

# Changing Lanes

A Gender-Equity Transportation Study  
& LADOT's Gender Equity Action Plan

<https://ladot.lacity.org/changinglanes>

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of Transportation



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a gender-equity  
transportation study

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*Changing Lanes* is a study commissioned by LADOT to advance our efforts to achieve a gender-equitable transportation system.

Launched in 2019, LADOT released the final report in July 2021.

<https://ladot.lacity.org/changinglanes>

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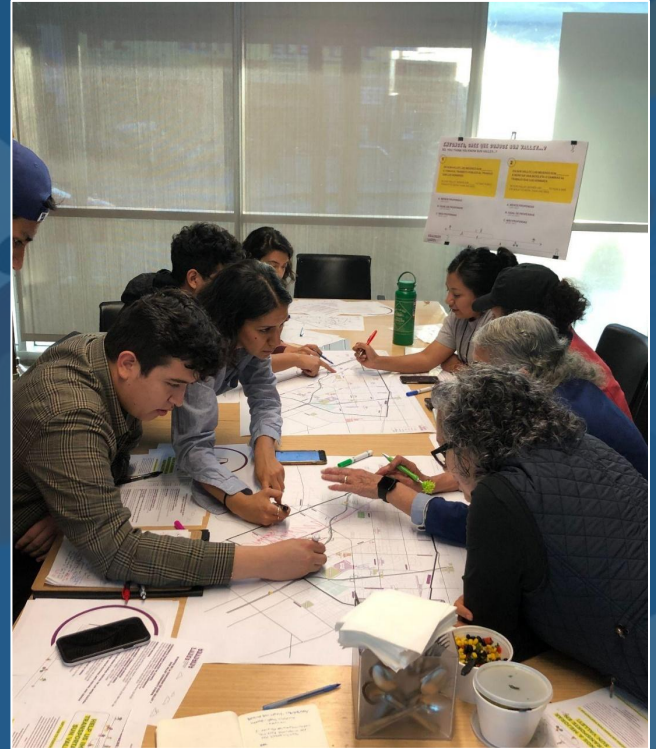
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# Why Does Gender-Equitable Mobility Matter?

- Mobility = opportunity.
- Disparity in transportation access creates an opportunity gap.
- Building gender-equitable systems supports economic development, racial justice, and community health and resiliency.



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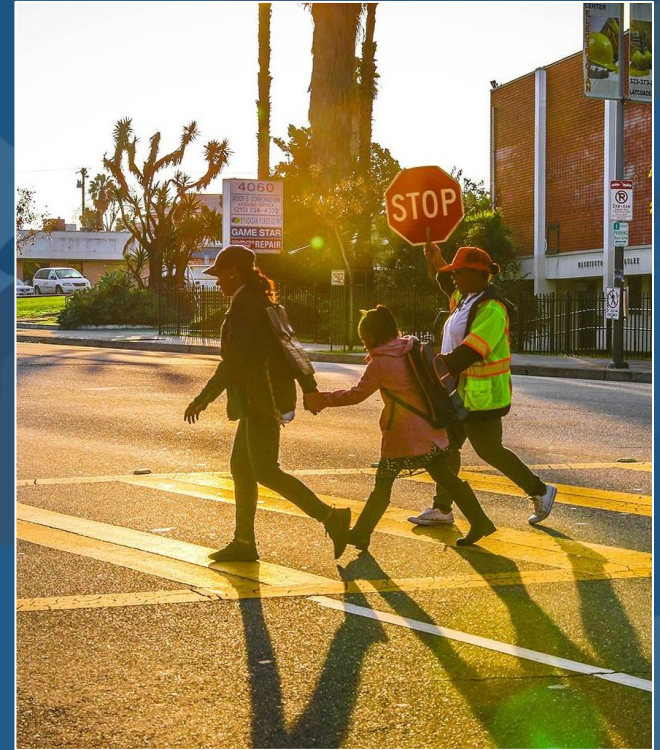
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# Changing Lanes Study Goals

