



Legislation Text

File #: 60922, **Version:** 2

Fiscal Note

The proposed resolution authorizes the City of Madison to become a Vision Zero Community. This resolution commits the City to setting a goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and severe injuries, developing a Vision Zero strategy or plan and committing departments to carry out the strategies. The 2020 Adopted Capital Budget includes \$350,000 for a Vision Zero project in Traffic Engineering's budget. Additional funding will be requested to implement the Vision Zero Plan recommendations. Annual capital budget requests likely would range from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 per year for at least 10 years.

Title

SUBSTITUTE - Adopting and endorsing a Vision Zero policy to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries that are a result of crashes on streets and paths within the City of Madison by 2030.

Body

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

WHEREAS, crashes that result in death or serious injury are not inevitable but largely preventable and stem in part from human inattention and designs that are ineffective in accommodating multimodal uses in urban environments; and,

WHEREAS, a commitment to Vision Zero is a commitment to life and equitable opportunity for people in the City of Madison; and,

WHEREAS, it is the role of government to do its part to serve and protect the populace; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Madison is recognized and strives to be continually acknowledged nationally and internationally as a healthy, attractive, desirable, and safe City; and,

WHEREAS, people walking and biking are at the highest risk of serious injury and represent 41% of crashes; and,

WHEREAS, Madison has a strong history of commitment to prioritizing safety and recently completed, or will soon complete, crash studies for both bicyclists and pedestrians and has made demonstrable progress to improve safety for walking and biking through systemic changes in the way the transportation network is planned, programmed, designed, constructed, and operated; and,

WHEREAS, pedestrian and bicycle safety shall be a priority for the City of Madison with updated infrastructure and safety improvements to ensure those most vulnerable on the roads are protected; and,

WHEREAS, 14 people walking and in wheelchairs, 4 people riding a bicycle, and 26 people driving or riding in a vehicle have died on streets in Madison between 2014 and 2018; and,

WHEREAS, hundreds of crashes occur in the City each year, resulting in serious injuries and other injuries; and,

WHEREAS, reducing deaths involving a motor vehicle was a great public health achievement of the 20th century, but progress has stalled in recent years and many City residents continue to die from or be seriously

injured by preventable crashes; and,

WHEREAS, crashes on City streets necessitate a comprehensive and specific approach to street planning, design, policy, enforcement, legal processes, education and communication in order to provide the best solutions; and,

WHEREAS, both design and policy impact safety and an example is shown through multiple studies that demonstrate the chances of a pedestrian being killed by a car traveling 20 mph is 10% while the chances of being killed when struck by a car traveling 40 mph is 80%; and,

WHEREAS, walking and biking decrease mortality and morbidity from obesity-related diseases such as heart disease and diabetes; and,

WHEREAS, creating safer streets is likely to encourage more active transportation, thereby increasing population health; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Madison is actively working to implement technology advances in automation, connected vehicles and other emerging technologies; and,

WHEREAS, implementing a Vision Zero commitment requires collaboration between the Mayor's Office, The Common Council, Traffic Engineering Division, Police Department, City Engineering Division, Fleet Services Division, Metro Transit and Public Health of Madison and Dane County, all of which have committed to support and implement Vision Zero; and,

WHEREAS, implementing a Vision Zero commitment requires the continued support of residents, business owners, and visitors to the City of Madison, acting as individuals and collectively through neighborhood or advocacy organizations to improve the safety, comfort, and usability of City streets for all users; and,

WHEREAS, Madison will join other leading cities around the nation and cities around the globe in their commitment to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries on our streets; and,

WHEREAS, the work of other Vision Zero cities have demonstrated success when coupled with adequate funding and staffing levels, and that Madison will need to carefully consider the successes and challenges in other cities implementing Vision Zero policies,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Madison commit to a goal of zero deaths and serious injuries that are a result of crashes on City streets by 2030; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that since achieving this goal requires significant effort and resources, staff are directed to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan following the passage of this resolution; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vision Zero Action Plan will put equity at its forefront, striving to impact the most vulnerable and dependent users of the most dangerous parts of the transportation network to improve the health and well-being of those traveling on streets and paths in the City of Madison. And that, the Plan will use data and community outreach to develop strategies that aim to end death and serious injuries on City streets in the effort to ensure outcomes will be experienced equitably throughout the City; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vision Zero Action Plan will draw heavily from those who use our streets, including those who live in areas that experience high crash rates, those who advocate for safer streets for all modes, and the general public, through a diverse range of outreach activities designed to understand both concerns and opportunities with advancing this vision, and by using their input and refined data to determine appropriate and effective steps to achieve in the Vision Zero Action Plan; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vision Zero Action Plan will outline specific steps in planning, engineering, policy, enforcement, and education to reach interim steps toward zero deaths; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vision Zero Action Plan will document the disproportionate effects of traffic enforcement and the impacts of traffic injuries and fatalities on people of color and that a plan is developed that works to reduce and eliminate those harms; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the allocation of Vision Zero funding will use data driven analysis to dedicate investments to the City's High Injury Network in order to have the greatest reduction in fatalities and severe injuries; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all City of Madison programs and capital investments will use a safety lens consistent with Vision Zero in their operation and implementation; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Madison will work with partners in the region who own and manage streets in the City to influence the street planning, design, maintenance, operations, and law enforcement, including the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, The University of Wisconsin, Dane County Highway Department, and neighboring municipalities to combine similar efforts and leverage individual work efforts to contribute to improvements in safety region-wide; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Madison acknowledges and accepts that the Vision Zero Action Plan may result in changes to the City's approach to the planning and design of streets, education and communication techniques, enforcement policies and procedures, and legal and legislative frameworks including the potential to advocate for reduced City speed limits,

BE IT FINALLY **FURTHER** RESOLVED that the City of Madison is dedicated to measuring the progress, challenges, and successes of the Vision Zero commitment and will do so with tangible, reportable metrics that will be reported upon on an annual basis- ; **and,**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Transportation Policy & Planning Board oversee the development of the Vision Zero Action Plan; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Vision Zero Action Plan will be completed no later than June 1, 2021.