

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AVON LAKE ADOPTING VISION ZERO AND THE LORAIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY ACTION PLAN.

WHEREAS, the life and health of all persons living and traveling within the City of Avon Lake are our utmost priority, and no one should die or be seriously injured while traveling on our City streets; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is the concept that traffic deaths and serious injuries on our roadways are unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is a holistic strategy aimed at eliminating all traffic fatalities and severe injuries suffered by all road users while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, streets and transportation systems have traditionally been designed primarily to move cars efficiently, and Vision Zero supports a paradigm shift by designing streets and transportation systems to move all people safely, including people of all ages and abilities, pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit users, scooter riders, and motorcyclists, as well as drivers and passengers of motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero recognizes that people will sometimes make mistakes, so the road system and related policies should be designed to ensure that those inevitable mistakes do not result in severe injuries or fatalities; therefore, transportation planners and engineers and policymakers are expected to improve the roadway environment, policies, and other related systems to lessen the severity of crashes; and

WHEREAS, 108 people in Lorain County lost their lives to traffic deaths between 2018-2022, and traffic crashes are among the leading cause of deaths in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Lorain County's transportation infrastructure serves an increasing number of vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, according to the Lorain County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, pedestrians and bicyclists are involved in 1.4 percent of all Lorain County crashes, but 10.9 percent of fatal or serious injury crashes in Lorain County; and

WHEREAS, speed is recognized as a major determining factor of survival in a crash; and

WHEREAS, Lorain County is working toward reducing vehicle speeds because the likelihood of a pedestrian surviving a crash is 10 percent if hit by a vehicle moving 40 mph; 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 fatalities; 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 supports a healthier, more active lifestyle and reduces environmental pollution; and

WHEREAS, successful Vision Zero programs are a result of both a complete government approach (i.e., interdepartmental, coordinated initiatives) and community support of Vision Zero objectives and the Lorain County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero resolutions have been adopted by many jurisdictions across the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF AVON LAKE, STATE OF OHIO:

Section No. 1: The City of Avon Lake adopts the goal of zero traffic deaths and serious injuries, stating that no loss of life or serious injury is acceptable on our streets.

Section No. 2: The City of Avon Lake adopts the goal of eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2040 and endorses Vision Zero as a comprehensive and holistic approach to achieving this goal.

Section No. 3: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees, which resulted in such formal actions, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section No. 4: The City of Avon Lake shall certify the adoption of this Resolution, effective immediately, by the City Council.

1st reading: 2/24/2025

2nd reading: 3/10/2025

3rd reading:

PASSED: 3/24/2025

/s/ Jennifer J. Fenderbosch
Council President

POSTED: 3/28/2025

APPROVED: 3/25/2025

ATTEST: */s/ Valerie E. Rosmarin*
Clerk of Council

/s/ Mark A. Spatzel
Mayor