

Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition 634 S. Spring St. Suite 821 Los Angeles, CA 90014 Phone 213.629.2142 Facsimile 213.629.2259 www.la-bike.org

August 14, 2015 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

> Contact: Carol Feucht 213-629-2142, x116 (office) carol@la-bike.org

STATEMENT ON LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL'S PASSAGE OF MOBILITY PLAN 2035

LOS ANGELES, Calif. —

On Tuesday afternoon, after a long and contentious hearing, the Los Angeles City Council passed Mobility Plan 2035 on a 12-2 vote. This plan makes safety the City's #1 transportation priority and aims to improve access, choice, and reliability for all modes of transportation. In addition to 300 miles of protected bike lanes, the plan features 300 miles of bus transit improvements, strategic pedestrian enhancements, and a more reliable grid for drivers to create an integrated transportation network across Los Angeles. Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Gil Cedillo voted against the plan after their amendments to remove bike projects in their district were not accepted.

"When implemented, Mobility Plan 2035 will give Angelenos better options for getting around Los Angeles whether biking, walking, using transit, or driving," said Tamika Butler, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition. "For the first time ever, the City of Los Angeles is proposing safe and dignified transportation for all residents, whether or not they have access to a car. Walking, biking, and transit are increasingly popular among all Angelenos, but are absolutely vital in low-income communities of color whose transportation needs have been overlooked for too long. Even residents without the privilege of choice deserve to be safe."

Highlights of Mobility Plan 2035 include:

- The adoption of Vision Zero, which aims for zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries.
- A balanced network of "complete streets" so that transportation is safe and reliable, whether people are driving, taking transit, biking, or walking.
- More tools to design safer streets, and better performance measures to protect neighborhoods from speeding and cut-through traffic.
- Regular data collection, including bicycle and pedestrian counts, so that both LADOT and the public can make smarter transportation decisions.

"The era of widening streets to accommodate more traffic is over," said Butler. "This plan makes smarter use of the streets we have by prioritizing more efficient forms of transportation. During years of community outreach, residents asked for real options. By improving transit and biking on just a fraction of city streets, more people will be able to get around Los Angeles without getting stuck in traffic."

"We would like to thank Councilmembers Mike Bonin and Jose Huizar for their leadership and applaud the majority of the City Council who agreed with their vision for a safer, healthier, and more equitable Los Angeles," Butler continued.



Page 2 of 3

Mobility Plan 2035 Facts

The City of Los Angeles has **7,500 miles** of streets. These streets occupy **86.5 square miles**, or **28%** of the city's total developed land.

Proposed Transit Improvements:

- **300 miles** of peak-hour or full-time bus lanes with frequent service.
- Full implementation of the Plan would triple the number of Los Angeles residents living within a quarter mile of frequent, reliable transit and would more than double the number of jobs located within a quarter mile of such transit facilities.

Proposed Bike Improvements:

- **150 miles** of off-street bike paths (e.g. the Los Angeles River).
- 300 miles of on-street protected bike lanes (like those recently installed on Reseda Blvd).

Proposed Neighborhood Traffic Calming:

• **800 miles** of traffic calming on local and collector streets to increase safety for people walking and biking.

Proposed Lane Reductions:

• Only 8% of streets are proposed for bus lanes or protected bike lanes, which may require reducing the number of general vehicle lanes.

Safety:

- Over 200 Angelenos are killed in traffic collisions every year, and over 36,000 are injured.
- Los Angeles has double the national average pedestrian fatality rates for children under age 4 and seniors over age 70.
- This plan would reduce fatalities and serious injuries to zero within 10 years.

Health:

- **25**% of children in the City of Los Angeles are obese. Obesity costs Los Angeles County **\$6 billion** every year in healthcare costs and lost productivity.
- Pollution from vehicles causes over 2,000 premature deaths per year in the Los Angeles region.
- This plan would connect every neighborhood with safe streets for walking and biking.

Short Trips:

- 47% of all trips in Los Angeles County are less than 3 miles (within biking/walking distance).
- 84% of these short trips are currently made by car.
- Full implementation of the Plan would take **219,000 car trips** off of our roads every day, and result in **1.7 million fewer miles** driven every day.



Page 3 of 3

Founded in 1998, the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition is a membership-based, volunteer-driven nonprofit organization that works to make all communities in Los Angeles County into healthy, safe and fun places to ride a bike. Through advocacy, education, and outreach, LACBC brings together the diverse bicycling community in a united mission to improve the bicycling environment and quality of life for the entire region.

For more information, go to http://www.la-bike.org.

###