

To our friends who have been working with us to improve safety in the Fruitridge Road:

We are sadly reminded today of the challenge pedestrians and bicyclists face on our streets. Last night, Sunday, November 11, a 61 year old woman riding her bicycle was fatally struck and killed by a truck near the intersection of Stockton Blvd and Lawrence Drive, which is just one block north of Fruitridge Road.

- Here is the police news release:
http://www.sacpd.org/newsroom/releases/liveview.aspx?release_id=20121111-155

Our hearts and minds go out to the friends and family of the victim.

The Fruitridge and Stockton Boulevard intersection has been called “the most dangerous in the city” for pedestrians and bicyclists by Sacramento City transportation staff. At our July 11 community forum to review recommendations for improving the area, community members made reducing speed on Stockton Blvd one of the highest priorities. Yesterday’s tragic event re-affirmed this decision. High speeds leave drivers too little time to adjust when something unexpected happens.

Progress is being made. WALKSacramento is pleased to report that the City Department of Public Works (DPW), in response to the work conducted with community members in June and July of this year, recently installed the following at the Stockton / Fruitridge intersection:

- **Pedestrian countdown signals:**
Read [here](#) for the benefits of pedestrian countdown signals, and
- **Advance lines at all crosswalks on all four sides of the intersection:**
This is a line drawn behind the crosswalk to inform drivers not to stop right at or inside the crosswalk, allowing pedestrians a safer walk across the street.

These are things that DPW can do fast, and they did. **We thank them for their response.**

More needs to be done. WALKSacramento is working with the Sacramento Tree Foundation on a plan to provide shade trees in the area. The trees not only provide relief from the Sacramento sun but can encourage slower driving speeds by giving drivers the sense that that road is narrower. In contrast, Stockton Boulevard now appears very wide to drivers, because of the openness and the large parking lots between Lawrence Drive and Fruitridge Road. This sense of wide open space encourages fast driving. To bring about road improvements, WALKSacramento is working with the DPW on a list of potential actions along Stockton Blvd and Fruitridge Road.

- Read the full Fruitridge Pedestrian Safety Review [here](#).

We are encouraged by the strong community response to the Fruitridge pedestrian safety project and look forward to working with everyone to keep moving forward. If you have any questions or input, please contact Terry Preston, Complete Streets Coordinator, WALKSacramento, at tpreston@walksacramento.org; or Teri Duarte, Executive Director, at tduarte@walksacramento.org. You can reach either of us by phone at 916-446-9255.

Thanks!!

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