Subject:
A Resolution supporting a Vision Zero Plan to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries

Summary:
The Central Florida region has been ranked by Smart Growth America as one of the top five most dangerous places in the nation for people to walk and bike, according to their latest “Dangerous by Design” report. From 2012 to 2016, the City of Orlando had a total of 607 pedestrian and 605 bicyclist crashes, which averages 121.4 pedestrian and 121 bicycle crashes per year. In terms of fatalities over the past five years the City of Orlando averages 6.6 people per year in pedestrian and 1.6 in bicyclist related deaths. Having a bicycle and pedestrian crash occur, on average, once every three days for five years shows that the transportation network we have created is not providing our community with a safe and sustainable future. The Transportation Department believes that these crashes and fatalities can be mitigated by refocusing our efforts to address the safety of all transportation network users.

Over the past several years the City of Orlando has moved toward creating a safer transportation network by adopting complete streets policies, filling in sidewalk gaps, funding and participating in the Best Foot Forward program, and focusing on the more vulnerable users of the network. In addition to these efforts the City has increased the off-street trail network and improved the visibility of bicyclist infrastructure through pavement marking and physical separation. Even with these efforts there is still need to have a collaborative and cohesive plan in order to reduce crashes and fatalities within the City of Orlando.

In order to continue to bring transportation safety to the forefront, the Transportation Department is requesting the City Council approve a resolution supporting a Vision Zero Plan for our community. According to the non-profit group Vision Zero Network, the concept of Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all. The Vision Zero concept establishes timelines and a commitment to ensure the basic right of safety for all people as they move about their communities. The Vision Zero Network further list components of a strong Vision Zero commitment and plan, which include having a data driven systems based approach; a multi-disciplinary team; transparent, community-wide engagement; and equitable outcomes. The City of Orlando’s goal for Vision Zero is to consistently reduce each year the number of crashes resulting in severe injury and fatality until we reach the ultimate goal of no deaths.
Fiscal & Efficiency Data: See attached fiscal impact statement.

Recommended Action:
Approval of the attached Resolution and authorization for the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney's Office.

Agenda Item attachment(s) on file in the City Clerks Office.

Note: All agenda items must be in the City Clerk's office by Noon Friday, six (6) business days prior to the regular Monday City Council meeting.

Contact: Billy Hattaway, P.E., F.J. Flynn, AICP, Ian Sikonia, AICP

Approved By:

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ATTACHMENTS:

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"Enhance the quality of life in the City by delivering public services in a knowledgeable responsive and financially responsible manner."
RESOLUTION NO. 17-11-150

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CITY OF ORLANDO’S VISION ZERO PLAN TO ELIMINATE ALL TRAFFIC-RELATED FATALITIES AND SERIOUS INJURIES BY 2040

WHEREAS, traffic crashes are among the leading cause of death and injury within the United States, State of Florida, and the City of Orlando; and

WHEREAS, death and injury on our streets is unacceptable and serious crashes can be preventable; and

WHEREAS, traffic deaths and serious injuries in the United States have disproportionately impacted pedestrians, cyclists, people of color, low-income households, older adults and youth, people with disabilities, and households with limited vehicle access; and

WHEREAS, from 2012 to 2016 the City of Orlando had a total of 607 pedestrian and 605 bicycle crashes, which averages out to having one bicycle and one pedestrian crash occur every three days for the past five years in the City of Orlando; and

WHEREAS, the Central Florida region has consistently ranked in the top five in terms of dangerous places to walk and bike according to Smart Growth America’s 2011, 2014, and 2016 Dangerous By Design Reports; and

WHEREAS, the City is hereby recognizing that these crash statistics are not acceptable for citizens, commuters, and tourists who live, work and play in the City of Orlando; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that if these crash trends continue for the foreseeable future, they would put into jeopardy the future growth of the residential population and employment base, and our reputation as a desirable city for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the City will hereby commit to decreasing these crash statistics by endorsing Vision Zero, which is a safe systems approach and strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando will create a Vision Zero action plan that focuses on safety as a primary objective in designing transportation projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Orlando, Florida, that:

SECTION 1. The City of Orlando hereby adopts a goal of eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2040; and endorses Vision Zero as a comprehensive and collaborative approach that involves all City departments in order to achieve this goal.
SECTION 2. The City Council directs the Transportation Department to create a Vision Zero Action Plan for future consideration by the Council, based upon a comprehensive analysis of traffic deaths and injuries in the City of Orlando.

SECTION 3. The City Council directs the Transportation Department to ensure the Vision Zero Action Plan addresses traffic deaths and serious injuries through a combination of engineering, enforcement, education, and evaluation.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.


ATTEST:

By: Denise Aldridge
   City Clerk

CITY OF ORLANDO, FLORIDA, a municipal corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida

By: Mayor / Mayor Pro Tem

Date: 12-14-17

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY for the use and reliance of the City of Orlando, Florida only.

12/19, 2017

Chief Assistant City Attorney
Orlando, Florida