



ch.2

VISION, GOALS, AND ACTIONS

Step by Step Los Angeles County's vision, goals, and actions were informed by input from discussions with community stakeholders and residents at various events, meetings, workshops, and through the community advisory committees established for each community. Facilitated discussions with County departments, Metro, and neighboring jurisdictions also informed the vision, goals, and actions.

Discussions were focused on walkability, key pedestrian issues and opportunities, and appropriate strategies to enhance walking conditions throughout the county. Alongside the community, the County developed seven goals, which are shown on the following pages, to enhance the safety and convenience of walking and expand access to safe pedestrian facilities. To meet these goals, the document proposes new pedestrian policies and actions in light of existing policies and plans (Appendix A). Many of the new policies and actions will require coordination with additional local, regional, and state agencies, and some will require processes and systems changes within the County.

An anticipated time frame for implementation has been identified for each action. The time frames noted are contingent upon available resources, right-of-way, funding, and community and political support as described in Chapter 1. Short-term actions are those that have an anticipated time frame of five years. As additional resources are secured, the County can begin implementation of medium- and long-term implementation actions. The proposed policies will serve to guide planning processes for all County projects, and inform procedures and projects across all agencies.

VISION

Los Angeles County will be a place where walking is a safe, convenient, and enjoyable option for people of all ages and abilities to travel for work, school, shopping, recreation, and other daily activities. Streets and sidewalks will be transformed to promote healthy and active lifestyles and increase public safety.

GOALS, POLICIES, AND ACTIONS

Goal 1: Safe Streets

Eliminate all fatalities and severe injuries involving people walking.

POLICY SS-1: Coordinate across County departments, and with the California Highway Patrol, community members, and organizations to implement Vision Zero Los Angeles County to eliminate traffic-related pedestrian fatalities and severe injuries.

Action SS-1.1: Develop and implement a Vision Zero Action Plan. Analyze traffic collision data and identify priority corridors, intersections, and areas in need of intervention. Identify the engineering, education, enforcement, engagement, and evaluation strategies, as well as responsible parties, benchmarks, and timelines for achieving progress.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Public Health

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning, Sheriff, California Highway Patrol, Fire, Chief Executive Office, Internal Services, Health Services, Parks and Recreation, Arts Commission, Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SS-1.2: Produce an annual public progress report on Vision Zero Los Angeles County. Analyze and report on the status and outcomes of implemented projects and programs. Identify specific projects and programs that aim to reduce traffic-related severe injuries and fatalities.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Public Health

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning, Sheriff, California Highway Patrol, Fire, Health Services, Chief Executive Office, Internal Services, Parks and Recreation, Arts Commission

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SS-1.3: Expand data analysis for project and program prioritization to include additional sources beyond that of roadway collision data. Other sources could include, but are not limited to, pedestrian counts, emergency medical services and hospital data, and citation data.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Public Health

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning, Sheriff, California Highway Patrol, Fire, Health Services, Chief Executive Office, Internal Services, Parks and Recreation, Arts Commission

TIMEFRAME: SHORT-TERM

POLICY SS-2: Enhance the pedestrian walking experience by enhancing pedestrian crossings and implementing traffic calming measures where feasible and appropriate.

Action SS-2.1: Adopt updated engineering and planning design standards that consider the guidelines from the Los Angeles County Model Design Manual for Living Streets, NACTO Urban Streets Design Guide, and other best practices to ensure pedestrian-friendly designs.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action SS-2.2: Develop guidelines for the implementation of high-visibility crosswalk markings.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: SHORT-TERM

Action SS-2.3: Develop guidelines for the implementation of pedestrian-activated warning systems to enhance crosswalk visibility at uncontrolled marked crossing locations.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: SHORT-TERM

Action SS-2.4: Develop guidelines for the implementation of stop/limit lines at signalized crossing locations.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: SHORT-TERM

Action SS-2.5: Develop guidelines for incorporating yield markings and related signage at uncontrolled marked crossing locations.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: SHORT-TERM

Action SS-2.6: Develop guidelines for evaluating locations with existing right-turn slip lanes, those that allow vehicles to turn at the intersection without actually entering it and interfering with through traffic, to identify pedestrian safety design projects, including, but not limited to, addition of no right-turn on red signage, advance stop or yield markings, stop controls, or right-turn slip lane removal; and for limiting construction of new right-turn slip lanes in areas of high pedestrian demand or with a history of pedestrian collisions.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action SS-2.7: Develop guidelines for installing red curb and no parking zones adjacent to all marked crosswalks and intersections to enhance driver visibility of pedestrians.