1. Understand specific gaps in our city's services and systems
2. Develop local solutions to address local barriers
3. Add to the empirical research to build the case for policy change with data
4. Fills gaps in existing data



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IDENTIFY  
NEIGHBORHOODS

01



02

IDENTIFY  
NEEDS &  
SOLUTIONS



TEST &  
MEASURE

03



04

SCALE

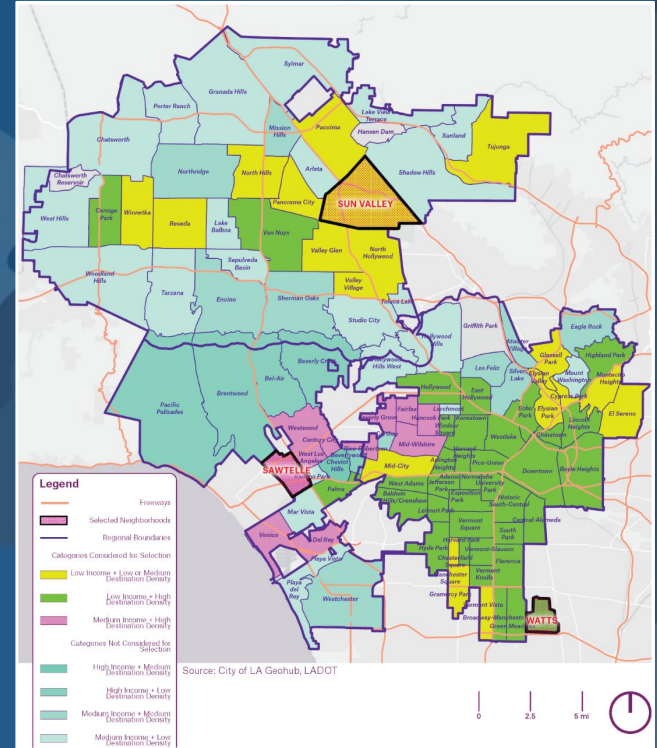


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# Study Neighborhoods

- Sun Valley (San Fernando Valley)
  - Low Income + Low/Medium Destination Density
- Watts (South Los Angeles)
  - Low Income + High Destination Density
- Sawtelle (West Los Angeles)
  - Medium Income + High Destination Density



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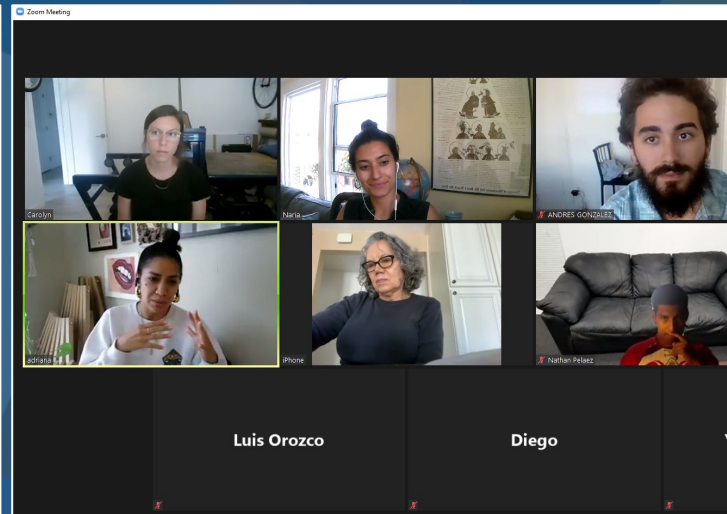
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# Data & Research Methods



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# GET PAID TO SHARE!

**Do you live in Watts?  
Share your experience getting around  
your neighborhood!**



Take a 10 minute survey to help the LA Department of Transportation (LADOT) understand how to make getting around your neighborhood safer and more efficient.

**Take the survey at [tinyurl.com/ChangingLanesWCLO](https://tinyurl.com/ChangingLanesWCLO)**

First 1,500 participants will receive a \$5 e-gift card and be entered into a \$100 weekly raffle. One gift card per person.

