

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Austin has experienced 634 traffic fatalities since 2004; and

WHEREAS, pedestrians account for approximately one-third of all traffic fatalities; and

WHEREAS, City of Austin recently adopted a Complete Streets Policy, Ordinance 20140612-119, with a major focus on safety for all road users; and

WHEREAS, streets are the public realm and should be designed to a higher standard as beautiful, safe and comfortable places for all people, in order to equitably support the common good and the Imagine Austin Vision statement: “Austin Values and Respects its People”; and

WHEREAS, multiple initiatives and events have focused on the need for improvements to traffic safety, including: Distracted Driving Ordinance, City of Austin “Safe Walk Safe Bike” Initiative, 3 Foot Passing Law to protect bicyclists, Community Healthy Improvement Plan, Austin Walkability Summit, Traffic Safety Symposium, 2012 Traffic Fatality Report, Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, among others; and

WHEREAS, no city plan comprehensively addresses the multifaceted nature of traffic safety for Austin and the 2012 Traffic Fatality Report specifically recommends development of a Consolidated Mobility Safety Plan for the city; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero or similar initiatives have been adopted or are being developed by multiple U.S. cities and States, including: New York, San Francisco, Chicago, Miami, and Los Angeles and 38 states; and

WHEREAS, multiple boards and commissions, departments and community organizations support the creation of a Vision Zero Task Force, including: AARP, ADA Access and Sidewalk Task Force, ATX Safer Streets, Austin Fire Department, Austin Police Department, Bicycle Advisory Council, Bike Austin, Capital Metro, Crossroads Coalition, Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities, Planning and Development Review Department, Urban Transportation Commission, and WalkAustin; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero aims to achieve zero fatalities and zero serious injuries in the roadway, and has successfully reduced fatalities and serious injuries in cities where it has been implemented; and;

WHEREAS, the Pedestrian Advisory Council has led the effort to establish Vision Zero for Austin and has already performed significant research and has established strong community interest and support for Vision Zero; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to create a Vision Zero Task Force. The Task Force should include a broad and diverse stakeholder community to ensure the breadth of traffic safety issues is addressed. The City Manager shall report on this policy, along with any recommendations, to Council by November 1, 2015.

ADOPTED: _____, 2014

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk