

September 27, 2021

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Alex Padilla  
United States Senate  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Alan Lowenthal  
United States House of Representatives  
125 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nanette Diaz Barragán  
United States House of Representatives  
1320 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Support for Traffic Safety Resources in the Federal Infrastructure Package**

Dear Senator Feinstein, Senator Padilla, Representative Lowenthal, and Representative Barragán:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to respectfully request the federal infrastructure package include funding for local jurisdictions to hire and retain drug recognition experts, expand traffic support units, and advance proactive traffic enforcement. On September 14, 2021, the Long Beach City Council voted unanimously to advocate for resources to support local traffic safety enforcement and personnel.

The bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act includes \$11 billion for traffic safety and research. The legislation would authorize \$6.9 billion over five years for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and related driver safety programs, research, and development. The legislation includes regulatory changes to improve traffic safety and would allow states to use highway safety funds to operate automated traffic enforcement systems in work or school zones. Another \$5 billion would support grants to implement vision zero plans and transportation design projects that prevent traffic fatalities and serious injuries.

However, the legislation does not include direct funding for local jurisdictions to advance traffic safety through additional staffing and resources for enforcement. The City kindly requests that these funds for safety resources be included in the federal infrastructure package, as this funding would help advance public and traffic safety in line with Long Beach's vision zero objectives. Traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries have increased over the past year, and additional funding for enforcement and personnel would complement the existing priorities outlined in the federal infrastructure package to bolster traffic safety through education programs, research, and infrastructure design.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. As more details about the federal infrastructure package develop in the coming weeks, the City will continue to review funding opportunities and provide additional feedback on City priorities. If you have any questions about this request, please do not hesitate to contact Tyler Bonanno-Curley, Government Affairs Manager, at [Tyler.Curley@longbeach.gov](mailto:Tyler.Curley@longbeach.gov).

Sincerely,



THOMAS B. MODICA  
City Manager

