



City of Detroit
Detroit City Council - District 4

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 11th, 2022

TO: David Whittaker, Legislative Policy Division

FROM: Council Member Latisha Johnson, Chair, Internal Operations
Standing Committee

THROUGH: Council President, Mary Sheffield

SUBJECT: Vision Zero Resolution

I would like to request that LPD draft a resolution urging the Mayor, the Chief of Police, and the Director of Public Works to adopt a “Vision Zero” strategy and implement an action plan to reduce traffic fatalities to zero in the next ten years through better engineering, education, and enforcement. In 2020, the latest year for which National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data is available, there were 1,084 fatalities on Michigan roads, an increase of 9.9% over 2019. It is imperative that we take measures to protect the lives of our citizens.

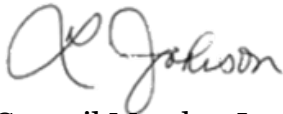
Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all. The approach recognizes that while mistakes are inevitable, we have a responsibility to design and operate a transportation system that mitigates the associated risks. It is important to recognize that Vision Zero, while aspirational in its nature, is a fundamental shift in how we think about and work on roadway safety.

Chicago and New York City have set a national benchmark for roadway safety by committing to reducing traffic fatalities to zero in the next ten years. This objective was inspired by the demonstrable success of similar Vision Zero recommendations being implemented in Sweden, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. In May of 2021, Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) and Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-Ill.) introduced the bicameral resolution with the co-sponsorship of five senators and five representatives, as well as endorsements from the National Safety Council, Consumer Reports, Vision Zero

Network, and Families for Safe Streets to Congress. The adoption and implementation of a Vision Zero strategy will help save lives and benefit all residents and visitors to the City of Detroit.

If there are any additional questions or concerns, please contact my office at 313-224-4841.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Latisha Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Council Member Latisha Johnson
District 4

CC: Gail Fulton, Mayor's Office Liaison
Rod Brundidge, Director, Department of Public Works
James Hannig, Deputy Director, Complete Streets
James White, Chief, Detroit Police Department
Antoine Bryant, Director, Planning and Development Department
Brad Dick, Director, General Services Department