April 28, 2017

Chair Paul Krekorian and Members of the Budget & Finance Committee
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CF # 17-0600 – Budget Proposal Fiscal Year 2017-18

Dear Councilmember Krekorian:

We need to ensure that the City’s transportation Budget this year puts safety first and invests in a network of complete streets and sidewalks for all people who travel in our city. Because as of today, Los Angeles is the deadliest city for traffic crashes in the United States. Traffic collisions are the leading cause of death for children ages 5 to 14 in Los Angeles County. We are experiencing an epidemic, and a public health crisis of this magnitude demands adequate funding and your leadership that prioritizes community safety.

This budget is a reflection of our priorities, let’s make sure it’s actually reflective of the promise of Measure M. Investing in Place supported Measure M because of its promise to provide mobility options for all — this budget decision is an opportunity for you to ensure those are safe options.

We urge your leadership to:

- Meaningfully increase funding for Vision Zero
- Decouple funding for road resurfacing and Vision Zero efforts. Vision Zero is a data-driven initiative that relies on evidence-based solutions that yield results (namely, fatalities and injuries prevented). It’s driven by hard numbers. Because road resurfacing has not been shown to save lives, by combining road resurfacing and safety projects in one bucket, the effects of the City’s Vision Zero efforts will be inaccurate.
- Ensure focus on corridor planning and addressing the Vision Zero High Injury Network.

Sincerely,

Jessica Meaney
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cc: Councilmember Mitch Englander
    Councilmember Nury Martinez
    Councilmember Bob Blumenfeld
    Councilmember Mike Bonin