

**City of Arcata Transportation Safety Committee
Annual Report to Arcata City Council
October 15, 2025**

Current Committee Members:

- Genevieve Serna, Chair
- Korina Johnson, Vice Chair
- Wendy Ring
- Mishka Straka
- Peggy Martinez
- Nia Tikoo

Staff Liaisons:

- Netra Khatri, City Engineer
- David Caisse, Assistant City Engineer
- Todd Dockweiler, Lieutenant, Arcata Police
- Luke Scown, Lieutenant, Arcata Police
- Mara Grow, Administrative Specialist

The Arcata City Council created the Transportation Safety Committee (TSC) following the adoption of Ordinance Number 1292, effective 6/18/99. The Committee's primary function is to review all transportation matters and to make recommendations to Council, Commissions and City staff as appropriate.

Between August 2024 and September 2025, the TSC:

Held 7 scheduled meetings (August, September, November, February, March, July, and September). All meetings took place in person in the City Council Chamber. In total, the effort to prepare, review materials, and attend these meetings equates to approximately 200 hours of combined time from both the volunteer committee members and supporting City staff.

Summary of Work Completed

Public Written and Oral Communication

The Committee served as a forum for residents' concerns, which included:

- Requests for traffic calming (notably on Union Street, 11th & Q, K Street corridor).
- Speeding concerns near schools and along residential corridors.
- Calls for improved pedestrian crossings, including high-visibility crosswalks.
- Bicycle safety issues: need for high color contrast tactile delineators in buffered bike lanes, requests for a bike lane sweeper, and increased bike parking.
- Public input supporting shuttle services (Plaza-Marsh-Redwood Park loop), improved detours in construction zones, and better signage.

The TSC forwarded several recommendations to City of Arcata Engineering Division and discussed strategies such as emphasizing “less car-centric” improvements, installing speed cushions, and daylighting intersections.

Collision Data & Street Story

- Transitioned to in-person Police-led quarterly collision data reporting instead of monthly review.
- Reviewed Arcata Police Department collision reports, noting trends:
 - * Downtown Plaza collisions (bollard strikes, low-speed fender benders)
 - * Bicycle and pedestrian vs. vehicle collisions
- Incorporated Street Story data into safety reviews. A quarterly reporting structure was created, to be compiled annually for Capital Improvement Plan input. At the March 18, 2025 meeting, the Committee created a priority list of recommended areas and improvements that were based on the data analyzed from 2024. The areas were ranked/prioritized based on pedestrian and bicyclist safety with the top areas focusing more on pedestrian safety. The top four were identified:

- 1) Miscellaneous High Visibility Crosswalks and Striping. Some areas to consider include Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy & Union, Union & 17th, 11th & Q, Alliance & Foster, and Alliance & Spear.
- 2) Four-Way Stop Sign at 11th & Q St.
- 3) Janes Rd. & Heindon Rd.
- 4) Giuntoli Ln., from Valley West Blvd. to Boyd Rd.

The Committee reiterated that City Council wants improvements on K St. from Samoa to 11th, but they view it as a separate project.

Current & Planned City Projects

- Old Arcata Road sidewalk and multi-modal improvements discussed.
- South Arcata Multi-Modal Safety Improvements Plan (SAMSIP) presented; RCAA hosted public outreach meeting in August.
- Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) finalized and presented to Council August 2024.
- Updates on 11th & K improvements, Plaza pedestrian safety measures, and curb painting projects.
- Discussion of the Citywide Paid Parking Plan, with subcommittee assistance.

Transit Reports

- Green & Gold bus routes continue to see high ridership, exceeding 80,000 annual trips by mid-2024.
- Increased use by the public, not only Cal Poly Jack Pass holders.

- Suggestions from public: add bus signage indicating route direction, consider shuttle loops, add southbound stops on South G St, and provide child-friendly incentives.

Policy Development & Updates

- Reviewed and discussed AB 43 (20 mph speed limit policy), recommending formation of a subcommittee.
- Considered updates to Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan (2010) – flagged for priority future work.
- Ongoing work on Traffic Calming Policy and Public Education on Bulb-outs.

Community Outreach & Safety Promotion

- Supported safety education campaigns: “Park Your Phone” PSA (revised language and imagery) and “Lighten Up” pedestrian visibility campaign.
- Coordinated with CRTP (Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities) on Street Story engagement.
- Promoted Week Without Driving Challenge, raising awareness of issues faced by people who do not drive.

Goals for Next Year (2025–2026)

1. Recommend and prioritize traffic calming projects (focus on schools, Union Street, K Street corridor, and 11th Street).
2. Continue monitoring collision data and Street Story trends, using findings to support grant applications.
3. Review and update Arcata’s Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan.
4. Support completion of the SAMSIP project and other multi-modal improvements.
5. Expand community outreach with targeted PSAs and event participation.
6. Recommend initiatives to increase transit ridership, particularly non-student users.
7. Support implementation of AB 43 Speed Limit Policy through subcommittee and City Council action.
8. Support implementation of AB 413 Daylighting Intersections.
9. Examine K Street and 11th Street Improvements Plan.
10. Provide input on Sunset and US 101 Interchange Project.