

**RESOLUTION 2020-1
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO VISION ZERO, A ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY TO ELIMINATE ALL TRAFFIC-RELATED FATALITIES AND SERIOUS INJURIES; AND REQUESTING SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON PLANNING COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL IN THE ADOPTION OF VISION ZERO.

WHEREAS, the City of Houston Complete Streets and Transportation Plan, (Executive Order 1-15, adopted on November 1, 2013), directs city efforts to achieve complete streets that take into account people of all ages and abilities, including children, older adults, and persons with disabilities who use the public right-of-way for driving or riding in cars, using mass transit, riding bikes, walking, using wheelchairs, driving or riding in trucks, driving or being transported by emergency vehicles, and being served at their residence or property by other users; and

WHEREAS, the Bicycle Advisory Committee was established by City of Houston Ordinance No. 2017-208 in March 22, 2017 to advise and make recommendations to the Planning Commission and the Planning Director on issues related to bicycling in the city including, but not limited to, amendments to the adopted Bicycle Master Plan (BMP), bicycle safety and education, implementation of the BMP, development of strategies for funding projects related to bicycling, and promoting public participation in bicycling; and

WHEREAS, to enhance street safety in the city, the Bicycle Advisory Committee believes that the only acceptable number of roadway fatalities is zero, and that there is a need to address all users of the roadway and pedestrian realm, inclusive but not limited to bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists, to improve roadway safety for all users; and

WHEREAS, A fundamental premise of Vision Zero is that traffic deaths and serious injuries are preventable, not inevitable; and

WHEREAS, the City of Houston is undertaking multiple projects and programs to improve roadway safety for all users, including but not limited to the Safer Streets Initiative, Road Safety Audits, Vulnerable Road Users Ordinance, and Texting While Driving Ban; and

WHEREAS, the City of Houston is considering a comprehensive strategy that addresses road safety for all road users; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero provides the basis for a comprehensive strategy that unifies road safety efforts of various agencies and City departments, through engineering, education efforts, enforcement activities, route evaluation, and equity; and

WHEREAS, the Bicycle Advisory Committee, at its January 2019 meeting, requested staff to prepare a resolution recommending the City adopt a holistic approach to Vision Zero as a guiding document to reframe the way people think about street safety; and

WHEREAS, the Bicycle Advisory Committee recommends that a holistic approach would include broad coordination among many stakeholders within the City of Houston, including but not limited to area agencies, businesses, nonprofits, community-based organizations and

community members and encompass many elements of the built environment, such as land use and public space; and

WHEREAS, to address traffic-related fatalities occurring every day on Houston streets, Mayor Sylvester Turner directed City of Houston Planning and Development Department to explore Vision Zero and its requirements for formal adoption; and

WHEREAS, since November 2018, the City of Houston Planning and Development Department has held monthly meetings with Public Works, Police, Fire and Health departments to share understanding and support of Vision Zero as a strategy to comprehensively eliminate traffic-related fatalities and improve road safety; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission is authorized to review and consider studies and plans for the improvement of the city and its extraterritorial jurisdiction with a view to its future development and welfare, and make recommendations to City Council for the adoption, amendment, or implementation of such studies and plans;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS:

Section 1. That the recitals listed above are found to be true and correct and are incorporated herein as if fully set out.

Section 2. That the City of Houston Bicycle Advisory Committee (“BAC”) recommends adoption of Vision Zero by the City Council of the City of Houston, to establish a roadway safety strategy to coordinate road safety efforts in the Houston region and seek to eliminate roadway fatalities.

Section 3. That the City of Houston BAC recommends all agencies – public, private, non-profit, or otherwise – coordinate to establish Vision Zero goals within their sphere of influence.

Section 4. That the BAC requests that the Planning Commission support formal adoption of Vision Zero by City Council.

CITY OF HOUSTON BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Maya Ford, Chair

ATTEST:

Jennifer Ostlind, Exec. Secretary