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LADOT's Safe Routes to School LA Secures \$22.38 Million in Grants to Bring Safety Improvements to 9 Los Angeles Schools

Los Angeles, CA (March 23, 2021)

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) is proud to announce that Safe Routes to School Los Angeles (SRTS LA) — a nationally recognized program that brings safety improvements to school neighborhood streets — was recently awarded \$22.38 million for four recommended projects in Cycle 5 of the State of California's Active Transportation Program (ATP).

The awarded projects feature innovative designs such as floating bus bulbs with protected bicycle lanes, 2-way bicycle lanes, traffic circles, pedestrian plazas, and raised crosswalks.

"Keeping our streets safe, so our kids can arrive at school safe and ready to learn, is one of our most important responsibilities," said LADOT General Manager Seleta Reynolds. "Safe Routes to School Los Angeles shows us what a strong partnership between the City, LAUSD, and community members can deliver for our kids."

With four Cycle 5 approved projects, the City leads the state in the number of projects and funding totals for SRTS projects. Since ATP Cycle 1 in 2014, SRTS LA has garnered a total of \$73 million in infrastructure investment with an additional \$4 million for community planning and safety education and community engagement efforts representing 22% of all Safe Routes to School projects grants approved by the state. Of its Top 50 LAUSD's Schools of Highest Need, SRTS LA has secured or received project implementation funding for 25 schools.

"Our collaborative efforts with the City have garnered nearly \$73 million in Safe Routes to School funding over 6 years, and has been critical to advancing equitable, community-centered projects that create safer and traffic-calm school zones, and allow our students and families to walk safely to/from school," said LAUSD Superintendent Roberto Martinez



SRTS LA uses crash data, density of youth walking/cycling in school zones, and social equity to prioritize which schools should receive upgrades based on need. The latest grant will allow LADOT to provide services to the following 9 schools:

- Berendo Middle School
- Magnolia Avenue Elementary School
- Leo Politi Elementary School
- Hoover Street Elementary School
- George Washington Carver Middle School
- Ascot Avenue Elementary School
- Harmony Elementary School
- Panorama City Elementary School
- Young Oak Kim Academy

Created in 2013 by the California State Legislature and overseen by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), ATP encourages the increased use of active modes of transportation to prioritize health and safety for all with an emphasis on the safety of people walking and bicycling. To facilitate this mission, state grant funding is administered to projects that advance improvements in active transportation, including SRTS projects across California.

Safe Routes to School LA will continue to help achieve the strategic goals of the City's Green New Deal and Mobility Plan 2035, and DOT's Strategic Plan and Vision Zero so that our most vulnerable population in LA, our youth, will be safer on their journey to and from school.

About LADOT

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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