Text **SURVEY** to 213-245-1445 to take the survey over the phone. Questions? Email [ChangingLanes@kounkuy.org](mailto:ChangingLanes@kounkuy.org)



# ¡GANE DINERO POR COMPARTIR!

**¿Vive en Watts?  
¡Comparta sus experiencias en como  
se mueve por el vecindario!**



Tome una encuesta de diez minutos para ayudar al Departamento de Transportación de Los Angeles (LADOT) a entender cómo hacer que usted se movilice dentro de su vecindario de una manera más segura y eficaz.

**Tome la encuesta aquí [tinyurl.com/ChangingLanesWCLO](https://tinyurl.com/ChangingLanesWCLO)**

Los primeros 1500 participantes tendrán la oportunidad de recibir una tarjeta electrónica de regalo de \$5 y ser parte de una rifa semanal de \$100. Una tarjeta de regalo por persona.

Envíe **SURVEY** al 213-245-1445 para tomar la encuesta por teléfono. ¿Preguntas? Envíe un correo electrónico a [ChangingLanes@kounkuy.org](mailto:ChangingLanes@kounkuy.org)



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# Study Findings: Gender Disparities

*In all study neighborhoods, women are...*

- More likely to spend more time traveling to access basic needs
- More likely to use multiple travel modes in one day
- Less likely to use active modes, including shared micro-mobility
- More likely to experience safety barriers to travel

*"I'm scared to be out at night. [The bus] only passes once every hour. I try to catch it before it gets dark, because I'm scared to go out at night."  
(Female Sun Valley resident)*



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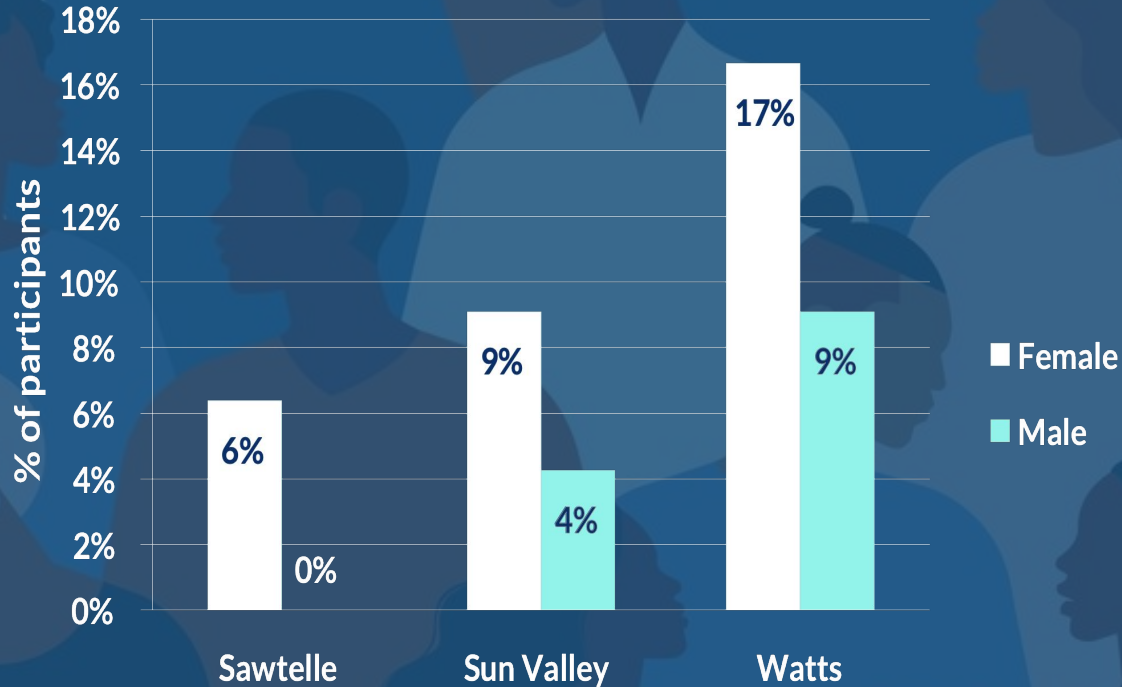
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# Study Findings: Gender Disparities

