project (with repaving);
- Castro Street Grade Separation (including an undercrossing across Central Expressway);
- California Street Complete Streets pilot project; and
- El Monte Avenue Corridor Feasibility Study.

After a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City relaunched its SRTS program in school year 2021-22. The program includes traffic safety training at each public school in the City in addition to establishment of a SRTS coordinating committee to engage the school communities in the planning and delivering of some program elements.

City of San Jose Vision Zero Efforts

San Jose Vision Zero Program staff will provide an overview of the San Jose Vision Zero Task Force, San Jose's approach to Vision Zero outreach efforts, and select Vision Zero capital projects.

Information on Vision Zero San Jose can be found at: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments/transportation/safety/vision-zero>.

The City of San Jose's Vision Zero Task Force meetings are open to the public. The next Task Force meeting will be on Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. This will be a remote meeting. More information can be found at: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/transportation/safety/vision-zero/vision-zero-task-force>.

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