

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to upgrading all uncontrolled crosswalks throughout the City of Los Angeles.

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (De Leon – Rodriguez):

1. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to report in regard to the number of uncontrolled marked crosswalks throughout the City, and recommendations for traffic controls and/or beacons at each crosswalk where such devices do not exist nor are funded, and could be beneficial to improve driver yielding and stopping behavior, and as a result, pedestrian comfort and safety.
2. INSTRUCT the LADOT, in coordination with the City Administrative Officer (CAO), to report with a multi-year funding plan to implement the aforementioned recommendations as detailed above in Recommendation No. 1 by 2025.
3. INSTRUCT the Bureau of Engineering and the Bureau of Street Lighting to assess the required access ramp and street lighting needs for all locations identified for a new traffic control and/or beacon, and provide a rough order of magnitude cost for this work, and resources necessary to implement.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On October 19, 2021, the Transportation Committee considered a Motion (De Leon – Rodriguez) relative upgrading all uncontrolled crosswalks throughout the City. According to the Motion, nationally, pedestrian fatalities have increased in recent years. Vehicle design, road design, and driver behavior including distracted driving and speeding have all contributed to this trend. The City of Los Angeles has seen a similar increase, mirroring national trends. Pedestrians are particularly vulnerable when crossing streets; many streets where pedestrians cross feature marked crosswalks, but at a number of these locations, the streets are not controlled by traffic signals, hybrid beacons, or stop signs, nor do they feature flashing yellow beacons which add additional awareness to drivers when pedestrians are trying to cross. As a result, driver yielding or stopping behavior at many of these locations is poor. There are hundreds of uncontrolled marked crosswalks throughout the City, many of which do not have warning beacons or other controls in place, nor funded for future installation. After further consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion, as detailed above. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Transportation Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
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BONIN:	YES
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KORETZ:	YES
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BUSCAINO:	ABSENT
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10/19/21

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-