



Traffic Safety Forum

3/2/2024

Online Info Resources



Traffic Data

TIMS

- <https://tims.berkeley.edu/>
- Transportation Injury Mapping System
- Run by UC Berkeley and CHP
- FREE access (requires you make an account)
- Data comes from Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System but presented in a nice map format
- Data is usually a few years old (2022 data added in December 2023)
- Good for longer, historic trends

Community Crime Map

- <https://www.cityofsacramento.gov/police/crime-and-safety/community-crime-map>
- Run by Sacramento PD
- Includes crashes, even when no actual crime involved
- This is best for more RECENT incidents
- Has some ability to show clusters

Community Crime Map (Cont.)

- TIMS + Community Crime Map = Good data if police were involved
- Will NOT tell you about crashes that aren't reported
- May need to rely on neighbors to report crashes or reckless behavior (witnessed or caught on security camera)

City Traffic Count tab

- <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Public-Works/Transportation/Traffic-Data-Maps/Traffic-Counts>
- Some of this data is REALLY OLD! Check the date to see if it still applies!
- Sacramento has grown a LOT since a lot of these counts were done.

Vision Zero

- Vision Zero is a pledge by cities to set a goal of zero fatalities and injuries
- Sacramento joined in 2017 with a goal of success in 2027. The City needs our help to meet that goal.
- <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/public-works/transportation/programs-and-services/vision-zero>
- There are a LOT of good information in here you can borrow as you design your projects. You can read the original action plan and any updates.
 - A lot of the priority intersections are on major corridors. You may want to look at streets AROUND those to supplement the city's work.

City Record Search

How to find information about traffic projects

The Main Search

- City of Sacramento has a new search page that can look in many databases at once.
- Try it first!
- <https://search.cityofsacramento.org/>

Newer Projects

- New and ongoing projects tend to have their own webpage.
- <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Public-Works/Transportation/Planning-Projects/Transportation-Planning-and-Policy-Library>

General Records Page

- This is the page that has all the record search tools. Use this if the main search page isn't helping.
- <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Clerk/Services/Public-Records>

What is my project's priority?

- The City came up with a way to triage projects in 2022.
- This is called the Transportation Priorities Plan.
- You can see the INITIAL prioritization in the Council report on this page.
- <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Public-Works/Transportation/Planning-Projects/Transportation-Priorities-Plan>

If You're Stuck

- If the information you want is not readily available, you can request the information directly.
- <https://cityofsacramentoca.nextrequest.com/>
- Start by searching the database of already-completed requests. The answer may already be there!
- If you make a new request, the city will respond pretty quickly.

General Information

Highway Design Manual

- The Caltrans Highway Design Manual is the “rulebook” engineers and planners use in California
- <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/manual-highway-design-manual-hdm>
- If City engineers tell you that they aren’t allowed to do something, this is often why. For example, engineers have to design around minimum speed limits that the public does not see.
- Knowing these details tells you which level of government you need to work with for each part of your problem and which problems are most solvable.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

- The Federal Highway Administration (<https://highways.dot.gov/>) is part of US Department of Transportation (USDOT)
- Lots of good road safety items here: <https://highways.dot.gov/safety>
- You probably won't work directly with them because roads are generally managed by the states and subdivisions (cities, counties).
- Cities CAN request TECHNICAL assistance from FHWA. An example would be a Road Safety Audit. Advocates can't request one directly, but can request the City do so. <https://highways.dot.gov/safety/data-analysis-tools/rsa/road-safety-audits-rsa>

NACTO

- National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)
- <https://nacto.org/>
- Lots of design guides! Information tends to be understandable for lay people.
- **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** browsing here when you are looking for solutions in your own neighborhood
- If you need ideas, you will find lots of them along with cited evidence to support your case.
- You can find **SPECIFIC THINGS** to advocate for (and even try as a pilot project).

Tactical Urbanism Guide

- This is the “DIY” guide on how to set up things like traffic demonstrations.
- <http://tacticalurbanismguide.com/>
- Important: Don't do anything dangerous, reckless, or stupid. You're not trying to go to jail or cause crashes. You are trying to make your community better.
- You should approach these projects with a community service mindset (like picking up litter).
- In cities making good Vision Zero progress, residents and cities work **together** on these ideas.

Strong Towns

- This may be THE most popular urbanist site. Lots of articles, podcasts, books, and courses across many topics. <https://www.strongtowns.org/>
- Here is their specific “streets” page <https://www.strongtowns.org/streets>
- Vision Zero should treat each severe car crash like a plane crash. Strong Towns’ Crash Analysis Studio provides a framework for analysis. They’ll teach you how to do your own!
 - <https://academy.strongtowns.org/p/starting-your-own-crash-analysis-studio>
- You may not agree with all their content, but you will find something useful.