

RESOLUTION NO. 244-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE GOAL OF ZERO TRAFFIC FATALITIES ON WEST PALM BEACH STREETS; ADOPTING VISION ZERO AS THE POLICY FOR ROAD AND TRAFFIC SAFETY FOR THE CITY OF WEST PALM BEACH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, traffic crashes are among the leading cause of deaths and injuries in the world, the United States, and the City of West Palm Beach; and

WHEREAS, according to the Florida Department of Health, pedestrians and bicyclists are the most vulnerable road users and account for over half of the state's traffic deaths; and

WHEREAS, according to the Governors Highway Safety Association, the national average of pedestrians killed has increased by nearly 22% since 2014; and

WHEREAS, death and injury on our streets is unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is a traffic safety policy and system which provides a framework for reducing traffic deaths and serious injuries through a combination of engineering, education, and enforcement measures; and

WHEREAS, key elements of the Vision Zero system include: reframing traffic fatalities as preventable; focusing on system failure; reducing the impact of collisions; adopting a safe system approach for vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians; data-driven decision making; and viewing road safety as a social equity issue; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero takes a "Safe System" approach to road safety—a holistic view that requires people to think about the road system in its entirety, from design guidelines, infrastructure projects, public participation, policy, and vehicle regulations all influence injuries and deaths; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero and its policies have been proven in other cities to reduce injuries and deaths from preventable traffic accidents; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to use the proven methodologies of Vision Zero to keep our residents and tourist safe; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that implementation of the Vision Zero methodologies will make the City of West Palm Beach's streets safer, which will encourage people to take trips by walking, bicycling and multiple modes such as walking to public transportation; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the Vision Zero methodologies will also encourage collaboration with other city and county agencies, including the West Palm Beach Police Department, West Palm Beach Fire Rescue, the Palm Beach County State Attorney's Office, the

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Florida Department of Transportation, the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, the School District of Palm Beach County, along with many others to support programs and initiatives that promote safer roads; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the Vision Zero methodologies will also encourage communication and education to help generate collective action around the need for safer streets, along with public participation in transportation decision-making; and

WHEREAS, a fundamental premise of Vision Zero is social equity; utilizing strategies such as prioritizing safety improvements in areas that have historically been underserved, and building robust engagement strategies to reach those who are most vulnerable on the roadways and who have not typically been included in traditional city planning processes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, that:

SECTION 1: The City Commission hereby establishes the elimination of traffic fatality and the reduction of serious injuries due to traffic accidents as a goal of the City of West Palm Beach.

SECTION 2: The City Commission hereby adopts Vision Zero as the policy for road and traffic safety in the City of West Palm Beach and directs near and long- term traffic planning to be based on Vision Zero principles.

SECTION 3: The City Commission directs the Mayor to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan for achieving the goals of the elimination of traffic fatality and the reduction of serious injuries due to traffic accidents through adopting a safe system approach for vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians, equitable engineering, enforcement, education, data-driven decision making, and social equity considerations in road safety planning and implementation.

SECTION 4: This Resolution shall take effect as provided by law.

[SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 13TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2018.



ATTEST:

X *Hazeline F. Carson*

CITY CLERK
Signed by: Hazeline F Carson

**CITY OF WEST PALM BEACH BY
ITS CITY COMMISSION:**

X *Geraldine Muoio*

PRESIDING OFFICER
Signed by: Geraldine Muoio

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGALITY:**

8/10/2018

X *Nancy Urcheck*

CITY ATTORNEY
Signed by: Nancy DeSimone Urcheck