Meet Los Angeles

Advancing Transportation Advocacy via Language Access

LADOT’s Spanish Glossary of Transportation Terms

A Safety and Engagement Toolkit

In the majority of Los Angeles communities, high quality and inclusive community engagement must be conducted in English and Spanish. This project creates LADOT’s first Spanish glossary with over 200 transportation planning and community engagement terms to improve and standardize LADOT’s Spanish language communication, as well as empower Spanish speaking communities to advocate for transportation improvements. We expect this glossary to be a living document that will be updated as we receive feedback from communities and as our toolkit evolves.

Many people participated in the development of this first edition. Our staff received thoughtful feedback from a handful of dedicated professionals who work in transportation planning and advocacy. We also received detailed comments from thirty-two Spanish-speaking community members under the leadership of community advocacy group, Los Angeles Walks. These participants have shaped and greatly enhanced the LADOT Spanish Glossary and we thank them for their participation.

Why a Safety and Engagement Toolkit?

The Glossary is intended to be used as a tool to help both agencies and community members advocate for transportation improvements and therefore includes transportation terms as well as terms commonly used throughout the community engagement process. Sample topics are outlined below:

Safety Toolkit

• Street Users and Modes of Transit
• Understanding Traffic and Reimagining Priorities
• Parts of the Street/Street Elements
• Calming Speeds for Safer Streets
• Safe Streets for People Walking and Biking
• Bus-Friendly Streets
• Traffic Signals
• Street Materials

Community Engagement Toolkit

• Organizing in Your Neighborhood
• Local Government
• Outreach Methods
• Steps to Implement a Transportation Project