

RESOLUTION TO ADVANCE A VISION ZERO INITIATIVE

WHEREAS the Town of Carrboro is responsible for providing reasonable protections for the public health and safety of its residents, including access to reasonably safe streets, sidewalks, and transportation; and

WHEREAS, Town streets should be maintained in a reasonably safe condition for use by the public; and

WHEREAS, each year, more than 40,000 lives are needlessly lost on American streets, and thousands more are injured; and

WHEREAS, the number of people struck and killed by drivers nationwide while walking increased by 45% over the last decade; and

WHEREAS, older adults, children, people of color, people with disabilities, and people walking in low-income communities are disproportionately represented in fatal crashes; even after accounting for population sizes and walking rate differences; and

WHEREAS, bicyclists and pedestrians face a disproportionate risk of traffic injuries with fatalities and between 2019 and 2023, 1 person died, 2 people suffered serious injuries, and 30 people experienced minor injuries while walking or biking in Carrboro; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero strategy focuses on uniting stakeholders across disciplines and throughout communities in a data-driven and Safe Systems approach to reduce and eventually eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries and provide safe, equitable, and healthy mobility for all; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Carrboro that the Town of Carrboro hereby adopts a goal of eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2030 and endorses Vision Zero as a comprehensive and holistic approach to achieving this goal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town's Vision Zero efforts will work to account for historical inequities related to pedestrian and bicyclist safety and to ensure reasonably complete and safe streets for all.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council of the Town of Carrboro hereby requests that the Town Manager organize a Vision Zero staff group to develop a Vision Zero plan and associated implementation strategies as outlined in the Town of Carrboro 2022-2042 Comprehensive Plan, including regulatory and funding mechanisms to reach a goal of zero deaths and serious injuries by 2030 in partnership with community members, institutions, community-based organizations and entities, agencies and our local government neighbors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Carrboro will establish and monitor interim targets in the reduction of traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2025

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, nothing contain herein shall be construed to waive the Town's sovereign immunity, nor shall it be construed to assume duties or obligations pertaining to its rights-of-way beyond those imposed by federal, state, or local law.

ADOPTED, this the 29th day of November in the year 2023.