

1 **[Resolution in Support of Vision Zero]**

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3 Resolution in support of San Francisco’s Vision Zero framework to eliminate all  
4 traffic-related fatalities in the next ten years through a combination of  
5 engineering measures, education, and enforcement.

6 WHEREAS, The Commission on the Environment wants a safe and  
7 healthy city where we do everything possible to avoid traffic-related injuries and  
8 fatalities; and

9 WHEREAS, Cars and trucks produce greenhouse gas emissions when  
10 they burn gasoline or other fossil fuels, which contributes to human-made  
11 climate change; and

12 WHEREAS, 40 percent of San Francisco’s greenhouse gas emissions in  
13 2010 came from cars and trucks, and trips in personal automobiles account for  
14 the great majority of these emissions; and,

15 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s vulnerabilities to climate change include  
16 sea level rise and flooding, heat waves, damage to local ecosystems, and risks  
17 to the city’s transportation and water infrastructure; and

18 WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco’s Climate Action Strategy  
19 supports measures that increase walking, transit ridership, ridesharing and  
20 bicycling to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals; and

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1           WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco has set the goal for 50 percent of  
2 all trips in the city to be made by means other than driving alone in a personal  
3 vehicle by 2018; and

4           WHEREAS, According to the San Francisco Department of Public Health  
5 (SFDPH), pedestrians and bicyclists are the most vulnerable road users and  
6 account for over half of traffic deaths in San Francisco with San Francisco  
7 having the highest per capita rate of pedestrian injury of all counties in the state  
8 of California; and

9           WHEREAS, According to the SFDPH, at least 800 pedestrians are  
10 injured and an average of 100 severely injured or killed and a rising number of  
11 bicyclists are injured on San Francisco streets each year; and

12           WHEREAS, According to the SFDPH, pedestrian and bicyclist injuries  
13 and deaths are highly concentrated on a subset of city streets, and these  
14 streets are disproportionately concentrated in low-income, non-English  
15 speaking communities with high densities of seniors, disabled residents, and  
16 populations reliant on walking and public transit; and

17           WHEREAS, Measures to make San Francisco's streets safer will  
18 encourage people to take trips by walking, bicycling, and multiple modes such  
19 as walking to transit; and

20           WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco adopted a Pedestrian Strategy in  
21 2013 to reduce serious or fatal pedestrian injuries 25 percent by 2016 and 50  
22 percent by 2021; and

1 WHEREAS, Vision Zero provides a framework for reducing traffic deaths  
2 to zero by the year 2024 through a combination of engineering, education, and  
3 enforcement measures; and

4 WHEREAS, The concept of Vision Zero originated in Sweden, which  
5 now has one of the lowest annual rates of road deaths in the world; and

6 WHEREAS, Chicago and New York are among large US cities which  
7 have set Vision Zero goals; and

8 WHEREAS, Mayor Ed Lee and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
9 have endorsed Vision Zero, and San Francisco's Department of Public Health,  
10 Municipal Transportation Agency, and Police Department have formally  
11 adopted Vision Zero policies to reduce injuries and deaths from preventable  
12 traffic collisions; and

13 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Department of the Environment  
14 collaborates with other City agencies, including the San Francisco Municipal  
15 Transportation Agency and the Department of Public Health, to support policies,  
16 programs, and initiatives that promote safer streets such as the Walk First  
17 initiative, Traffic Calming Program, Safe Routes to School program, and  
18 Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategies; and

19 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Department of the Environment  
20 conducts education and outreach to San Francisco residents, commuters, and  
21 businesses to increase the number of trips taken by sustainable modes,  
22 including walking, bicycling, and taking transit; now, therefore be it

1           RESOLVED, That the Environment Commission supports the Vision  
2 Zero goal of reducing traffic deaths to zero by the year 2024; and, be it  
3           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Environment Commission endorses  
4 Vision Zero initiatives and intends to provide support by making traffic safety a  
5 priority in the San Francisco Department of the Environment’s transportation  
6 and outreach activities, in coordination with other City agencies.

7           I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted at the Commission on the  
8 Environment’s Meeting on September 30, 2014.

*Monica Fish*

9  
10 Monica Fish, Commission Secretary

11 VOTE:   6-0 Approved; 1 Vacant  
12 AYES:   Commissioners Arce, Gravanis, King, Stephenson, Wald and Wan  
13 NOES:   None  
14 ABSENT: None

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