

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution approving the Safe Systems approach and strategies to move Bellevue towards Vision Zero and directing the Transportation Commission to review the Comprehensive Plan to determine if any updates, revisions, or additional policies are warranted to support the Safe Systems approach.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As directed by Council on March 2, this Resolution clarifies the programmatic approach to Vision Zero that staff should pursue to strive to achieve zero traffic deaths and serious injuries on Bellevue streets by 2030. The proposed Safe Systems approach and strategies responds to direction in the Bellevue Comprehensive Plan; Policy TR-61.2: "Develop a programmatic approach to Vision Zero that integrates components of Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering, Equity, and Evaluation."

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9769

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

On December 7, 2015, Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 9035 endorsing Vision Zero, for the City to strive to achieve zero traffic deaths and serious injuries on Bellevue streets by 2030 and directing the Transportation Commission to review the Comprehensive Plan to determine if any updates, revisions, or additional policies were warranted in light of Vision Zero.

On December 8, 2016, Council unanimously adopted Ordinance No. 6334 incorporating Vision Zero 2016 amendments to the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Bellevue. Additionally, Council directed staff to: (i) prepare and implement a Vision Zero Action Plan; (ii) update Vision Zero strategies periodically; and, (iii) provide Vision Zero status reports that aggregate and analyze data, document efforts, and communicate progress to the City Council and to the community.

During 2019, the Transportation Commission considered Bellevue crash data, vetted existing road safety efforts in Bellevue and international Vision Zero best practices, listened to the community, attended the Bellevue Vision Zero Summit (February 13), and worked with staff during Study Sessions (January 10, March 28, November 14, and December 12) to arrive at its Safe Systems approach and strategies recommendation to move Bellevue towards Vision Zero.

On January 9, 2020, Transportation Commission members voted unanimously to recommend Council approve a Safe Systems approach and strategies to move Bellevue towards Vision Zero.

On March 2, 2020, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Transportation Commission reviewed with Council the Safe Systems approach and strategies.

Pending Council approval, the Vision Zero Steering Team (comprised of department heads from the City Manager's Office, Transportation, Fire, Police, Community Development, Development Services, Parks & Community Services, and Human Resources) will finalize the Vision Zero Action Plan. No formal Council action is required to guide the Vision Zero work plan and budget proposal development. Implementation arising from the Vision Zero Action Plan that requires policy guidance, for example creating a speed management program, will be vetted through Transportation Commission and Council consultation and approval processes.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Bellevue Comprehensive Plan Policy TR-61.2 provides direction to: "Develop a programmatic approach to Vision Zero that integrates components of Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering, Equity, and Evaluation." Consistent with this direction, approving the Safe Systems approach builds upon Council's "why" statement (i.e., the Vision Zero goal) by articulating "what" steps (i.e., Safe Systems strategies) staff should pursue to strive to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries in Bellevue by 2030.

Fiscal Impact

Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity, and Congestion Levy funding (CIP Plan Nos. PW-R-198 and PW-R-199) are available to implement safety projects that will be identified in the Bellevue Vision Zero Action Plan. Staff will be including separate Vision Zero budget funding proposals in the 2021-2022 Budget process for consideration to further the Safe Systems approach to move Bellevue towards Vision Zero.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution approving the Safe Systems approach and strategies to move Bellevue towards Vision Zero and directing the Transportation Commission to review the Comprehensive Plan to determine if any updates, revisions, or additional policies are warranted to support the Safe Systems approach.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 9769

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A