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**NEWS BRIEFS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**City of Fremont Receives National Award for Leadership in Youth Road Safety**

The National Center for Safe Routes to School has named the City of Fremont as the 2020 recipient of the Vision Zero for Youth USA Leadership Award, based on the City's impressive work to protect child and youth pedestrians and significantly reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries for road users of all ages. The award recognizes cities that are leading the way in prioritizing children's safety while also improving pedestrian and bicyclist safety for all ages through Vision Zero.



"As an early adopter of Vision Zero, the city of Fremont has taken impressive steps to integrate a focus on children and youth safety, especially around schools," said Nancy Pullen-Seufert, Director, National Center for Safe Routes to School, University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center. "Through key partnerships and policies, the city has been strategic in implementing data sharing, funding, and engineering, enforcement, and education solutions. We are honored to present the Vision Zero for Youth Leadership Award to a city that is modeling best practices and comprehensive approaches that result in improved safety for youth and all people who walk and bike, as demonstrated by their impressive reduction in major crashes for all ages and specifically among youth."

From 2013 to 2018, major crashes in Fremont were reduced by more than 50 percent. Among youth under 16 years of age, there was a more than 90 percent reduction in major crashes (for youth, from 12 major crashes in 2013-2015 to one in 2016-2018).

Following adoption of its Vision Zero policy, the City of Fremont integrated Safe Routes to School programming and assessed all city schools for ways to improve child safety. Recommendations for improving school area transportation infrastructure and public outreach resulted in "quick build" projects including upgraded crosswalks and new stop signs as well as rectangular rapid flashing beacons and buffered bike lanes that enhance routes to school. "Walk and roll" maps show recommended routes for walking and bicycling to each school. The City of Fremont engages diverse local partners and focuses on equitable access and plans to encourage student-led efforts in walking and biking. Public support for lowering speeds along arterials and near schools has also helped reduce crash frequency and severity in the last five years.

“Keeping our streets safe for everyone, especially the young residents in our community, through carefully planned, evidence-based solutions is an extremely important function of our City,” Fremont Mayor Lily Mei said. “This recognition from the National Center for Safe Routes to Schools further validates the incredible work that our City staff does every day in partnership with Fremont Unified School District to implement school safety improvement projects and traffic education programs.”

The Award is presented by the Vision Zero for Youth initiative, led by the National Center for Safe Routes to School with support from the FIA Foundation, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center, and the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center.

The City will formally receive the award from the National Center for Safe Routes to School on March 3 during its City Council meeting. The City of Fremont will also be featured in a case study highlighting Vision Zero for Youth efforts.

Past Vision Zero for Youth Leadership award recipients include New York City in 2019 and the City of Los Angeles in 2017.

### **City of Fremont Seeks GIS Startup Partner for STiR 2020 Program**

The City of Fremont will again be participating in Startup in Residence (STiR), a 16-week program that connects government agencies with startups to co-create new technology solutions that address civic challenges in a sustainable way.



This year, the Fremont ITS Department’s GIS Division is seeking a startup that will partner with the City to develop three ArcGIS online interactive mapping tools referred to as “Story Maps.” “Story Maps” is an ArcGIS Esri-supported application tool that combines authoritative maps with narrative text, images, and multimedia content to create compelling, user-friendly web apps.

These maps of the City Council Districts, Parks and Recreation Services and Locations, and Landmarks and Historical Locations in the City of Fremont will provide website visitors with more accessible and mobile-friendly information about the City’s services, resources, and history.

Interested startups can find more information and requirements in the Request for Proposals located at [www.Fremont.gov/OpenProjects](http://www.Fremont.gov/OpenProjects). Proposals are due by February 18 at 2 p.m. If selected, the 16-week STiR residency will begin March 2020.

### **Financial Help for Street Tree Pruning, Removal, Replacement, and Sidewalk Repairs**

The City of Fremont offers a 50-50 Street Tree Program that provides financial help to property owners to care for their street trees. Street tree pruning and removal and replacement are eligible services.

If the street tree has caused sidewalk damage, property owners may be eligible for financial help for sidewalk repair and replacement through the 50-50 Sidewalk Program.



## **Eligibility**

To be eligible for the 50-50 program and receive funds:

- You must be a property owner (commercial or residential)
- Select a contractor approved by the City [www.Fremont.gov/TreeContractor](http://www.Fremont.gov/TreeContractor)
- Get and be pre-approved for a free tree permit
- Complete tree care or sidewalk repairs according to industry best practices and in accordance with permit instructions

## **Reimbursement**

The property owner will apply for reimbursement online after completion of the work.

- Tree assistance covers up to 50% of the cost of street tree pruning, or removal and replacement up to a maximum contribution of \$750 per tree and up to two trees per property.
- Sidewalk assistance covers up to 50% of the cost of repair to a maximum of \$1,500 per property.
- If fixing your sidewalk involves pruning or removing and replacing a tree, the property owner may also apply for the 50-50 Street Tree Program simultaneously.

For more information about trees, sidewalks, permits, news, events, volunteering, and the Urban Forest Management Plan, visit [www.Fremont.gov/Trees](http://www.Fremont.gov/Trees) or call 510-494-4730.

## **Age-Friendly Community Engagement Resource Fairs**

The City of Fremont Human Services Department is hosting free Community Engagement and Resource Fairs to educate participants about available resources for adults 55+ and their families, including Ride-On Tri-City! transportation services, health and wellness services, benefit eligibility, learning opportunities, housing, dementia specific support, civic engagement, emergency preparedness, and more. The three fairs will be held at the following times and locations:



### **Wednesday, February 19, 2020**

**9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Cottonwood Place

3701 Peralta Blvd., Fremont

### **Wednesday, March 18, 2020**

**9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Warm Springs Community Center

47300 Fernald St., Fremont

### **Wednesday, April 29, 2020**

**9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Fremont Senior Center (at Lake Elizabeth)

40086 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Fremont

For more information contact the Human Services Department at 510-574-2050 or send an email to [AFS@fremont.gov](mailto:AFS@fremont.gov).

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