JANE KIM

Supervisor Jane Kim's Statement on 14th Pedestrian Fatality of 2014

"This morning, the pedestrian safety crisis hit home at City Hall's door step. One of our colleagues was hit and killed by a Classic Cable Car motorized trolley while in the crosswalk at Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place. This is another senseless death and deeply painful tragedy that could have been avoided.

SFPD has confirmed that the driver was driving while distracted, and we know that a thorough investigation is being conducted to discern whether there are grounds for prosecution. In addition to supporting the City's enforcement efforts as a part of our commitment to Vision Zero, I am also asking SFMTA to look into ways that this dangerous stretch of Polk Street can be re-engineered.

The Polk Street Improvement Project does not address the block in front of City Hall, which yields heavy pedestrian traffic as constituents, workers and tourists alike travel to and from this historic building. I know that SFMTA is planning a pedestrian signal at the crosswalk, and I am asking them to consider prioritizing this ahead of their scheduled implementation date of summer 2015.

I have long been a supporter of the elements of the Polk Street Improvement Project that slow down car traffic and prioritize pedestrians and cyclists along this high-injury corridor. These safety improvements shouldn't stop at McAllister Street, but should extend into the heart of our Civic Center Plaza area. The central tenant of the project is a proposed road diet just north of McAllister Street, helping to calm traffic and improve safety. We should absolutely take this opportunity to apply this smart design to Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place – it could save a life.

My deep condolences go out to the family of our City Hall colleague. We are all grieving the loss of another friend, relative and co-worker."

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