

March 2017

Mayor Plans More Spending For Vision Zero Projects

The Mayor’s Preliminary Budget for 2018 and Financial Plan through 2021 (January plan) includes additional capital and expense funding for Department of Transportation (DOT) traffic safety projects as part of the Vision Zero initiative. The Vision Zero initiative—a multiagency program launched in 2014 to eliminate traffic fatalities by calendar year 2024—is one of the top priorities of the de Blasio Administration. The January plan includes an additional \$78 million of expense funds in 2017 through 2021 and \$36 million of additional planned capital commitments from 2017 through 2020 (years refer to fiscal years).

While federal funds have been an important source of revenue for Vision Zero projects, the President’s proposed elimination of federal transportation programs such as TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery), which has provided \$35 million for Vision Zero initiatives in the past, and New Starts, does not affect projects planned by the de Blasio Administration this year through 2021.

Additional Expense Budget Funds for Vision Zero. The majority of additional expense funds for Vision Zero in

the January plan are allocated for new pavement safety markings—\$70 million in new funding from 2017 through 2021. As part of the city’s safer street redesign efforts, funds were allocated to allow DOT to complete an additional 15 million linear feet of new markings annually. To ensure that existing markings remain clear and legible funds have also been allocated to accelerate the replacement cycle for worn street markings from the current average of more than six years to an average of four-and-a-half years.

The January plan also included \$2.8 million more for this year through 2021 for improvements at intersections that are part of the city’s bike lane network. The additional funds will provide for improvements at 20 intersections annually. Also added in 2018 through 2021 is \$2.3 million for a new initiative to improve lighting at 1,000 intersections. The initiative is part of an effort to reduce the number of accidents that occur during the evening rush hour in the fall and winter due to poor visibility.

The January plan includes an additional \$1.1 million in 2018 through 2021 for the expansion of DOT’s “left turn traffic calming” initiative. In 2016, DOT introduced a one-

Additional Expense Budget Funds for Vision Zero, 2017-2021						
<i>Dollars in thousands</i>						
	Additional Vision Zero Funds in DOT’s Expense Budget					Total 2017-2021
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Total Pavement Safety Markings	6,938	11,975	14,958	17,137	19,450	70,458
Bike Network Intersection Upgrades	245	690	649	607	607	2,798
Street Light Enhancements	0	636	566	566	566	2,334
Left Turn Traffic Calming	0	325	275	275	275	1,150
Enhanced Street Crossing	66	242	242	242	242	1,034
Total Vision Zero	7,249	13,868	16,690	18,827	21,140	77,774

New York City Independent Budget Office



New York City
Independent Budget Office
Ronnie Lowenstein, Director

110 William St., 14th floor
New York, NY 10038
Tel. (212) 442-0632

Fax (212) 442-0350
iboenews@ibo.nyc.ny.us
www.ibo.nyc.ny.us



