



February 12, 2021

Citizens' Advisory Committee on Measure Z Expenditures  
c/o Humboldt County Administrative Office  
825 Fifth Street, Suite 112  
Eureka, CA 95501

**RE: Support for Funding for Traffic Signal at Oak & F Streets**

Dear Committee Members:

The Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities (CRTP) understands that the Humboldt County Public Works Department has applied for Measure Z funding for a traffic signal at the intersection of Oak and F Streets in the Eureka area. We strongly support that application.

Measure Z funding is intended primarily to benefit public safety. This mandate has often been interpreted to mean that funding should support law enforcement and firefighting activities. However, it is critical for the Committee to recognize that traffic safety is also an important form of public safety. In 2019, the most recent year for which statistics are available, 24 people were killed in traffic collisions in Humboldt County, while 10 were victims of homicide—and 3 of the homicides were vehicular manslaughter cases. Humboldt County ranks first in the state for pedestrian injuries and deaths, while Eureka ranks second for pedestrians and fourth overall.

Clearly, there is a traffic safety crisis in our county. Allocating Measure Z funding toward traffic safety improvement is necessary and appropriate, and arguably the most effective investment for improving overall public safety.

Official state records show 11 collisions causing injury occurred at the intersection of Oak and F Streets between 2010 and 2019. Several additional collisions occurred on adjacent road segments. Additionally, 2 near misses and a hazardous condition have been reported on the StreetStory platform.<sup>1</sup> The intersection is heavily used by local residents walking, biking and driving, and by children walking and biking to nearby Grant Elementary School. Many residents report high levels of concern about the safety of the intersection. Members of the Rosewood community along with the Humboldt County Public Works Department have made a strong case that a traffic signal at the intersection of Oak and F Streets will significantly improve safety in that location, and we agree.

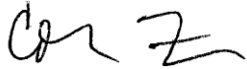
---

<sup>1</sup> <https://streetstory.berkeley.edu/>

We encourage you to approve the request for funding from Humboldt County Public Works for a traffic signal at Oak and F Streets. We also encourage you to allocate a greater proportion of Measure Z funding toward prevention of fatal and serious injury traffic collisions in the future.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Fiske', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Colin Fiske  
Executive Director  
Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities  
[colin@transportationpriorities.org](mailto:colin@transportationpriorities.org)