

# **Traffic Safety Ad-Hoc Committee Final Report**

April 1, 2022

# Overview

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Traffic safety ad-hoc committee is to identify areas of opportunity for the city of San Jose to improve traffic safety for all road users, including drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.

Objectives for this committee are:

- Understand the traffic safety concerns of San Jose residents.
- Research traffic safety solutions implemented in other jurisdictions.
- Analyze Fremont's successful implementation of Vision Zero Program.
- Learn more about the role DOT and SJPd play in San Jose traffic safety.
- Based on what we learn, make recommendations for traffic safety to the Neighborhoods Commission.

# Overview, continued

- **Ad-Hoc Committee Members:** Anthony Rosello (D4) (resigned from the NC), Tasha Tenturier (D7), Jackie Vasquez (D3)
- **Ad-Hoc Committee Meetings:**
  - Total number of meetings: 8
  - Total meeting hours: 12
  - Total Commissioner hours: 36
  - Duration: Oct. 5, 2021 to Feb. 8, 2022

# Findings

- Based on a survey of all Neighborhood commissioners, the top 2 traffic safety concerns for San Jose residents are **dangerous driving** and **sideshow**s.
- Each district is budgeted 200K per fiscal year for traffic safety projects. Large projects usually require additional budget by special request. Large projects are often funded with grants.
- DOT uses crash data to determine where to install traffic safety projects.
- SJPD uses data entered into the [Traffic Enforcement Request form](#) to determine where to focus traffic enforcement.

## Findings, continued

- The city of Fremont has had extraordinary success with their Vision Zero program:
  - Fremont has an average fatality rate of 2.1 traffic deaths per 100,000 residents per year. This is significantly less than California overall, where the fatality rate has increased to 9.1 per 100,000, and significantly less than the U.S. overall, where the fatality rate has increased to 11 per 100,000.
  - Fremont major crashes are down by 45%

## Findings, continued

- DOT and SJPD currently meet twice per month to discuss Vision Zero progress and impacts.
- Sideshows: For sideshow areas that are hard for police to access in their cars, the city is exploring various types of “sideshow calming” methods.

# Recommendations

Based on our findings, these are the Traffic Safety ad hoc's recommendations to the Neighborhoods Commission:

1. **Increase quick build budget:** Increase funding for quickbuild projects. Install a variety of quickbuilds with the intent of gathering a variety of traffic safety data.
2. **Improve interdepartmental collaboration and communication:** Increase meeting frequency between SJPD and DOT, increase scope of meetings to beyond Vision Zero, assign designated department liaison to focus on Traffic Safety.
3. **Increase lighting at critical intersections:** Increase lighting at problem areas.
4. **Add more flashing crosswalks:** Update critical crosswalks to be signal/flashing crosswalks.
5. **LED street lights:** Accelerate replacement of yellow lights to LED at locations where lighting is an issue.
6. **Assess steeper fines:** Fine shops who perform illegal car modifications.
7. **Barrier narrowing intersections:** Install Bott Dots and barrier narrowing intersections at troubled intersections in a pilot program. The barrier narrowing intersection pilot should be combined with the pedestrian safety strategy pilot program to see if dual benefit can be achieved.
8. **Explore the possibility of some form of legal sideshows:** Investigate the possibility of holding safe and sanctioned sideshows or similar activities in designated arenas.

# Appendix of supporting information

Traffic Safety ad hoc committee [meeting notes](#)

[Traffic safety concerns survey results](#)

[Summary/key takeaways for Fremont's Vision Zero program](#)

News articles:

- <https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/san-jose-police-alter-some-intersections-in-hopes-of-preventing-sideshows/2658792/>
- <https://www.kron4.com/news/bay-area/oakland-installs-botts-dots-to-help-deter-illegal-sideshows/>
- <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/hoons-with-a-view-waterfront-suburbs-crack-down-on-drag-racing-burnouts-and-louts-20210210-p571au.html>



# Appendix: Final report template

## Ad-Hoc Committee Final Report

(date)

Purpose: State purpose of Ad-Hoc (e.g. Workplan Description)

Ad-Hoc Committee Membership: (who was on ad-hoc)

Ad-Hoc Committee Meetings:

Occurrences: (number of meetings)

Meeting Hours: (number of meetings X meeting length)

Commissioner Hours: (total meeting hours X number of commissioners attending)

Start and End Date:

Findings:

Recommendations

Summary