RESOLUTION NO. NS-29,568

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ ADOPTING A VISION ZERO POLICY AND ESTABLISHING A VISION ZERO TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Cruz was recognized as a Gold-level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the City has the second highest rate of commute trips by bike in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Cruz invests in bicycle and pedestrian safety education and encouragement programs including, but not limited to Street Smarts, Go Santa Cruz, Bike/Walk Smart (youth bike & walk safety education), Youth bicycle programs through Ecology Action and Bike Santa Cruz County, Bike to Work Days, Bike/Walk to school, Open Streets, Safe Routes to School and more; and

WHEREAS, the life, health and safety of Santa Cruz City residents and visitors is of the utmost priority to the City; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is the concept that there is no acceptable number of traffic deaths and serious injuries on Santa Cruz roadways; and

WHEREAS, Traffic collisions disproportionately impact bicycles and pedestrians; as they account for 19% of City trips but 51% of fatalities and serious injuries from crashes; and 34% of fatal and serious injury crashes occur on just 3.8 miles of City streets; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation and Public Works Commission (TPWC) at its meeting of December 10, 2018, voted unanimously to "make a formal recommendation that the City Council adopt a Vision Zero policy to that would include development of a Vision Zero Task Force, under the auspices of the City Manager's Office, and that reports back to the TPWC and City Council on a regular basis";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Santa Cruz hereby adopts a Vision Zero policy to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries on City streets by 2030; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Vision Zero Task Force, under the direction of the City Manager's Office, shall be formed to develop and a Vision Zero Action plan within one year of adoption of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vision Zero Action Plan gathers, analyzes, utilizes and shares reliable data to understand traffic safety issues, to prior prioritize resources based on evidence of the greatest need and impact, and to track and evaluate the success of those efforts.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED this 27th day of August, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilmembers Krohn, Glover, Meyers, Brown, Mathews; Vice Mayor

Cummings; Mayor Watkins.

NOES:

None.

ABSENT:

None.

DISQUALIFIED:

None.

APPROVED:

Martine Watkins, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Bush, City Clerk Administrator