

INVESTING *in* PLACE

March 28, 2019

Via email: VisionZero@pw.lacounty.gov

LA County Public Works Attn: Traffic Safety &
Mobility (Vision Zero)
P.O. Box 1460
Alhambra, CA 91802-1460

Dear Los Angeles County Public Works,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on the February 2019 draft of the Los Angeles County Vision Zero Action Plan: A Plan for Safe Streets (Action Plan). Investing in Place is a non-profit advocacy organization that uses a unique combination of policy analysis and community capacity-building to advocate for equitable and data-driven policies and investment decisions across Los Angeles county. We work to convene diverse leaders to uplift partnerships, and amplify community-led priorities. Our work groups include cross-sector partners from community organizations, elected officials, public agencies, and researchers to co-develop policy recommendations on a range of equity issues.

Nearly 10 million people live in Los Angeles County, a region with vast inequitable disparities in health, environmental burden, and resources that result in a 15-year life expectancy difference between certain communities, we applaud this plan for acknowledging those stark differences in life expectancy, safety and access. **Due to four countywide sales tax measures and the California statewide gas tax, Greater Los Angeles currently receives an unprecedented billions of dollars in public investments for improving mobility options.** We encourage the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, which we acknowledge is focused on the 1 million people living in unincorporated areas, to leverage existing transportation funding and prioritize those efforts based on a regional definition of equity that directly addresses race and income. There are similar efforts underway in peer transportation agencies at LA City, Metro, and the County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) with park and open space funding.

While this plan highlights important needs and actions, so many of the plan's actions plainly call for the need to identify and secure funding without offering a funding strategy to show how existing funding streams can be used to implement the solutions. We suggest strengthening the plan by leveraging the existing transportation funding that the County already receives through initiatives such as: Proposition A, Proposition C, Measure R, Measure M and SB 1, to end the LA Region traffic crash crisis.

Without a robust funding plan to implement the needed actions and safety measures identified in this plan, we are unclear how things would change from the status quo. We encourage this action plan to be revised to show a more concrete path towards leveraging and prioritizing existing transportation funds so the County can begin this important effort to redesign our streets for all.

Sincerely,



Jessica Meaney
Executive Director