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LADOT Completes 7th Street Safety Improvement in DTLA

Los Angeles, CA (May 20, 2020)

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) and Councilmember Jose Huizar announced the completion of the 7th Street Forward project.

"7th Street Forward brings us back to the future with a street that delivers safety over speed, moving people and supporting the neighborhood as it grows," said LADOT General Manager Seleta Reynolds. "Our aim is to deliver the first phase of the streetscape plan to begin to organize the street, make it easier to use, and welcome people downtown no matter how they travel."

"Safer streets that provide functional multimodal use for pedestrians, bikes and scooters has been a priority for my office," said Councilmember Jose Huizar. "The 7th Street Forward project is an exciting addition to the ongoing effort to create a network of protected bike lanes that will ultimately link to a multimodal transportation system for DTLA."

7th Street is the heart of public life and vibrancy in DTLA, connecting multiple neighborhoods. In a recent survey, nearly 2,500 were counted walking, biking, or scooting in a six hour window. A more organized street helps all road users be more visible and predictable to one another, and allow buses and vehicles to travel more efficiently, improving the safety, comfort, and quality of the public realm.

Using low-cost materials, LADOT installed fresh paint markings and signs along the newly resurfaced and redesigned 7th Street between Figueroa St. and Main St.

Safety improvements for people walking, biking, riding transit, and driving along this corridor include:

- A newly paved street
 - Eliminated potholes and cracks, providing a smoother, safer, and more enjoyable experience for people driving or riding a bike, scooter, or bus on the street
- A safer, calmer street



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- Existing bicycle lanes on 7th St were moved next to the sidewalk curb to create more distance between people biking and car traffic
- \circ $\;$ At bus stops, people on bikes will merge with buses in a safer mixing zone
- People walking will have more space between the sidewalk and moving traffic, which creates a calmer and more enjoyable sidewalk environment
- LADOT installed safety improvements to slow down right-turning vehicles, to help improve the safety and visibility of people walking and biking
- More loading zones
 - Metered parking on 7th St was converted to loading zones, allowing higher turnover and more space for deliveries, rideshare pick-up, and other short-term commercial and passenger needs

Testing the new designs with interim materials, like paint and plastic, will create immediate safety and mobility benefits and provide valuable feedback to the City and community before the project is implemented in the concrete.

The public can view photos of the redesigned street on <u>the project website</u> as well as get updates, information, and provide feedback on the project.

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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