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LADOT Announces Mitigation Measures to Make Baxter Street Safer

Los Angeles, CA (May 18, 2018)

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) will implement changes to make one of the steepest roads in Los Angeles safer.

Baxter Street is a narrow road on a 33 percent grade, and in recent years has experienced increased vehicular volume. There have also been many crashes and instances of property damage reported. All these factors contributed to a major safety concern for residents, emergency vehicle access, and those using the roadway.

To improve the safe operation of Baxter Street, LADOT will implement the following improvements (please see accompanying diagram):

- **Baxter Street** between Allesandro Street and North Alvarado Street will be converted to a one-way street in the westbound direction.
- **Baxter Street** between North Alvarado Street and Lake Shore Avenue will be converted to a one-way street in the eastbound direction.
- **Fargo Street** between Allesandro Street and North Alvarado Street will also be converted to a one-way street going westbound.
- **Cove Avenue** between Cerro Gordo Street and Lake Shore Avenue will also be converted to a one-way street going eastbound.
- Two stop signs will be added to Lake Shore Avenue at Baxter Street, making the intersection a four-way stop.
- Advance signage and markings will be utilized to direct motorists.
- In addition to the one-way conversion, **right turns will be restricted** from Alvarado Street onto Baxter Street between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Residents can expect to see **temporary no parking signs** in the area as a safety precaution as signs are being installed as early as 8 a.m. Tuesday May 22.

Councilmember O’Farrell has been working with residents on a solution and recently partnered with LADOT to organize two community meetings to obtain input from the local residents on the issue.

“I share in the frustration of residents with drivers utilizing narrow, hillside residential streets for cut-through traffic, especially one as steep as Baxter,” said Councilmember O’Farrell. “I want to thank LADOT for working with my office and residents on a solution, and I ask for your patience as we implement these changes and grow accustomed to them.”

LADOT will share the updated information and changes in sign restrictions to navigation systems.
Councilmember O’Farrell’s office is working with the Los Angeles Police Department Traffic Enforcement to increase patrols in the area to enforce the new restrictions. LADOT will continue to monitor the safety adjustments and will have traffic officers to help motorists navigate the new street movement patterns.

PHOTO/VIDEO OPPORTUNITY: The new signs will be installed next week beginning as early as 8 a.m. Tuesday. Councilmember O’Farrell and LADOT engineers will be available on-site at the intersection of Baxter Street and North Alvarado Street 1 p.m. Thursday, May 24 for questions.

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About LADOT

LADOT leads transportation planning, project delivery, and operations in the City of Los Angeles. We work together and collaborate to deliver a safe, livable, and well-run transportation system in the city and region. Our vision is for all people in Los Angeles to have access to safe and affordable transportation choices that treat everyone with dignity and support vibrant, inclusive communities.