

SAN JOSÉ VISION ZERO TASK FORCE
Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2020; 9-11am PST

Call to Order and Chairperson Report

The first Vision Zero Task Force Meeting was called to order on Friday, September 25, at 9.00 a.m. via Zoom

Attendees

Chair, CM Peralez (CD3)

Vice Chair, CM Foley (CD9)

City of San Jose, Dept of:

Transportation

John Ristow, Director

Lily Lim-Tsao, Deputy Director

Jesse Mintz-Roth, VZ Program Manager

Police

Heather Randol, Deputy Chief

Greg Connolly, Sergeant

Fire

Ryan Dulin, Deputy Director

Public Works

Michelle Kimball, Senior Engineer

Parks, Recreation, and Neighb. Services

Neil Rufino, Assistant Director

Economic Development

Salvador Alvarez, Executive Analyst

Planning, Buildings, and Code Enforcement

Michael Brilliot, Deputy Director

Housing

Ragan Henninger, Deputy Director

VTA

Angelique Gaeta, Chief: Systems

Safety and Security

Lauren Ledbetter, Senior

Transportation Planner

Santa Clara County, Dept of:

Roads and Airports

Harry Freitas, Director

Ananth Prasad, Engineer

Public Health

Rhonda McClinton-Brown, Healthy

Communities Branch Director

Medical Examiner-Coroner

Michelle Jorden, Chief

Education

Marry Ann Dewan, Superintendent

California Walks

Nikita Sinha, Walk San Jose Program

Manager

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition

John Cordes, Santa Clara Co. Advocate

AARP

Fred Buzo, Associate State Director

Reports / Coordination

Presentation (Part 1) - Vision Zero Task Force Overview, KSI Dashboard, Work Plan

- DOT Task Force Overview
 - Task Force initiative is an attempt to bring a best practice to San Jose. The Data and Outreach Working groups of the VZ Task Force met on 09/11/2020 at a kick-off meeting
- Traffic Fatalities 2015-19 + 2020 by month
 - San Jose gets crash data directly from San Jose Police Department
 - City does not have crash data from VTA properties, collected by County Sheriff
 - Since 2017, the largest street user type fatality has been pedestrians and is increasing
 - Median age of people hit while walking (2015-2019) is 58 years old
 - Fatal and Severe Injuries (KSI): District 7, 3, 5, and 6 are highest (2015-2019)
 - 2020 Injuries by Quarter: takes a whole quarter to input injuries

- Work Plan: Long term/multi department
 - Created working groups on outreach and data
- Data informs investments which informs outreach efforts
- Upcoming Vision Zero Task Force meeting Quarterly themes
 - December 10, 2020 – Outreach
 - March 2021 – Data
 - June 2021 – City-County
- **Questions from Task Force members**
 - John Cordes (SVBC): Is there Budgetary information, how much the city is investing?
 - Lauren Ledbetter (VTA): clarification on acronyms: FTY – failure to yield
 - Ryan Dulin (Fire Dept.): Is there data on where crashes involve government vehicles?
 - Salvador Alvarez (Econ. Dev.): do we have trends according to season, time of day, infrastructure, and so forth that we can begin drawing conclusions from?
 - Known trend: fatalities during Daylight Savings Time: ‘fight the spike’ campaign
 - Working with National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) to see how and what other cities have found
 - CM Peralez:
 - Demographics of the drivers involved in fatalities?
 - How to ease transfer of data from VTA to DOT?
 - Angelique Gaeta (VTA): able to gather higher level statistics and work with task force group but not demographics details
 - Public health trauma hospital data
 - Harry Freitas (Roads and airports – Santa Clara County): use a common database
 - Rhonda McClinton-Brown (Public Health): Master list of data sources (Data inventory table) to give a better idea of what data should be gathered/contributed

Presentation (Part 2) - 2020 Vision Zero Action Plan: 6 Priority Areas

- 1: Build Robust Data Analytics Tools
 - Crash map available on visionzerosj.org with 2015-2019 data
 - Working to hire data analysis consultant
 - ‘Near miss’ analytics work
- 2: Start a Vision Zero Task Force: Today
- 3: Strategize Traffic Enforcement
 - Traffic Enforcement Unit (TEU) staffing: 1 Lieutenant, 1 Enforcement Sergeant, 11 Enforcement Officers, 1 Special Events Team (SET) Sergeant, 2 SET officers
 - Top 5 violations: Speeding, red light, pedestrian failing to yield to car, unsafe turning movements, and vehicles failing to yield to pedestrians
 - TEU spends 80-90% of time on VZ priority corridors
 - With pandemic, TEU had to change how they issued warnings and enforcement stops – more education based and warnings-based enforcement approach issue citations safely
 - More enforcement of motor vehicle violations in bike lanes re rise in cyclist fatalities
- ‘Fight the spike’ campaign (upcoming for Daylight Savings Time): 4: Community Outreach + Engagement
 - 2012-Present: Walk ‘n’ Roll – Safety education/encouragement with San Jose schools
 - 2019: Banner campaign – older adult pedestrians: ‘drive slow, seniors crossing’
 - 2020: Outreach to older adults: California Walks as consultant
 - 2021: Outreach to adults
 - Pandemic street safety responses: disable signal coordination to reduce speeds; automate pedestrian phase at 100 signals downtown; ‘20 is plenty’ campaign

- 5: Quick Build data-driven safety improvements
 - Senter Road, Fruitdale Avenue, Guadalupe-Washington Neighborhood: 3 intersections, Branham Lane, TFCA grant for Hillsdale, ATP Quick Build grant for pedestrian improvements near schools Sylvandale Middle (D7) and Edenvale Elementary (D2)
- 6: Prioritize resources on high KSI corridors and districts
- **Questions from TF members**
 - Nikita Sinha (Cal walks):
 - VZ programs in other cities are moving away from traditional traffic enforcement methods. What is San Jose's response to this?
 - PD: traffic enforcement of traffic violations and education efforts
 - DOT: keeping track of other city's efforts
 - How were Senter Road and Fruitdale Avenue Projects funded and chosen?
 - Senter Rd planning study was already underway and Fruitdale Ave was also part of Pavement project and Bike Lane Project
 - Ragan Henninger (CSJ Housing Dept.):
 - Does 2020 outreach grant include unsheltered population?
 - No, OTS 2020 approved the grant, but did not include funding for outreach to people experiencing homelessness because they do not consider outreach to that audience to be a proven countermeasure
 - Fred Buzo (AARP):
 - Outreach events + efforts: need to have a plan A and B depending on if we're able to do in-person or virtual engagement – especially for older demographics
 - Salvador Alvarez (Econ. Dept.): publicize efforts in magazine + bulletin

Open Forum

- Dial-in caller: Make roads safer – actual sidewalks and roads are the problem
- Gina LaBlanc
 - Curtner Avenue: 4 VTA stops + Light rail yet it is not a VZ corridor
 - 2020 fatality at Canoas Garden, in same location where her son died
- Blair Beekman
 - Work together towards open demographic practices
 - Community engagement over traffic enforcement
- Robin Roemer
 - Data and outreach are important but infrastructure should be more urgent
 - too much data – can be distracting; we can lose track of the bigger picture
 - Police report is usually based on the survivor– the driver. Worry about misinterpretation / misinformation filtered through the lens of the drivers causing inaccurate data
- Nani-Jay Lavin
 - Traffic Enforcement Unit is only 16 people as opposed to previously stated 28
 - Asks City to increase TEU staff: 10 officers for 1,000,000 people is not enough

New Business / Updates / Future Action Items

- Next meeting on December 10, 2020 at 10am

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:52am