

RESOLUTION NO. 20220728-086

WHEREAS, the City seeks funding to prevent traffic-related injuries and deaths with a combination of systemic safety treatments, high-crash locations, and supplemental planning efforts through an implementation grant from the United States Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary grant program; and

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan (2012) calls for a "complete streets design that includes features such as traffic calming elements, street trees, wide sidewalks, and pedestrian, bicycle, and transit access throughout Austin, considering the safety needs of people of all ages and abilities"; and

WHEREAS, the City adopted a Vision Zero policy goal in 2015 and adopted a Vision Zero Action Plan in 2016 with the goal of achieving zero traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries; and

WHEREAS, Austin's data-informed Vision Zero program utilizes funding supported by the community through multiple bond programs to drive street design changes towards safer streets, and early results from those projects have shown significant reductions in crashes with injuries; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero program is dedicated to equitable outcomes and seeks to address the disproportional burden of traffic-related injuries and fatalities on low-income communities and communities of color; and

WHEREAS, the City's Strategic Direction 2023 has as one of its mobility goals to: "Provide equitable access to multimodal transportation choices to link people to opportunities, such as education, healthcare, healthy food including community amenities such as grocery stores, open space, and jobs, especially in historically underserved and underrepresented communities"; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (2019) directs transportation decisions to be centered on equity, including a policy to "partner with the public and private sectors to expand and improve mobility solutions for historically underserved communities"; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation released a National Roadway Strategy in early 2022 highlighting the public health crisis occurring from over 42,000 traffic-related deaths in this country last year, and committing to a national goal of zero deaths through a Safe Systems Approach; and

WHEREAS, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is providing unprecedented levels of funding for transportation projects, including the SS4A grant program focused on elevating planning and investments towards safer streets; and

WHEREAS, funds for the Fiscal Year 2022 SS4A discretionary grant program are to be awarded on a competitive basis to support planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including pedestrians; bicyclists; public transportation, personal conveyance, and micromobility users; motorists; and commercial vehicle operators; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council authorizes the City Manager, or designee, to submit a grant application for an Implementation Grant with SS4A discretionary grant program, administered by the United States Department of Transportation to address road safety.

ADOPTED: July 28, 2022

ATTEST:


Myrna Rios
City Clerk