



## RECOMMENDATION

### **Pedestrian Advisory Council**

Recommendation Number: 20160502-05

#### Vision Zero Action Plan

WHEREAS, The Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) bylaws state that the PAC “shall advise City of Austin on pedestrian planning, policy, design, funding, education, and enforcement efforts regarding the creation, maintenance and operation of pedestrian facilities in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable circulation for both commuting and recreation within the City of Austin” and “Provide pedestrian information and recommendations to the Urban Transportation Commission (or other boards and commissions) and Council, as needed;

WHEREAS, The PAC’s goal is to ensure sensitivity to pedestrian issues in the design and implementation of all public and private projects impacting pedestrians;

WHEREAS, The PAC initiated the creation of the Vision Zero Task Force in November of 2014;

WHEREAS, Austin has had over 700 traffic deaths since 2004 and approximately eight serious injuries for each death; and

WHEREAS, a record 102 people lost their lives in Austin 2015, 30 of which were people walking;

WHEREAS, 22 people have lost their lives in Austin in 2016 so far, nine of which were people walking;

WHEREAS, City Council passed Resolution 20141120-103 in November 2014, creating the Vision Zero Task Force to make recommendations to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries; and

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan Land Use and Transportation Policy LUT P45 reads: “The City commits itself to eliminating transportation-related deaths and serious injuries through a holistic Vision Zero approach. Improving safety through land use, urban design, and transportation engineering is foundational to Austin becoming a city of complete communities. Vision Zero elevates safety as the top priority for the transportation system and requires a collaborative, multipronged approach with the following guiding principles:

- o Traffic deaths and injuries are a preventable public health issue. Any death is too many.
- o People will make mistakes; the transportation system should be designed so those mistakes aren’t fatal.
- o Safety should be the primary consideration in transportation decision-making.
- o Traffic safety solutions must be addressed holistically through:
  - Education and culture change,
  - Enforcement and prosecution, and

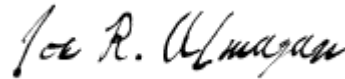
- Land use and transportation engineering; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero Task Force has met since January 2015 to research transportation safety and successful Vision Zero implementation from other cities' efforts, and has worked collaboratively with multiple City of Austin departments, state and federal agencies, research institutions, and community groups to produce recommendations within the Vision Zero Action Plan; and

WHEREAS the Vision Zero Action Plan outlines a multipronged approach to improving traffic safety, including evaluation, enforcement, engineering, education, and policy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pedestrian Advisory Council recommends to the City Council the adoption and implementation of the Vision Zero Action Plan.

Date of Approval: May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016



Joe Almazan

Chair, Pedestrian Advisory Council

Attest: