

Transportation Commission
Comments on the City's BerkDOT proposal
04/15/21 final

We as the Berkeley Transportation Commission wish to promote that we are both a Transit First and Vision Zero City.

- We support creating a new BerkDOT
 - Based on successful models like OakDOT, to give priority to all aspects of transportation and to fulfill mandate of being both a Transit First and Vision Zero City
 - Recommend organization approach C to achieve these mandates
 - Recommend racial equity accountability to sit in the new city department requested by City Council, Office of Racial Accountability, and for that office to hold the Director of BerkDOT accountable for racial equity
- Proposal does not meet the intention of the Public Safety Omnibus Reform Act as it does not address the racial equity lens, particularly in regard to traffic enforcement, as well as reducing/eliminating practice of pretextual stops
- There is also a question about who is determining how to focus on safety and who is defining safety. Where does safety from road violence fit in? Who is determining how best to create an environment safe from road violence, which may be different than other types of safety. We recommend that BerkDOT be responsible for defining safety for traffic safety and traffic enforcement or with a partner lead for other types of safety.
- We find it concerning that transferring parking enforcement staff to new BerkDOT will be problematic for racial composition of police department
 - Appears to be about numbers/racial composition and not real change