

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is a strategy designed to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero acknowledges that traffic accidents resulting in death or serious injury are largely preventable and that many factors contribute to safe mobility, including roadway design, speeds, behaviors, technology, and policies; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero establishes clear strategies to achieve zero traffic fatalities and severe injuries; and

WHEREAS, one death on our streets is one too many; and

WHEREAS, Smart Growth America's Dangerous By Design 2022 report ranked the City of El Paso (the "City") as the 18th most dangerous metropolitan area for pedestrians in the United States; and

WHEREAS, older adults and people walking in low-income neighborhoods are disproportionately impacted by fatal and serious collisions; and

WHEREAS, equity is an integral component of Vision Zero with strategies such as prioritizing safety improvements in historically underserved areas and conducting robust engagement programs to reach the most vulnerable on the roadways; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero aligns with the City's Comprehensive Plan, Strategic Plan, Bike Plan, and Complete Streets Policy by prioritizing our most vulnerable roadway users and encouraging balance among all users of the City's transportation network; and

WHEREAS, to implement Vision Zero policies, the City must have a multi-faceted approach that brings together government, advocacy, and private sector actors and fully engages the public; and

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2022, the El Paso City Council approved a Professional Services Agreement with a consultant ("Agreement") to assist the City in implementing its Vision Zero Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Agreement, the consultant will assist in implementing the City's Vision Zero Action Plan by completing work to include the following:

- a. Developing a Vision Zero Action Plan summarizing specific changes to policies, standards, procedures, guides, and ordinances to reduce speeding, reduce collisions, and move the City towards zero fatalities and serious injuries;
- b. Conducting a comprehensive community engagement process to inform the development of the City's Vision Zero Action Plan;
- c. Analyzing data to identify locations where investments in safety are most urgent;

- d. Developing measurable goals with clear timelines for implementation;
- e. Developing a public website to share data and providing routine updates to City Council.

WHEREAS, the City joins other leading cities around the State of Texas, the nation, and the globe in their commitment to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries - work that has demonstrated success when coupled with adequate funding and staffing levels for its implementation.

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration and United States Department of Transportation have made a commitment to eliminating fatalities and serious injuries on the nation's roadways using a data-driven, interdisciplinary approach in line with Vision Zero.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

1. That the City Council hereby endorses the Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries on City of El Paso streets, with an emphasis on protecting the most vulnerable users of our transportation systems.
2. That the City Manager shall direct Capital Improvement Department staff to provide annual reports to Council on the implementation of the Vision Zero Action Plan, such annual reports being due to Council by December 15 of each year.
3. That the City Manager, or designee, shall establish a Vision Zero Task Force comprised of external stakeholders and representatives from relevant City departments to be engaged in supporting the development and implementation of a comprehensive Vision Zero Action Plan.

APPROVED this 13th day of September, 2022.



ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

CITY OF EL PASO:

Oscar Leeser
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Roberta Brito
Roberta Brito
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Yvette Hernandez
Yvette Hernandez, P.E.
City Engineer