

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****February 6, 2024**

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SUBJECT: VISION ZERO UPDATE

The purpose of this informal report is to provide history and status on the City of Fort Worth's efforts in support of Vision Zero.

Overview

Vision Zero is an internationally recognized strategy to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries. The strategy is based on the premise that all fatalities and serious injuries can be prevented through a transportation system that is designed to account for and is forgiving of human error. City Council memorialized support for Vision Zero in Resolution No. 5149-11-2019, and the City immediately began strategically investing in traffic safety programming to support the goal. This significant investment strengthened the application for and contributed to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) awarding the City of Fort Worth a Safe Streets and Roadways for All (SS4A) grant.

Background

After City Council memorialized support for Vision Zero on November 19, 2019, City staff immediately implemented programs such as the School Zone Maintenance program and the Sidewalk program in fiscal year 2020. Table 1 on page 3 chronicles the implementation of various programs and projects associated with Vision Zero since the program was adopted.

More recently, on October 17, 2023, City Council ratified the application for and authorized acceptance of the \$524,381.60 SS4A funding award (M&C 23-0891) from FHWA. Consultant assistance was procured in Fall 2023, and on January 23, 2024, City Council authorized execution of an agreement with Toole Design to develop a Comprehensive Traffic Safety Action Plan (M&C 24-0036).

The plan will establish the City's Vision Zero based strategy and will result in site-specific projects that will build upon the City's ongoing efforts to enhance traffic safety (Table 1). Through intensive crash data and historical trend analysis, location-specific and systemic roadway safety issues will be identified and a suite of short-, mid-, and long-term actions (i.e. policies, programs, and projects) will be proposed.

Vision Zero Action Plan and Master Transportation Plan Coordination

The Vision Zero Action Plan will serve as the safety component of the forthcoming "Moving a Million" Comprehensive Master Transportation Plan. "Moving a Million" will be a long-range planning and programming document for Fort Worth's transportation related policies, programs, and infrastructure investments. A central focus of the plan will be the establishment of safe, equitable, and effective multi-modal networks for pedestrians, cyclists, autos, micro mobility (including airborne), freight, and mass transit. The plan's recommended multi-modal program of

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projects will address growth, congestion, and connectivity throughout the City and will guide future Bond and PayGo investments.

The Vision Zero Action Plan and “Moving a Million” will be developed concurrently over an 18-month period that starts February 2024 and concludes in Fall/Winter 2025. These complementary planning initiatives will establish the City’s foundational policies around transportation infrastructure investment and traffic safety and will expand Fort Worth’s eligibility to apply for federal funding opportunities.

Public and stakeholder outreach, interagency engagement, planning committees and interdepartmental working groups will be coordinated between the two efforts to leverage resources and avoid planning fatigue.

Transportation and Public Works staff will provide a presentation to City Council in the coming months, inclusive of project milestones and tentative schedules for public engagement activities, briefings, public comment periods, and recommended Council adoption.

For questions regarding the Vision Zero Action Plan, please contact Chelsea St. Louis, Sr. Capital Projects Officer at Chelsea.st.louis@fortworthtexas.gov or (817) 392-7978. For questions regarding the “Moving a Million” Comprehensive Master Transportation Plan, please contact Kelly Porter, TPW Assistant Director at Kelly.porter@fortworthtexas.gov or (817) 392-7259.

Dave Cooke
City Manager



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Table 1. Vision Zero Efforts 2019 - Present	
Year	Vision Zero Initiative
2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Council Resolution No. 5149-11-2019 was adopted. The resolution supports the Vision Zero Goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and severe injuries and development of a strategy and related performance measures to achieve the goal.
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City of Fort Worth 2015-2019 High Injury Network (HIN) was developed and Top Ten Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Vehicle priority locations were identified. The School Zone Maintenance Program was initiated. From FY 20 to FY 23, approximately 196 schools have had school zone signage refreshed to current Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices standards. The Sidewalk Program was initiated. From FY 20 to FY 23, approximately 69,591 linear feet of sidewalk have been installed. Eighty-five percent of sidewalks have been constructed in majority minority areas.
2021 and 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roadway Safety Assessments were completed for nine HIN Top Ten locations. Voters approved a \$560M bond in May 2022. Approximately \$369,218,300 (66%) is dedicated to streets and mobility projects, including a \$5M Vision Zero Safety/Mobility Category. City Council approved an increase in the annual pavement marking budget to \$8.8M. This funding increase supported a three-year asset maintenance cycle. Approximately two million linear feet of pavement markings were installed in FY 23. City Council approved a FY 23 street light budget increase to \$5M. This funding supports a reduced street light repair time from 60 days to 30 days. In FY 23, approximately 5,542 (86%) of street light maintenance work orders were repaired within 30 days. City Council approved \$12M in American Rescue Plan Act funding for streetlight capital replacement and \$4M for a Vision Zero pedestrian safety corridor project. Staff has upgraded 1,664 Streetlights through this program. The City of Fort Worth applied for a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant to fund Comprehensive Traffic Safety Action Plan (i.e. Vision Zero Action Plan) development. The Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program was initiated. Speed cushions have been installed at approximately 11 street locations and an additional four are planned.
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City of Fort Worth was awarded a \$524,381.60 Safe Streets and Roadways for All Grant Program funding award for development of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. The City of Fort Worth applied for and was awarded \$4.6M by the North Central Texas Council of Governments Regional Transportation Council. Funded projects included AV Cato and AM Pate Safe Routes to School projects and the Oakland-Miller Safe Streets project, which were proposed based on proximity to HIN priority corridors. CFW Vision Zero Dashboard Development initiated.