Women are more likely to take longer trips for basic errands

Grocery store  
travel time over  
45 minutes



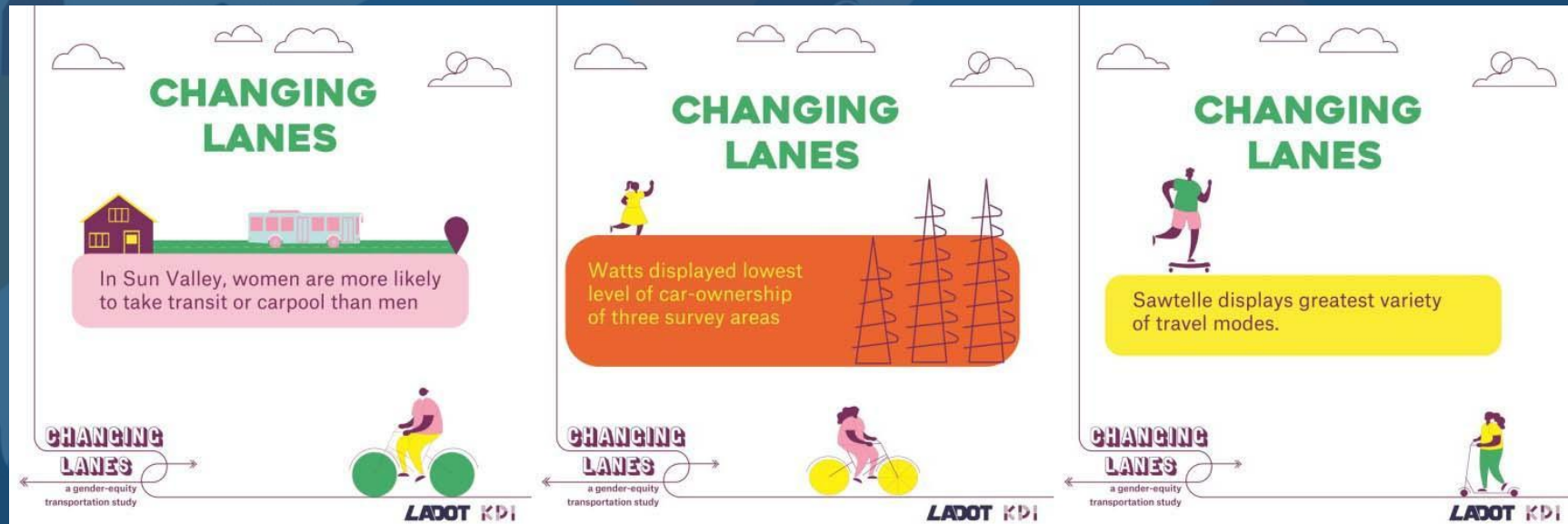
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# Study Findings: Neighborhood Differences



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# Study Findings: Neighborhood Disparities

*In low-income LA neighborhoods, women are...*

- Less able to overcome transportation barriers than their counterparts in higher-income neighborhoods
- Less likely than men to have access to a smartphone, internet, or driver's license
- Likely to use fewer modes of transportation than women in higher-income neighborhoods
- More likely to report transportation as a barrier to recreation

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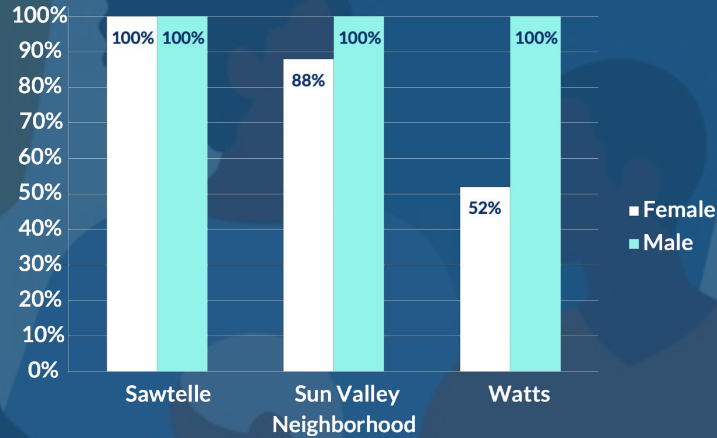
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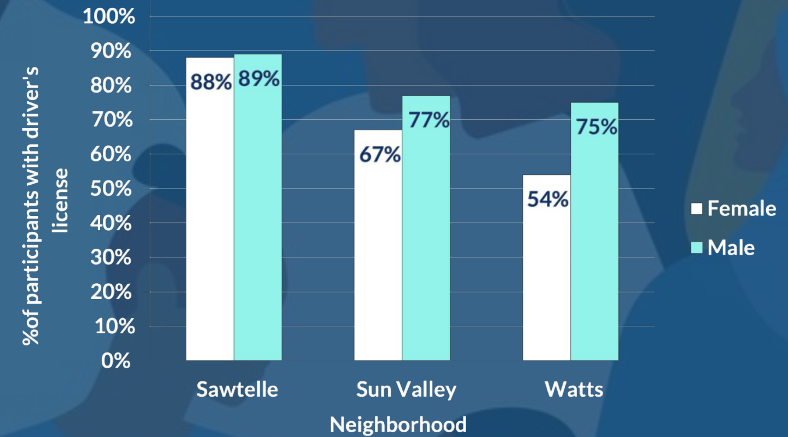
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# Study Findings: Information & Access Barriers

## Do you have a smartphone?



## Do you have a driver's license?



*"Sometimes there isn't sufficient information to make the trip, especially on public transportation"*  
(Female Sun Valley participant)



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# Study Findings: Understanding Experiences

*“There is a new market that sells fruits and veggies cheaper, but it is further away and the transportation system doesn’t go there. On my bike, I can’t carry all the things and I can’t always wait for my husband to come home to get a ride.” (Female Watts participant)*

*“Women have much more responsibility in the household... Women always have to move more – they have to go to grocery stores, doctor visits, they have to do more. I can’t drive so I have to take the bus.”*

*(Female Sun Valley participant)*



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## What kinds of trips do you not take because travel is too difficult?

*“To a spiritual organization—it takes an hour to get there so I don’t go”*

*“I would like to visit my family members”*

*“I’d like to go the beach, but it’s too far”*

*“I don’t visit my sons because I can’t drive”*

*“To beaches, the zoo, and the mountains”*



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# Key Takeaways: What Does This Mean for Los Angeles?

- Overall, our transportation systems need to better support the needs of women and their families
- Gender outcomes are intersectional: geographic, gender, and racial disparities in mobility reinforce one another.
- These failures are especially pronounced, and the outcomes most limiting, for BIPOC women.



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# Recommendations: Strategies to Highlight

- Establish **design guidelines** to ensure infrastructure serves women
- Provide **free transfers & cash support programs** for seamless travel
- Consider **innovative partnerships**: with Public Works and Transit Agencies, but also with CBOs, schools, housing and service providers
- **Reduce barriers presented by technology** by expanding access and prioritizing inclusivity in digital services (and provide analog options)
- Hire women community members



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# Creating an Agency Framework: Gender Equity Action Plan for LADOT

## Changing Lanes Study

*External data project*

*Helps us understand  
transportation impacts &  
barriers*



## Gender Equity Action Plan

*Internal strategic framework*

*Establishes roadmap for  
addressing barriers*

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# Gender Equity Action Plan for LADOT

1. Gender Audit of Programs
2. City Agency Working Group
3. Pilot Projects to test + iterate
4. Final Action Plan (2023)



# Thank You!

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