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**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
and for Special Districts, Agencies and Authorities Governed by the Board**

Adopted this Resolution on _____ by the following vote:

AYE:
NO:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
RECUSE:

Resolution No.

IN THE MATTER OF

**Adopting the Vision Zero Resolution to
Achieve Zero Annual Transportation-Related Fatalities and
Severe Injuries on Unincorporated County Roads**

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2022, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors accepted the Vision Zero Final Report and adopted the Vision Zero Action Plan that was generated using a data-informed approach and the support of a multi-disciplinary team in an initial, strong effort to increase safety for people traveling along roadways, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes, and

WHEREAS, at the time the Final Vision Zero Action Plan and Report was accepted and adopted in March 2022, the Board of Supervisors affirmed that they intended to adopt a resolution of support for Vision Zero, to eliminate all transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries in County jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, from 2012 through 2022, 129 people died and 487 suffered severe, life-changing injuries within the unincorporated County, which is an average of 12 fatalities and 44 severe injuries per year over that eleven-year span; and

WHEREAS, many of the people killed or severely injured were among the most vulnerable roadway users, including transit users, (and disproportionately youth, seniors, people of lower incomes, and people of color) who were walking, rolling, or riding a bicycle or personal mobility device; and

WHEREAS, communities of color, low income, youth, and seniors were disproportionately killed in transportation-related incidents countywide, as shown by the statistics contained in the Vision Zero Report and follow-up analyses; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is a data-informed strategy to eliminate transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing the provision of safer, healthier, and more equitable mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors and the County will value people first, because human life and more equitable health should be prioritized before vehicular speed, vehicle throughput, convenience for motorists, mobility, congestion management, on street parking, and other objectives for the transportation and circulation system; and

WHEREAS, data reveal the primary collision factors that have contributed to transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries include unsafe speeds, distracted driving, driving under the influence, at the expense of the most vulnerable roadway users; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the Complete Streets Policy by Resolution No. 2016/374 on July 12, 2016, that requires the County to plan and design complete streets, which accommodate the needs of all multi-modal road and trail users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, users of micromobility and smaller, narrower and lighter vehicles, and public transit in a balanced and safe manner; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the Active Transportation Plan on March 29, 2022, which has many elements of complete streets such as separating the vulnerable road users from people driving (vehicles) at unsafe speeds, in different contexts and conditions (such as inclement weather); and

WHEREAS, implementing Vision Zero-focused transportation safety projects, including quick-build method and materials projects, which can be opportunities for lower costs, should create opportunities to invite authentic engagement and meaningful input from the community, experience how potential improvements "feel" before they become permanent or more widely implemented in different contexts, including residents that are disproportionately killed, severely injured by, and burdened by the economic and societal costs from traffic collisions, and traditionally had been underserved by the transportation infrastructure that serves them; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is founded on a Safe System approach of safe road users that includes safe vehicles, safe speeds, safe roads, and post-crash care and recognizes people will make mistakes and roadway systems, policies, and projects should be designed and implemented to protect people and the "greater good" to maximize public benefit in the public right-of-way first by implementing redundancies and shared responsibilities and by minimizing the transfer of kinetic energy per individual collision; and

WHEREAS, the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Strategic Highway Safety Plan, which guides safety funding and strategy for the state of California is in support of Vision Zero and the Safe System Approach that includes a system-wide, method of project development for transportation infrastructure such as intersections, sidewalks, bike lanes, and trail crossings where common characteristics that cause severe collisions exist at multiple locations; and

WHEREAS, all transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries on Contra Costa County's roads and trail crossings are avoidable and preventable through implementation of the Safe Systems Approach; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County will consider in all of its decision-making a less reactive approach that only focuses on specific areas with the highest collision rates to achieve Vision Zero, but will increasingly implement a more proactive "Safe Systems" approach, that focuses on other areas within the County that have similar characteristics of roadway infrastructure and/or driver behavior to those high-collision rate locations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County's Capital Road Improvement and Preservation Program (CRIPP), pavement rehabilitation plan, projects lists, grant applications, funding strategy, Climate Action Plan Annual Work Plan, Complete Streets Policy, Active Transportation Plan, and Vision Zero Action Plan among other programs and plans, will each strive to follow policies and plans adopted by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the California Transportation Commission (CTC), Caltrans, the Federal Highway Safety Administration, and other agencies that promote Vision Zero; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Contra Costa County is committed to improving equity in all aspects of Vision Zero, including health, transportation options, accessibility, mobility, and data analysis that acknowledges and addresses reporting biases, incomplete data, evolving availability of data; utilizing enforcement strategies that protect against racial profiling and follow a data-informed and transparent approach; and promoting project prioritization efforts to incentivize investment in historically under-invested communities, which are often areas with the highest pedestrian and bicycle collision rates that have historically lacked network connectivity that is physically protected, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Vision Zero Technical Advisory Committee (VZTAC), a multi-disciplinary team, will convene regularly and provide direction to the program as conditions change. When the VZTAC makes significant changes or implements elements of the Vision Zero Action Plan, these will be reported to relevant oversight committees, such as the Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure Committee, the Equity Committee, the Sustainability Committee, the Health Commission or relevant Health Advisory Committee(s), and the Board of Supervisors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County shall prioritize speed-reducing characteristics such as reducing vehicular lane widths, or the total width and number of lanes on bi-directional roadways, and shall consider that projects which deviate from this approach would benefit from a higher level of review and analysis from multi-disciplinary professional disciplines and the Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure Committee, which will regularly have Vision Zero as an agenda item for discussion and consideration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors adopts this Vision Zero Resolution to achieve zero annual transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries on unincorporated county roads.

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

Contact:

ATTESTED:

Monica Nino, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: , Deputy

Cc: