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LADOT Awarded \$18 Million INFRA Grant from USDOT

Grant proposal will fund critical street safety and environmental justice improvements in South LA communities.

Los Angeles, CA (June 30, 2021)

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) was awarded \$18 million today as part of the FY 2021 Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant program from the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT). The LADOT proposal was selected as one of 24 projects awarded across 18 states out of 157 eligible applicants. In addition to creating local jobs and improving infrastructure, the FY 2021 Round of INFRA grants was the first in history to consider projects based on how they would address climate change, environmental justice, and racial equity.

“When the administration put out the call for new thinking on infrastructure, Los Angeles was ready to deliver,” said LADOT General Manager Seleta Reynolds. “We know that how we invest in transportation has far-reaching impacts on economic growth, the safety of streets, and the health of communities. I want to thank USDOT for supporting our vision and helping us with these investments for Los Angeles communities.”

LADOT’s INFRA grant will fund the Community Infrastructure & Resiliency Zone (CIRZ) Project, which addresses the impacts of the National Highway System in Los Angeles. South LA communities have withstood economic and social harm from a legacy of redlining, neighborhood demolition to construct the interstate highway system, and poor air quality. By focusing on South LA, the CIRZ Project underscores the need to invest in neighborhoods that have experienced historic injustice and completes funding for several shovel-ready projects. Specifically, the grant will improve safety by funding 26 new traffic signals in the project area and new Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPI) that give pedestrians additional time to cross the street, at 90 intersections.

The project area extends along the I-110 corridor from Downtown LA to just south of the Imperial Hwy and includes neighborhoods in Los Angeles City Council Districts 8, 9, and 15.

“This funding supports our larger efforts to address nearly a half-century of disinvestment in our South Los Angeles neighborhoods and its infrastructure,” said Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson. “The investment will augment the work we’ve done to address racial equity and environmental justice with



the installation of protected bike lanes, enhanced street lighting, and the addition of trees and high visibility crosswalks in the Broadway-Manchester community."

"What is before us today with the USDOT investment of \$18M being put into our South LA streets and infrastructure, is a promise of better mobility and safer streets for our families and neighbors to enjoy," said Councilmember Curren Price. "I want to thank the USDOT for recognizing the importance of including South Los Angeles and ensuring our pedestrians and cyclists are protected while enhancing their overall quality of life."

"I would like to thank Secretary Buttigieg and the Biden Administration for once again investing in Los Angeles' vision of innovation and equity," said Councilmember Joe Buscaino. "Safe streets cannot be taken for granted. This funding will save countless lives, redress historic disinvestment and advance the city's climate action initiatives."

South LA currently accounts for a disproportionate share of traffic deaths in Los Angeles. While most areas of Los Angeles saw significant declines in traffic volumes and fatal crashes in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, South LA experienced traffic volumes consistent with prior years and an increase in traffic deaths.

About LADOT Transit

LADOT leads transportation planning, project delivery, and operations in the City of Los Angeles. We work together and collaborate to deliver a safe, livable, and well-run transportation system in the city and region. Our vision is for all people in Los Angeles to have access to safe and affordable transportation choices that treat everyone with dignity and support vibrant, inclusive communities.

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