

RESOLUTION 2024-07

ESTABLISHING THE GOAL OF REDUCING TRAFFIC DEATHS AND SERIOUS INJURIES ON THE CITY'S ROADWAYS TO ZERO IN THE CITY BY THE YEAR 2039

- WHEREAS, the life and health of all persons living and traveling within the City of Bloomington are our utmost priority, and no one should die or be seriously injured while traveling on our city streets; and
- WHEREAS, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, each year approximately 40,000 people are killed in traffic collisions in the United States and almost 1,000 within Indiana, and traffic crashes are among the leading causes of deaths in the United States¹; and
- WHEREAS, 14 people in the City of Bloomington lost their lives to traffic deaths in the five year period between 2018 and 2022; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington's transportation infrastructure serves an increasing number of vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists; and
- WHEREAS, according to data provided by the Indiana State Police through the years 2018 and 2022, pedestrians were involved in 2.5 percent of collisions and account for 28.6 percent of traffic deaths in the City of Bloomington; and
- WHEREAS, according to data provided by the Indiana State Police through the years 2018 and 2022, bicyclists and scooter riders were involved in 1.9 percent of collisions and account for 7.1 percent of traffic deaths in the City of Bloomington; and
- WHEREAS, between 2018 and 2022, the serious injury rate for pedestrians involved in collisions was approximately 28.5 percent and the serious injury rate for bicyclists and scooter riders involved in collisions was approximately 22.3 percent; and
- WHEREAS, speed is recognized as a major determining factor of survival in a crash²; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington will work toward reducing vehicle speeds because the likelihood of a pedestrian surviving a crash is 10 percent when hit by a vehicle traveling at 40 mph, 50 percent when hit by a vehicle traveling at 30 mph, and 90 percent when hit by a vehicle traveling at 20 mph³; and
- WHEREAS, children, older adults, people of color, people with disabilities, people who are unhoused, and people with low income face a significantly disproportionate risk of traffic injuries and fatalities⁴; and
- WHEREAS, making streets safer for all people using all modes of transportation will encourage people to travel on foot, by bicycle, and by public transit, which reduces environmental pollution; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington has already adopted the 2018 Comprehensive Plan, the Transportation Plan, and Traffic Calming & Greenways Program, which seek to promote roadway safety for all users.

¹ NHTSA: Overview of Motor Vehicle Crash Traffic Crashes in 2021.
<https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/Publication/813435>.

² Institute of Transportation Engineers; Road to Zero Coalition; and RTZ Safe System Working Group. Safe System. Institute of Transportation Engineers. Website: <http://ite.org/technical-resources/topics/safe-systems/>

³ Ferrier K., Landmark national study urges safety over speed. Vision Zero Network website: visionzeronetwork.org/safety-over-speed. July 25, 2017.

⁴ Fox J, Shahum L., Vision Zero Equity Strategies for Practitioners. Oakland, CA: Vision Zero Network; 2017. Website: https://visionzeronetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/VisionZero_Equity_FINAL.pdf

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

SECTION 1. The City of Bloomington adopts the goal of zero traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2039, stating that no loss of life or serious injury is acceptable on our streets.

SECTION 2. The City of Bloomington desires a comprehensive and holistic approach to achieving this goal.

SECTION 3. The City of Bloomington shall adopt a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Action Plan which will be used to guide future investments and infrastructure improvements in our roadways.

PASSED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this _____ day of _____, 2024.

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this _____ day of _____, 2024.

NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk,
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this _____ day of _____, 2024.

KERRY THOMSON, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution establishes the goal of zero traffic deaths and serious injuries on the City of Bloomington’s roadways by the year 2039, outlines the City’s intention to pursue a comprehensive approach to achieve this objective, and requires the adoption of a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Action Plan.