May 22, 2024

Council President Sean Elo Rivera
City of San Diego
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

SUBJECT: FY2025 Budget – Fix the Fatal 15 – Including the Seven Deadly Leftovers

Dear Council President Elo-Rivera and Councilmembers:

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing to urge you to Fix The Fatal 15 – the most dangerous intersections in the City of San Diego – including the Seven Deadly Leftovers that have been omitted from the Mayor’s FY2025 May Budget Revise. The simple fixes recommended for these seven intersections would add a mere $700,000 to the FY2025 budget – exceptional return on a small investment.

Throughout this year’s budget process, we have highlighted the worst intersections, the Fatal 15,¹ and made cost-effective recommendations for their improvement.² In prior years, Mayor Faulconer funded fixes for the Fatal 15 intersections, for which he was

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¹ The “Fatal 15” are based on an analysis of the Transportation Injury Mapping System between 2018 and 2022, and they represent the 15 intersections with both more than three pedestrian or cycle involved traffic crashes, and the most pedestrian and cyclist fatalities.

widely praised in the press. And this year, a majority of the Council included requests to Fix the Fatal 15 in their FY2025 budget memos.

After our letter of April 24, 2024 renewing our call to Fix the Fatal 15, Circulate received inquiries from Councilmembers regarding the estimated cost of the proposed fixes. On May 9th, we provided that cost estimate. Based on Circulate’s planning department, estimates from prior years, work of the Independent Budget Analyst, and information from the Transportation department, recent fixes like those proposed here have cost an estimated $100,000 per intersection. For the Seven Deadly Leftovers, this would total a mere $700,000.

On the day that the Mayor’s FY2025 May Revise was released, a representative from the Mayor’s office reached out to note that the Transportation Department’s Systemic Safety Analysis Reporting Program (SSARP) has slated eight of the Fatal 15 for safety improvements in FY2025. We are heartened to hear about these scheduled repairs and appreciate the Transportation Department’s good work in this regard. We also appreciate the Mayor’s staff’s diligence in passing this information along.

However, despite wide political support and a low price tag, relying exclusively on the SSARP leaves seven of the Fatal 15 to linger in their current deadly condition for at least another year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Seven Deadly Leftovers</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clairemont Mesa Blvd &amp; Doliva Dr</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosecrans St &amp; Moore St</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Blvd &amp; Euclid Ave</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mira Mesa Blvd &amp; Black Mountain Rd</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westview Pkwy &amp; Mira Mesa Blvd</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imperial Av &amp; 26th St</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market St &amp; 19th St</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The SSARP is an innovative predictive system for allocating resources, but even the best system is imperfect. Therefore, the best approach is to both use the predictive SSARP

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4 Circulate San Diego and Vision Zero Coalition, Policy Letter: Mayor’s Budget Fails To Fix The Fatal 15 Most Dangerous Intersections, April 24, 2024, available at [https://www.circulatesd.org/letter_mayor_s_budget_fails_to_fix_the_fatal_15_most_dangerous_intersections](https://www.circulatesd.org/letter_mayor_s_budget_fails_to_fix_the_fatal_15_most_dangerous_intersections).


6 Circulate gave its 2019 Momentum Award for Vision Zero to the City of San Diego to recognize its leadership in creating the SSARP. We are pleased to hear that this system is slated to be updated in 2025.
Creating excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods.

We therefore renew our call for the FY 2025 budget to include funding for the following improvements to be installed at all of the Seven Deadly Leftover intersections where they do not already exist:

- Stripes – Paint ladder or zebra stripes across the crosswalk for increased visibility
- Signal – Install a countdown signal
- Sound – Make sure the signal has audible prompts to let people know when it is safe to cross

Some of these intersections have some of these improvements already installed, but all of them lack at least one, and many lack all three.

Ultimately, the preservation of lives is an investment well worth making. Vision Zero is not some “nice to have” during good budget years. The City of San Diego will spend large sums of money on transportation in this coming budget, and we are merely asking that a reasonable share of that spending be made to do the most good and to save the most lives.

Sincerely,

Will Moore
Policy Counsel
Circulate San Diego

Chris Roberts and Rita Clement
San Diego 350

Chloe Lauer
Executive Director
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition

Gail Friedt
Vibrant Uptown

Jacob Mandel
Vision Zero Advocate

Anar Salayev
President
BikeSD

Laura Keenan
Founder
Families for Safe Streets SD

Ozzy Meneses, AICP
President & CEO

Omen Consulting

CC:

- Mayor Todd Gloria
- Council President Pro Tem Joe LaCava
- Councilmember Dr. Jennifer Campbell
- Councilmember Stephen Whitburn
- Councilmember Henry Foster
- Councilmember Marni von Wilpert
- Councilmember Kent Lee
- Councilmember Raul Campillo and
- Councilmember Vivian Moreno
- Heidi Vonblum, Director, Planning Department
- Bethany Bezak, Director, Transportation Department