

Resolution No. 5-18

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Supporting the Vision Zero initiative, a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all, and committing to work with the Jackson administration and community stakeholders to create a Vision Zero plan for the City.

Council Members Zone and Conwell

WHEREAS, Vision Zero began in Sweden as a notably different way of ensuring that people have the right to move about their communities safely, setting "zero" as the "only justifiable fatality target for road traffic"; and

WHEREAS, Sweden has one of the lowest annual rates of road deaths in the world: 3 out of 100,000; the annual road death rate in the United States is 12.3 out of 100,000; and

WHEREAS, in Ohio in 2016, there were 1,134 traffic fatalities, which is a 2% increase over 2015; in Ohio, traffic fatalities have risen 3 years in a row; and

WHEREAS, from 2011-2015 in Cuyahoga County there were 120,032 crashes, with the largest percentage of crashes being in the City: 44% of total crashes and 38% of fatal and serious injury crashes were in Cleveland during that time period; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero message is that traffic-related fatalities and injuries are neither an inevitable nor an acceptable side-effect of a transportation system, but are *preventable*; and

WHEREAS, to achieve Vision Zero there must be a commitment between government, relevant agencies and community stakeholders to cooperate and collaborate; a strong focus on a systems-based approach to the environment, practices, and policies that influence behavior; efforts to gather, analyze, use, and share data to understand specific traffic safety issues and prioritize resources; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero policies or plans have been adopted by numerous cities in the United States, including Chicago, New York, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Richmond, Virginia and Durham, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, this Council will establish a Vision Zero taskforce with the Administration and key stakeholders to help create a Vision Zero plan for the City of Cleveland to address meaningful changes to traffic enforcement, land use and transportation ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the City's Vision Zero plan will build upon policies that the City already has in place, including the Complete and Green Streets legislation, Ordinance No. 798-11, passed September 19, 2011, and section 433.09 of the Codified Ordinances which prohibits texting while driving; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health, or safety, now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That this Council supports the Vision Zero initiative, a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all, and commits to work with the Jackson administration and community stakeholders to create a Vision Zero plan for the City.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to all members of the Ohio State legislature, to the Congressional Senators from Ohio, the Congressional House of Representatives from Cuyahoga County, the National League of Cities and Bike Cleveland.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

