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January 11, 2019

Council President Georgette Goméz
Council President Barbara Bry
San Diego City Council
202 "C" Street, 10th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Subject: Recommendations for Councilmember Budget Priority Memoranda for FY 2020

Dear Council President Goméz, Council President Pro Tem Bry, and Councilmembers,

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to promote excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing with recommendations for your Budget Priority Memoranda for FY 2020. These investments, if funded, will save lives, help the City of San Diego reach its Vision Zero and Climate Action Plan goals, and increase community representation and participation in community planning groups.

Tragically, pedestrian fatalities doubled in 2018 from the year prior. 34 San Diegans lost their lives walking on City streets in 2018, while 17 pedestrians died in 2017, according to the San Diego Police Department.

All traffic fatalities are preventable. Loss of life is unacceptable on our streets and San Diego decisionmakers must do more so that people's lives are not at risk when simply walking to their destination. San Diego will not meet its Vision Zero and Climate Action Plan goals with the status quo. Therefore, we ask that Councilmembers prioritize the following improvements in their Budget Priority Memoranda.

1. Fix the Fatal Fifteen

In FY 2019, the Mayor committed to fixing the fifteen most dangerous intersections in the City, the Fatal Fifteen. This was a meaningful commitment by the Mayor to Vision Zero, however many more dangerous intersections remain that need to be addressed. The following are the fifteen most dangerous intersections that were not funded in FY 2019, along with recommended improvements for each intersection. The Fatal Fifteen for FY 2020 should be prioritized.

Project	Location	Improvement(s)	Cost
Fix the Fatal Fifteen	45th St & Market St – District 4	Lead Pedestrian (LPI) Interval blank out signs	\$10,440
		Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000
		2 Street lights on signal poles	\$75,000
	Camino Ruiz & Reagan Rd – District 6	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440
		Countdown timers	\$1,096
		Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000
		High Visibility Crosswalks	\$10,000
	Cesar Chavez Pkwy & National Ave – District 8	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440
		Countdown timers	\$1,096
		Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000
		High Visibility Crosswalks	\$10,000
	Linda Vista Rd & Glidden St – District 7	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440
		Countdown timers	\$1,096
		Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000
	Market St & 30th St – District 8	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440
		Countdown timers	\$1,096
		Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000
		High Visibility Crosswalks	\$10,000
	Mission Blvd & Felspar St – District 2	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440
		Countdown timers	\$1,096
		Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000
	Olney St & Grand Ave – District 2	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440
		Countdown timers	\$1,096
		Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000
Pearl St & Fay Ave – District 1	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440	
	Countdown timers	\$1,096	
	High Visibility Crosswalks	\$10,000	
Scranton Rd & Morehouse Dr – District 6	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440	
	Countdown timers	\$1,096	
	Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000	
	High Visibility Crosswalks	\$10,000	
Tierrasanta Blvd & La Cuenta Dr – District 7	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440	
	Countdown timers	\$1,096	
	High Visibility Crosswalks	\$10,000	
University Ave & 32nd St E – District 3	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440	
	Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000	
	High Visibility Crosswalks	\$10,000	
W Bernardo Dr	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440	

	& Poblado Rd – District 5	Countdown timers	\$1,096	
		Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000	
	W Pt Loma Bl & Rue Dorleans - District 2	LPI blank out signs	\$10,440	
		Countdown timers	\$1,096	
	Mira Mesa Blvd & Marbury Ave/Westmore Rd – District 6	Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000	
		Lead Pedestrian Interval blank out signs	\$10,440	
		2 new signal mast arms	\$82,000	
	14th St & Broadway – District 3	Countdown timers	\$1,096	
		12" heads, additional head	\$15,000	
		New mast arm	\$30,000	
		Audible Pedestrian Signals	\$8,000	
			<i>Fatal Fifteen Total</i>	<i>\$527,312</i>

2. Bicycle Infrastructure

Long-awaited bicycle infrastructure projects along Vision Zero corridors and Downtown should be prioritized in FY 2020. The Downtown Mobility Plan is now under construction for Phase 1. Phase 2 is fully funded, however those funds should be put to use and Phase 2 built in FY 2020. Circulate recommends that Phase 3 be fully funded and design and engineering work completed in FY 2020. The Bicycle Master Plan’s Priority Projects along Vision Zero corridors, which remain unfunded from 2016, should also be fully funded and implemented.

Downtown Mobility Plan Implementation	District 3	Full funding and programmed implementation of Downtown Mobility Plan Cycletracks Phase 2; and fully fund and begin design work of Phase 3.	\$16 million
Bicycle Master Plan Priority Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> El Cajon Blvd from 43rd St. to Montezuma Rd. – District 9 University Ave. from Boundary St. to Winona St. – District 9 and 3 	“Begin implementation of highest priority bike lanes as recommended by the [adopted] BAC Strategic Implementation Plan that align with Vision Zero and disadvantaged communities as determined by CalEnviroScreen” ¹	Annual Allocations

¹ City of San Diego, “Fiscal Year 2017 Climate Action Plan Budget & Implementation Report,” May 2, 2016, available at https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/fy17_cap_funding_implementation_memo_may_2_2016_final_2.pdf.

3. Vision Zero Corridor Improvements

San Diego’s Vision Zero corridors remain dangerous for people traveling by all modes. The following improvements are recommended by Transportation and Stormwater staff for prioritization and funding in FY 2020 and supported by Circulate.

Traffic Signals	Mississippi Street/El Cajon Boulevard - District 3	Install traffic signals	\$100,000
	62nd St & Imperial Ave - District 4	Rebuild curb ramp	\$150,000
		Directional arrow heads	\$3,000
Traffic Calming	El Cajon Bl-Highland Ave-58th St Improvements - District 9	Design and Engineering phase for bulb-outs, pedestrian refuge island, 4 HAWK (High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk) beacon signals, and other traffic calming improvements.	\$500,000

4. Elevated Mobility Options

In order to meet its bold Vision Zero and Climate Action Plan goals, bold action must be taken. A newly created Sustainable and Safe Streets Pilot Project Fund will allow each Councilmember to transform their streets in a manner that reflects their community and demonstrates the benefits of sustainable and safe streets improvements. Quick-build projects are ideal, as they can be built within a year, are relatively cost-effective, and can be removed after a period of time if so desired.² Hiring a mobility-focused grant writer will allow the City to fund planning and implementation of large capital projects that will make streets safer permanently.

Sustainable and Safe Streets Pilot Project Fund	City-wide	New fund for pilot projects that can quickly be installed through relatively low cost improvements to the streets and further Vision Zero and Climate Action Plan goals. Each Council District receives \$100,000 and determines its own pilot project. Such projects could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intersection bulb-outs • Bicycle infrastructure • Pedestrian promenades/plazas • Open streets events 	\$900,000
Mobility Grant Writer	City-wide	Many funding opportunities are currently available and a mobility-	1 FTE

² People for Bikes, Quick Builds for Better Streets: A New Project Delivery Model for U.S. Cities, 2016, available at https://nacto.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/2016PeoplefoBikes_Quick-Builds-for-Better-Streets.pdf.

		focused grant writer can pursue the Active Transportation Program and other grant programs that could bring millions of dollars to San Diego.	
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5. Strengthen and Reform Community Planning Groups

Community Planning Groups (CPGs) serve the important function of providing an officially recognized voice for community members on land use and transportation issues. Yet CPGs do not receive the resources and attention necessary to effectively represent their community and express its perspective.

In response to the City Auditor’s³ and Circulate’s⁴ recommendations for democratizing and strengthening CPGs, an increased investment in CPGs should be prioritized to ensure that they operate properly and are able to thrive. A dedicated Program Manager will lead efforts to increase educational opportunities for CPG members, guide reforms to Council Policy 600-24, and assist CPGs in compliance with the Brown Act and CP 600-24.

Community Planning Groups	City-wide	Hire a new Program Manager in the Planning Department to oversee reforms and provide necessary resources to CPGs.	1 FTE
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Thank you for your consideration of Circulate San Diego’s budget priorities for FY 2020.

Sincerely,

Maya Rosas
 Director of Policy
 Circulate San Diego

³ City of San Diego Office of the City Auditor, “Performance Audit of Community Planning Groups,” December 2018, available at https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/19-013_community_planning_groups.pdf.

⁴ Circulate San Diego, “Democracy in Planning,” February 12, 2018, available at <http://www.circulatesd.org/democracyinplanning>.