Lead Department: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action SS-2.8: Develop guidelines for installing curb extensions.

Lead Department: Public Works

Supporting Department: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action SS-2.9: At intersections with a history of pedestrian-involved collisions resulting from right-turning vehicles, prohibit right-turns on red, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: LONG-TERM

Action SS-2.10: Evaluate creating a county-wide policy that establishes a 15 mph speed limit when children are present, and expand 25mph zones, in accordance with California AB 321.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action SS-2.11: Evaluate installing protected left-turn signals near schools, high frequency bus stops, and rail stations, wherever feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action SS-2.12: Evaluate installing Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPI) at intersections with high rates of pedestrian activity, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Goal 2: Make Walking the Easy and Healthy Choice

Communities, streets, and sidewalks are designed to promote walking and healthy living.

POLICY EH-1: Make transportation, land use, and building design or site planning decisions that make walking a logical first choice transportation option for residents and visitors.

Action EH-1.1: Use current design guidelines, such as the Livable Community Design Guidelines once finalized, to encourage development patterns and site plans that promote walking, increase pedestrian connectivity between buildings and sidewalks, and allow for short trips between multiple locations.

Lead Departments: Regional Planning, Public Works

Supporting Departments: Member Departments of the Healthy Design Workgroup

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Policy EH-2: Design pedestrian-friendly streets to make walking a convenient first choice for daily activities.

Action EH-2.1: Develop guidelines that establish a maximum distance between controlled intersections and marked crosswalks on major and secondary streets, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: SHORT-TERM

Action EH-2.2: Develop guidelines for implementing semi-exclusive/exclusive pedestrian movements (i.e., pedestrian scrambles) at intersections with high volumes of pedestrian traffic and/or vehicle-pedestrian conflicts, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: LONG-TERM

Action EH-2.3: Continue to work with communities to develop pedestrian wayfinding signage that incorporate local identity to direct pedestrians to important neighborhood destinations, including commercial areas, schools, and parks.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Department: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EH-2.4: Establish pedestrian wayfinding guidelines and procedures.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Parks and Recreation, Regional Planning, Community Development Commission, Arts Commission, Metro

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action EH-2.5: Evaluate the Los Angeles County Code (Title 21 - Subdivisions) and the County's design guidelines to assess if the typical roadway cross-sections should be revised to reclassify streets and provide new street classifications that are reflective of land uses and context-sensitive to rural/suburban/urban areas. Assess whether cross-sections can be updated to enhance the walkability of communities.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: LONG-TERM

Action EH-2.6a: Develop bus stop design guidelines based on an increased sidewalk width to include elements that enhance the walking experience, such as signage, seating, and shelters; and ensure that transit signs, benches, and shelters do not impede the pedestrian walkway.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning, Metro

TIMEFRAME: SHORT-TERM

Action EH-2.6b: Consolidate signage for multiple providers onto one pole as much as possible to reduce visual clutter and enhance accessibility.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Transit Providers

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EH-2.7: When planning and designing corridor projects, incorporate supportive pedestrian amenities such as landscaping and street furniture, as funding is available.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Department: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EH-2.8: Develop and publicize a process through which communities can engage Public Works in developing ideas on litter prevention, and identifying locations for and implementing public waste containers for collecting trash and recyclables, making use of contract waste haulers where applicable for ongoing maintenance and community outreach.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action EH-2.9: Convert alleyways to multi-use paths and community green spaces, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Department: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

POLICY EH-3: Provide opportunities for community participation in creating safe and inviting pedestrian environments.

Action EH-3.1: Apply for grants to develop Community Pedestrian Plans for each unincorporated community.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Public Health

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EH-3.2: Review the public-facing tools related to requesting and reporting traffic-related concerns to Public Works, and update/expand as necessary to provide clear information to the public on the available types of traffic calming tools, as well as process to determine feasibility and applicability of traffic calming interventions.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action EH-3.3: Finalize the Parklet Application Manual and develop an online application that allows community stakeholders to apply for approval to construct and operate a parklet in the road right-of-way.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Public Health, Regional Planning, Consumer and Business Affairs

TIMEFRAME: SHORT-TERM

Action EH-3.4: Develop guidelines to work with communities to implement artistic treatments within the public right-of-way.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning, Arts Commission

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action EH-3.5: Identify opportunities to pilot pedestrian safety treatments using semi-permanent materials where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Public Health

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Goal 3: Connectivity

Develop and maintain a complete pedestrian network that links transit, schools, parks, and other key destinations in the community.

POLICY C-1: Support projects that increase pedestrian connectivity, reduce walking distances, and enhance safety.

Action C-1.1: Continue to support constituent requests, maintain, and seek new opportunities for public easements that shorten walking distances and encourage walking; where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Parks and Recreation

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning, Sheriff, Fire

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action C-1.2: Utilize pedestrian recall signal timing methods or other available technology at locations that have high pedestrian activity, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

POLICY C-2: Create a barrier-free pedestrian network. Maintain pedestrian facilities to ensure they are free of hazards and obstructions.

Action C-2.1: Develop standards and a process for siting street furniture, including bicycle parking.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action C-2.2: Increase outreach to and education for local businesses to prevent obstruction of pedestrian walkways by items such as advertisement signs and merchandise.

Lead Departments: Member Departments of the Healthy Design Workgroup

Supporting Departments: Community Development Commission, Business and Consumer Affairs

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action C-2.3: Work with utility companies to underground or relocate utilities as locations are identified where sidewalks do not meet or maintain ADA required widths due to the location of utility boxes or poles.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action C-2.4: Prioritize requests related to illegal dumping when a report indicates the material is impeding safe pedestrian travel.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Sheriff, Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action C-2.5: Continue to promote the use of online applications such as "The Works" application and the "Report a Problem" page of the Public Works website to allow residents to report maintenance needs in their community.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action C-2.6: Enforce compliance with existing ordinances related to sidewalk obstructions including, but not limited to, vegetation incursion and parking on or across sidewalks.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Sheriff, California Highway Patrol

Supporting Department: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action C-2.7: Continue to repair potholes and pavement cracking, including those in crosswalks, during routine maintenance.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action C-2.8: Implement a publicly-viewable ranking system similar to Public Work's Pavement Quality Index (PQI) to provide transparency around conditions of existing walkways and maintenance schedules.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Goal 4: Equity

Make unincorporated Los Angeles County more walkable for all through equity in public engagement, service delivery, accessibility, planning, and capital investments.

POLICY EQ-1: Prioritize the needs of low-income communities of color and the most vulnerable users.

Action EQ-1.1: In addition to Vision Zero indicators, use demographic and health outcomes to identify and prioritize communities for future Community Pedestrian Plans.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Public Health

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EQ-1.2 Continue to develop outreach materials in languages that are community-specific, and hold community meetings at times and in locations that are convenient to the community and accessible by multiple forms of transportation including walking, bicycling, and public transit.

Lead Departments: All County Departments

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EQ-1.3: Create a process to enable County departments to more easily contract with local non-profits and Community Based Organizations to assist with community engagement for the planning, design and implementation of pedestrian projects.

Lead Departments: Member Departments of the Healthy Design Workgroup

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

Action EQ-1.4: Ensure information on how to request public services is available online and in multiple languages for access by non-English proficient residents.

Lead Departments: All County Departments

Supporting Department: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ONGOING

POLICY EQ-2: Create a pedestrian network that supports people of all abilities – especially youth, seniors, and those with disabilities. This includes, but is not limited to, wide sidewalks, curb ramps, accessible pedestrian signals to aid the visually impaired, and adequate pedestrian crossing times.

Action EQ-2.1: Ensure that sidewalks are kept in good repair.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EQ-2.2: Discourage, and when possible, prevent new developments from installing multiple vehicle driveways.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EQ-2.3: Install or upgrade curb ramps to comply with current Americans with Disabilities Act standards when located within a street, road, or highway segment altered by maintenance, resurfacing, reconstruction, or new construction.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EQ-2.4: Continue to ensure all new construction projects meet or exceed standards set by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EQ-2.5: Design and construct accessible pedestrian medians or islands to create a pedestrian refuge area, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EQ-2.6: Provide ample crossing time at signalized crossings adjacent to destinations used by people with lower mobility speeds, including youth, seniors, and the disabled.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action EQ-2.7: Evaluate implementing new technologies that allow those with the need for longer crossing time to request/receive additional green time.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: LONG-TERM

Goals 5: Safe Communities

Address real and perceived personal safety concerns to encourage walking.

POLICY SC-1: Implement community environmental design and community programs that enhance public safety.

Action SC-1.1: Continue to explore ways to purchase, operate, and maintain pedestrian-scale lighting.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Department: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SC-1.2: Support LED light installation on new and existing streetlight poles and, to reduce sidewalk clutter, consider combined street-scale and pedestrian-scale lighting on individual light poles, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SC-1.3: Work with local businesses to maintain active building frontages (including outdoor restaurant seating) to promote sidewalk vitality and “eyes on the street.” Update the related zoning code, Community Standards Districts, and/or Community Plans as necessary.

Lead Departments: Member Departments of the Healthy Design Workgroup

Supporting Departments: Community Development Commission, Business and Consumer Affairs

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SC-1.4: Identify areas where illicit activities, such as cruising and prostitution, occur and work with Public Works to strategically deploy traffic calming measures with the goal of reducing these activities, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Sheriff

Supporting Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SC-1.5: Educate residents on and promote the reporting of active feral dog populations near schools, transit stops, and other areas with high pedestrian activity.

Lead Departments: Animal Care and Control

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Goal 6: Sustainability and Preservation

Pedestrian projects and programs enhance the natural environment including clean air and water.

POLICY SP-1: Improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reduced car dependency.

Action SP-1.1: In partnership with local organizations, promote and support programs that incentivize/encourage the public to track the amount of walking trips taken.

Lead Departments: Public Health

Supporting Departments: Community Development Commission, Business and Consumer Affairs

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SP-1.2: Encourage large-scale trip generators, including County facilities, to create and implement Transportation Demand Management programs that emphasize the importance of walking to employees and visitors.

Lead Departments: Human Resources

Supporting Departments: Metro, Community Development Commission, Business and Consumer Affairs, Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SP-1.3: California's parking cash-out law requires employers who provide subsidized parking for their employees to offer a cash allowance in lieu of a parking space. Ensure all facilities where County employees work enforce this law.

Lead Departments: Chief Executive Office

TIMEFRAME: MEDIUM-TERM

POLICY SP-2: Enhance the natural environment through the greening of pedestrian space by planting trees and vegetation, and the use of efficient materials and processes in sidewalk and street enhancement projects.

Action SP-2.1: Install trees as part of sidewalk, shared-use path, and trail projects, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Parks and Recreation, Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SP-2.2: Continue to utilize Low Impact Development standards, which may include permeable pavement, for construction of sidewalks, public stairs, and paths, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action SP-2.3: Continue to update the Public Works-maintained parkway inventory during scheduled routine maintenance, and use this data to plan for tree plantings.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Goal 7: Coordinated County Implementation

County agencies and communities work together to implement pedestrian projects, policies, and programs.

POLICY CI-1: Develop shared communications, data collection protocols, and systems so that pedestrian projects are coordinated across departments, with partner agencies, and with the community.

Action CI-1.1: Use the Healthy Design Workgroup Grants Committee to work across County departments to submit competitive projects to regional and state funding sources to implement infrastructure projects and programs identified in this Plan.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Public Health

Supporting Departments: Member Departments of the Healthy Design Workgroup Grants Committee

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action CI-1.2: Incorporate pedestrian-related features identified in this Plan into ongoing and future highway improvement projects, as well as private project designs and approvals, where feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works, Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action CI-1.3: Seek opportunities to fund planning and implementation of proposed projects identified in Community Pedestrian Plans.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action CI-1.4: Continue to work with school districts and individual school site coordinators to enhance safety for students and neighbors during pick-up and drop-off times.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Sheriff, California Highway Patrol, School Districts

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action CI-1.5: Continue to coordinate with Caltrans District 7 to implement projects proposed in Caltrans' right-of-way when feasible and appropriate.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action CI-1.6: Continue to coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions in places where the County shares authority of traffic control and maintenance of roadways, to seek funding opportunities and implement proposed projects jointly.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action CI-1.7: Continue to coordinate with Metro through First and Last Mile Planning efforts.

Lead Departments: Public Works

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

POLICY CI-2: County agencies work together to gather and share useful and timely information related to existing and proposed pedestrian infrastructure. Better integrate participatory planning efforts facilitated by County agencies by sharing resources and contacts.

Action CI-2.1: Monitor status of all pedestrian projects proposed in the Step by Step Los Angeles County Pedestrian Plans.

Lead Departments: Public Works

Supporting Departments: Regional Planning

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING

Action CI-2.2: Develop an interdepartmental master stakeholder list and collaborate with various departments to support community engagement efforts or develop joint outreach efforts when appropriate.

Lead Departments: Member Departments of the Healthy Design Workgroup

Supporting Departments: Community Development Commission, Business and Consumer Affairs

TIMEFRAME: ON-GOING