Empowering Communities through Walk Audits: King Road Complete Street Plan

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In a powerful display of community engagement and collaboration in East San Jose, 20 members of the Tropicana-Lanai neighborhood association came together to conduct a recent walk audit of safety issues along King Road.

A walk audit is an assessment of a street, intersection or neighborhood's safety and walkability. Joined by transportation planners and City Council District 5 representatives, this group's mission was to advocate for safer streets in their neighborhood. The King Road Complete Street Plan is set to transform this corridor into a safer, more accessible space, addressing the long-standing issue of road safety in the area.

The initiative started after <u>an infant was killed along King Road</u> this past summer, when a driver struck a mother and two children crossing the street.

A community comes together to improve street safety

For many years, King Road has been a <u>Vision Zero corridor</u>, marked by numerous tragic fatalities. Neighbors were shocked and devastated to see yet another life taken by traffic. Residents around the area, led by neighborhood association president Victoria Partida, recognize the urgent need for change as they experience challenges navigating the roads to enter their neighborhood on a daily basis. Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition activists saw a need to support residents through involvement in the process of the Complete Street Plan process, including a walk audit.

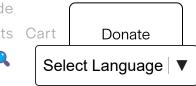
"The walk audit allowed city planners who are making the plans to actually see the community which they are planning for," said Victoria Partida.



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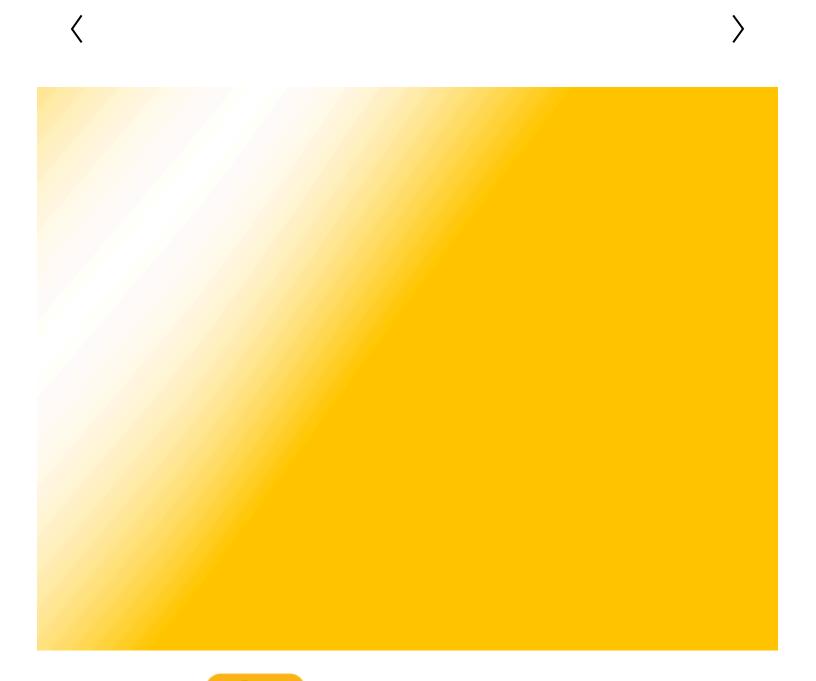
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