DIGNITY-INFUSED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Overview & Approach

The Vision Zero Dignity-Infused Community Engagement (DICE) approach is a cross-sector effort to center community members in the Vision Zero planning process from the beginning; weaving all perspectives and lived experiences into the technical planning process. Vision Zero is the City's effort to implement policies, programs, and projects that help eliminate traffic-related deaths in Los Angeles. Beyond promoting an initiative, the dignity-infused planning process is an expansive approach to community engagement that seeks to heal and atone for the negative impacts of systems and practices within Los Angeles as well as the broader field of Transportation Planning.

What types of community engagement does the DICE Approach include?

Social Climate Analysis conducted by residents and project staff will consider:

- > Cultural identity
- > Socio-economic dynamics
- Social services needs (including housing)
- > Environmental factors
- > Infrastructure conditions
- > Access to transit
- > Resident oral histories
- > Resident leaders

Formation of Community Teams

Community based organizations, resident leaders, and advocacy groups work as paid partners alongside City staff to inform and implement the planning and engagement processes located directly within their communities.

Capacity Building Trainings

All project partners have access to capacity-building trainings and resources that ensure adequate support and institutional knowledge for successfully partnering on the project.

Street Team Deployment

A team of outreach specialists will support engagement efforts by canvassing, phone banking, and attending and presenting at neighborhood council meetings, community events, and town halls citywide. Our recruitment strategy includes creating paid opportunities for Transition-Age Youth (foster care and diversion), survivors of gender-based violence, aging adults, and those experiencing other barriers to employment.



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Establish Resident Advisory Councils (RACs)

RACs will help identify ideal engagement strategies, advocate for safety improvements in the spirit of partnership with LADOT, evaluate Vision Zero efforts in their communities, and inform the development of public-facing advertisements, resources, and educational materials.

Restorative Justice Sessions

Residents, project staff, and community organizations will have access to a restorative justice process to address concerns about projects, organizational practices, institutional histories, and other dynamics that have negatively impacted individual and the communities they live and work within.

Community Engagement Events

- Large-scale community events that bring communities together to learn more about plans for safer streets and sidewalks
- Small-scale events that include meaningful conversations, traffic safety education, and resident leadership development

Formal Public Comment Opportunities

 Project staff and partners will work collectively to produce open houses, town halls, tele-surveys, live polling, public notices, and mailers.

Research and Evaluation

> Project staff and partners will collaborate to evaluate community perceptions about traffic safety and to implement an antidisplacement strategy that includes research and resources for people living and working in project areas

Specialized Strategies

> Engagement efforts will include integrated approaches to engaging students and parents, aging adults, kinship care families, faith based communities, and businesses. An advisory group will also be convened to support the development of an approach to the enforcement component of Vision Zero.

Arts will be an official and ongoing component of our efforts as a primary engagement tool and as an integral aspect of all other engagement efforts.

What else does the DICE Approach include?

- > Access to employment resources
- > Access to resources for traffic violence survivors and families of victims
- > Engagement activities that center aging adults, youth, people living with disabilities, and LGBTQ residents

The DICE Approach actively works to remove barriers to participating in all aspects of the planning and engagement process. To support that goal, community events will have on-site language interpreters, child-care, food, and transportation services as needed. Events will be located in accessible spaces. All public documents will be available in multiple languages and will be legible by screen readers.

For more information, visit http://visionzero.lacity.org/

