

2021 Regional Plan
Programs and Policies

VISION ZERO



California is among the U.S. states with the highest number of fatalities involving people walking and biking, and traffic collisions are one of the top causes of injury and death in Southern California. The aim of a regional Vision Zero policy is to protect everyone who uses the roads, especially the most vulnerable—children, individuals with disabilities, and all people who walk, bike, and ride micromobility.

Vision Zero is a national campaign that uses a variety of strategies to work toward eliminating deaths and severe injuries on our streets. Human error is a reason for these crashes, but poorly designed roads also contribute to crashes being fatal. Speed can also have a significant impact on the severity of crashes and is another important factor in transportation-related deaths. Statistics show that low-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately affected by traffic-related injuries and fatalities, which indicates that establishing an equitable and inclusive transportation system is a critical component of achieving Vision Zero.

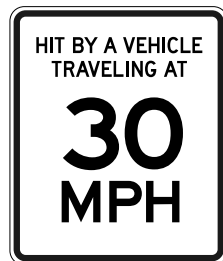
The 5 Big Moves will result in people having more travel options. By implementing safe street designs, slow speeds, and policies that promote safe movement, more people will feel comfortable choosing to walk, bike, and ride micromobility to get around their communities.

How would it work?

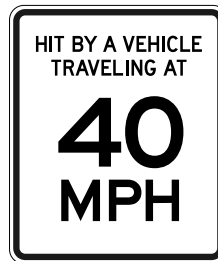
- Protect vulnerable users of our roads through road design and engineering
- Prioritize safety in local project funding decisions
- Educate drivers and other road users on traffic safety
- Engage communities to uplift local voices and proactively identify local issues
- Use data to understand inequities, including disproportionate impacts on communities of color and low-income populations, and actively work to address them



9 out of 10
pedestrians survive



5 out of 10
pedestrians survive



1 out of 10
pedestrians survive

What would it look like?

Streets that work for everyone



Street design that prioritizes the creation of safe and comfortable space for people who walk, bike, ride micromobility, and take transit prevents conflicts between people and vehicles traveling at different speeds. Lowering speed limits and designing streets in ways that reduce the speed of moving vehicles can help make crashes, when they do occur, less likely to be fatal. Using data and actively engaging communities helps to identify issues and supports the development of policies, programs, and infrastructure that reflect the unique needs of each community.

What should I know about Vision Zero?

Vision Zero strategies have been implemented in cities throughout the country, including a handful of cities in the San Diego region. Vision Zero aims to move beyond traditionally siloed approaches to traffic safety by implementing an integrated Safe Systems approach. Vision Zero is primarily focused on policies and roadway designs that affect people's choices, rather than individual educational and enforcement activities as in the past. By implementing street designs proven to encourage safe behavior, the need to correct for individual issues through strategies like traffic stops, ticketing, and fines can be reduced.

Many safety-related projects on our roads will be the responsibility of local jurisdictions, but a regional Vision Zero campaign can be a source of technical resources and funding to help keep people safe as they travel through the San Diego region.

What could SANDAG do?

- Collect and analyze crash data to help SANDAG and local jurisdictions identify and resolve safety issues
- Convene policymakers and stakeholders, including law enforcement, planners, community leaders, transit agencies, and other groups to develop a regional safety policy that works for everyone
- Fund educational programs for local agencies and stakeholders, including law enforcement
- Fund the planning, design, and construction of the Regional Bike Network and other street projects of regional significance
- Consider policy recommendations developed by the statewide Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force (AB 2363) and support the creation of context-sensitive speed limits
- Develop and offer technical resources to local cities, the County of San Diego, and Caltrans on road infrastructure design that encourages safe driving and protects vulnerable road users
- Work with cities to develop community engagement programs that identify local street safety issues and provide technical guidance to resolve those issues through investment, policies, and programs

Resources

City of San Diego Vision Zero
sandiego.gov/vision-zero

Vision Zero Network
visionzeronetwerk.org

9 Components of a Strong Vision Zero Commitment
slideshare.net/CarolynSzczeplanski/9-components-of-a-strong-vision-zero-commitment

CalSTA Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force
calsta.ca.gov/-/media/calsta-media/documents/calsta-report-of-findings-ab-2363-zero-traffic-fatalities-task-force-a1ly.pdf

Vision Zero Equity Strategies For Practitioners
visionzeronetwerk.org/centering-equity-in-vision-zero/