

INTRODUCED: 7/8/2024

REFERRED TO: Public Works Committee

SPONSOR: Councilors Barth, Nielsen, Jones, Evans, Delaney, J. Brown, Cahill, Allen, Gibson and Carlino

DIGEST: establishes the commitment of the City and County to eliminate traffic injuries and fatalities; establishes a Vision Zero Task Force; and commits to developing, adopting and implementing a Vision Zero Action Plan

---

SOURCE:

Initiated by: Councilors Barth and Nielsen

Drafted by: LeAnnette Pierce, General Counsel

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADOPTION:

Subject to approval or veto by Mayor

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE:

Adoption and approvals

GENERAL COUNSEL APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: July 3, 2024

---

CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. , 2024

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL RESOLUTION (1) establishing the commitment of the Consolidated City of Indianapolis and Marion County to eliminating traffic injuries and fatalities, and (2) establishing a Vision Zero Task Force, and (3) developing, adopting and implementing a Vision Zero Action Plan.

WHEREAS, the council recognizes that the life, health, and safety of all people living and traveling within the Consolidated City of Indianapolis – Marion County (City) are our utmost priority, and no one should die or be seriously injured while traversing our City streets; and

WHEREAS, the City's transportation infrastructure serves an increasing number of vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, bicyclists, first responders, and construction workers;

WHEREAS, children, older adults, people of color, people with disabilities, people who are unhoused, and people with low income face a significantly disproportionate risk of traffic injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, elected and appointed leadership of the City is committed to eliminating all fatal and serious injury crashes on city streets and roads by 2035; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is the concept that traffic deaths and serious injuries on our roadways are unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is a holistic strategy aimed at eliminating all traffic fatalities and severe injuries suffered by all road users while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, streets and transportation systems have traditionally been designed primarily to move cars efficiently, and Vision Zero supports a paradigm shift by recommending street designs and transportation systems that move all people safely, including people of all ages and abilities, pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit users, scooter riders, and motorcyclists, as well as drivers and passengers of motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero recognizes that people will sometimes make mistakes, so the road system and related policies should be designed to ensure that those inevitable mistakes do not result in severe

injuries or fatalities; therefore, transportation planners and engineers and policymakers are expected to improve the roadway environment, policies, and other related systems to lessen the severity of crashes; and

WHEREAS, successful Vision Zero programs are a result of both a complete government approach (i.e., interdepartmental, coordinated initiatives) and community support of Vision Zero objectives and action plans; and

WHEREAS, many cities around the United States and the world have adopted Vision Zero as an approach to mitigating roadway deaths and severe injuries and have documented subsequent reductions; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero will expand the efforts of the City's Fatal Crash Review team, which is charged with reviewing vehicle crashes occurring within the Consolidated City that result in serious injury or death and making a written report to the mayor, the chief of police and the director of public works recommending roadway design changes, improved traffic controls, or other improvements or mitigation measures that the team determines are advisable and feasible to implement in order to improve the safety of all users of that street or highway; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero will complement the City's adopted Complete Streets Policy, which directs the development of a safe, reliable, efficient, integrated and connected multimodal transportation system that will promote access, mobility and health for all users, and will ensure that the safety and convenience of all users of the transportation system are accommodated; and

WHEREAS, the council commits to allocating resources within its powers and action toward mitigating these traffic deaths and serious injuries as is needed for a top priority of the Consolidated City of Indianapolis-Marion County; and

WHEREAS, all municipal corporations, excluded cities, and other legal entities within Marion County are encouraged to establish aligned Vision Zero goals, policies, and practices that, if appropriate, are reported annually during budget hearings. now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. Goals. The city sets the goal of eliminating all fatal and serious injury crashes on city streets by 2035;

SECTION 2. The Council authorizes and agrees to appropriate funding for the city to establish a full-time, dedicated, cross-departmental Vision Zero Administrator position by January 1, 2025.

SECTION 3. Task Force. A Vision Zero Task Force is hereby established under the authority of the council. The Task Force shall be named the "Consolidated City of Indianapolis- Marion County Vision Zero Task Force ('Task Force')." The Task Force shall hold public meetings and report its findings and recommendations to the full council. Public comment shall be allowed under any rules devised by the Task Force.

SECTION 4. Task Force Members. The Task Force shall be comprised of 15 members, 8 appointed by the Council President and 7 appointed by the mayor. All appointees shall be Marion County residents.

The Council President shall appoint three (3) members of the City-County Council, one of whom shall be appointed from the minority caucus, and one of the three that will serve as chair of the Task Force; one (1) member representing the older adult community; one (1) member representing a local advocacy organization; one (1) member representing the county prosecutor's office; one (1) member representing the recreational cycling community; and one (1) member representing a public school corporation in Marion County;

The Mayor shall appoint one (1) member representing the Department of Public Works (DPW); one (1) member representing the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD); one (1) member representing the Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD); one (1) member representing the

Department of Business and Neighborhood Services; one (1) member representing the Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD); one (1) member representing the Office of Financial Management; and one (1) member representing the Indianapolis Public Transit Authority.

SECTION 5. Meetings. The Task Force shall hold its initial public meeting by October 1, 2024. The Vision Zero Administrator shall provide staffing to the Task Force with support from other departments as needed. After its initial meeting, the Task Force shall meet upon the call of its chair or a majority of its members and shall hold at least two (2) public meetings per calendar year. Eight (8) members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum. Any findings or reports of the Task Force shall only be approved by the vote of eight (8) members. Any vacancy on the Task Force shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. All meetings are subject to Indiana’s Open Door Law, I.C. § 5-14-1.5-1 et seq., Access to Public Records Act, I.C. § 5-14-3-1 et seq., and Indiana’s Record Retention Law, I.C. § 5-15 et seq

SECTION 6. Action Plan. The Vision Zero Task Force shall develop and adopt a Vision Zero Action Plan (“Action Plan”) by July 1, 2025, for the purpose of achieving the 2035 goal of eliminating all fatal and serious injury crashes on Indianapolis-Marion County roadways under the City’s jurisdiction. The Action Plan shall: focus on a Safe System approach; reflect current best practices and guidelines in transportation safety; be data driven and equitable; include community input; and be posted on a dedicated location on the city’s website. Each individual strategy identified in the Action Plan shall, at a minimum, include: deadlines for implementation; person(s), department(s), and organization(s) responsible for implementation; adequate funding source or actions needed to obtain funding; and performance goals and metrics.

SECTION 7. Reporting. Progress on implementation of the Vision Zero Action Plan and related performance measures shall be reported to the council on a quarterly basis. The Vision Zero Action Plan shall be updated by May annually. The Vision Zero Action Plan shall be formally adopted and implementation policies and practices established by all relevant city departments, including but not limited to DPW, the IMPD, DMD, IFD, concurrent with the adoption of the Vision Zero Action Plan. The city shall establish a Vision Zero page on its website, www.indy.gov. The website shall track progress of the Vision Zero Action Plan and the Plan’s implementation through 2035. The progress dashboard on the website will be updated biannually, and an annual report summarizing the work completed on the strategies will be posted.

SECTION 8. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and compliance with IC 36-3-4-14.

The foregoing was passed by the City-County Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, at \_\_\_\_ p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vop Osili  
President, City-County Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Yulonda Winfield  
Clerk, City-County Council

Presented by me to the Mayor this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Yulonda Winfield  
Clerk, City-County Council

Approved and signed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph H. Hogsett, Mayor