



MEDIA ADVISORY

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California Assemblymember David Chiu Announces Automated Speed Enforcement Legislation Alongside San Francisco and San Jose Colleagues and Advocates

(San Jose, CA) – California Assemblymember David Chiu joined San Francisco Mayor Lee, San Jose Mayor Liccardo, and state and local advocates yesterday to introduce important state legislation needed to achieve Vision Zero. Assembly Bill (AB) 342—also known as the Safe Streets Act of 2017—amends the California Vehicle Code (CVC) to authorize the use of Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) systems to enforce excessive speeding violations over the posted limit in the City and County of San Francisco and the City of San Jose for a five-year pilot period.

California Walks, Walk San Francisco, and the San Francisco Bay Area Families for Safe Streets support this legislation and stand with the family members, loved ones, and friends of those who have suffered from preventable traffic crashes. Unsafe speed is the single highest factor of fatal and severe injury collisions in both cities, and it is a fundamental predictor of crash severity. In particular, seniors, youth, and people walking and bicycling, bear disproportionately greater risks of injury or death in speed-related crashes.

“Too many people are losing their lives or living with life-altering injuries from traffic collisions,” said Tony Dang, Executive Director of California Walks. “This safety legislation would enable cities to adopt a proven technology that will make our streets safe for everyone.”

“Automated Speed Enforcement can play a key role in helping make our cities safer, particularly for our pedestrians and bicyclists, seniors and children,” said Mayor Sam Liccardo. “We need to explore all opportunities to protect the most vulnerable users of our streets, and I’d like to thank Assemblymember Chiu, Mayor Lee and our many other partners for their support of piloting this proven technology in our two cities.”

California Walks and its partners, locally and across the state, are committed to working toward zero traffic deaths and serious injuries through safety initiatives which build better and safer streets, enforce the most dangerous traffic violations, educate the public on traffic safety, and adopt policy changes in order to eliminate traffic deaths and reduce severe injury collisions. Assemblymember Chiu’s introduction of AB 342 is a bold declaration in support of safe streets in California.

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California Walks is a statewide organization of affiliated nonprofit and volunteer groups dedicated to creating healthy, safe, and walkable communities. Since 2006, Cal Walks has worked to engage, educate, and empower older adults, children, youth, persons with disabilities, young adults, families, public health professionals, traffic engineers, and public officials among others to develop community-driven action plans and priorities to improve pedestrian safety and to build healthy and safe communities.