

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, from 2016 through 2021, there were five hundred and three (503) traffic-related injuries and five (5) traffic-related fatalities suffered within the Township of West Orange (the “Township”); and

WHEREAS, in 1997 Sweden adopted the first Vision Zero policy which was a strategy to eliminate all traffic-related deaths and serious injuries, while increasing safety, health, and mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero Network was created to foster the expansion of such goals and policies internationally and within the United States, including 32 cities within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero policy includes the following five (5) core principles: (i) municipalities can prevent traffic deaths; (ii) human error is inevitable; (iii) municipalities can prevent serious injuries; (iv) the entire system, not individual actors, is responsible for safety; and (v) deaths and serious injuries are more expensive than saving lives and preventing serious injuries; and

WHEREAS, these goals and policies have been known collectively as “Vision Zero” and are based on the guiding principle that deaths and injuries caused by traffic crashes should be treated as a public health problem that can be eliminated through better planning, not as an inevitable by-product of a vehicle-based transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero Network and Vision Zero New Jersey Alliance encourages municipalities to adopt achievable goals to prevent traffic-related injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, the successful implementation of a Vision Zero campaign will require coordination and cooperation between various departments of the Township and community organizations within the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township can build on the positive initiatives, including initiatives implemented in cooperation with the West Orange Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Township seeks to express its support of the policies and principles of Vision Zero and to take the initial steps toward reaching the goals of Vision Zero; and

WHEREAS, the Township seeks to establish a Vision Zero Task Force to research and study the policies that have been adopted as part of Vision Zero to determine which policies are viable and beneficial for the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero Task Force shall be established to formulate a Vision Zero Plan to include recommendations for review and adoption by the Township Council towards achieving the goals of Vision Zero.

NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Orange that the Township hereby expresses its support of the policies and principles of Vision Zero and supports the efforts to reach the goals of Vision Zero; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Township hereby establishes a Vision Zero Task Force; and it is further

RESOLVED that the Vision Zero Task Force shall:

1. Publish a Vision Zero Action Plan by September 2022 which shall provide policymakers with a comprehensive proposal to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries on West Orange roadways by a target date. The Vision Zero Action Plan shall include the following:

- a. Comprehensive crash data including cause, location, frequency, and severity of injuries throughout our community;
 - b. A range of concrete and specific improvements to our roadway design standards, traffic signal policies, street lighting policies, enforcement activities, and other items as further research may dictate;
 - c. Both short-term and long-term data-driven strategies complete with measurable goals and follow-up metrics to monitor the progress of implementation as well as document the effectiveness of the improvements;
 - d. Recommendations of initiatives, policies, resolutions, and ordinances for adoption for the Township;
2. Solicit information and input for the Vision Zero Action Plan from the public;
 3. Report quarterly on the Task Force's findings and progress; and
 4. Provide information to the public regarding data gathered by the Task Force, the progress of the Task Force's efforts, and the Task Force's findings and recommendations.

RESOLVED that the Vision Zero Task Force shall include the following members:

1. A member appointed by the Mayor of the Township of West Orange;
2. The entire membership of the West Orange Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board;
3. Two (2) members of West Orange Township Council;
4. A member designated by the Public Works Director & County Engineer for the County of Essex;
5. One (1) representative from the Department of Health & Welfare, to be appointed by said Department;
6. One (1) representative from West Orange Department of Senior Services and/or the Senior Livability Initiative, to be appointed by said Department(s);
7. One (1) representative from the Nikhil Badlani Youth Advisory Board, to be appointed by said organization;

8. One (1) representative from the Nikhil Badlani Foundation to be appointed by said organization;

9. One (1) representative from EZ Ride Transportation Management Association, to be appointed by said association;

10. One (1) representative from the West Orange Fire Department; and

11. One (1) representative from the West Orange Environmental Commission; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Vision Zero Task Force shall remain in effect until such time as the Action Plan has been completed and presented to the Mayor and Council for consideration.

Karen J. Carnevale, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk

Cindy Matute-Brown,
Council President

Adopted: September 14, 2021