## **RESOLUTION 2023-08**

## of the Town Council for the

## Town of Windermere, Florida establishing

## ADOPTING A VISION ZERO POLICY

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is one of the most dangerous states for pedestrians, consistently ranking high on the Pedestrian Danger Index by Smart Growth America, with the metro area of Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, Florida ranking as one of the most dangerous metropolitan areas for pedestrians in the country; and

WHEREAS, Town of Windermere, is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the continuing transportation planning process designed to prepare and adopt transportation plans and programs; and

WHEREAS, fatal and severe crashes are preventable, and death and severe injury are not an acceptable cost for using our public roadway system; and

**WHEREAS**, roadways have historically been designed to prioritize vehicle throughput at high speeds to the detriment of health and safety; and

WHEREAS, vehicle speeds and lack of safe facilities for people walking and biking have been identified as major causes of traffic fatalities; and

WHEREAS, communities of color, low-income communities, youth, and seniors are disproportionately impacted by traffic fatalities; and

WHEREAS, pedestrians and bicyclists are the most vulnerable road users and

WHEREAS, measures to make Town of Windermere streets safer for all road users, particularly those who are most physically vulnerable, such as seniors, youth, and people with disabilities, will further encourage people of all ages and abilities to walk, bike and take transit; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical for Town of Windermere to develop a Vision Zero plan to build complete streets and begin to ensure the safety of our pedestrians, cyclists and road users of all ages and abilities;

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is a data-driven strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is founded on a Safe System approach that recognizes that people will make mistakes and roadway systems and policies should be designed to protect them through redundancies and shared responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS**, there are over 50 Vision Zero jurisdictions in the United States, which is expected to increase significantly in the coming years; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Transportation has adopted the Safe System approach; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation has adopted a Target Zero Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero should create opportunities to invite meaningful input from the community, including residents that are disproportionately burdened by traffic collisions, and historically have been underserved;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED** by the Town of Windermere Town Council adopts the Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic deaths and severe injuries by 2050. The Town Council adopts Vision Zero as the policy for road and traffic safety in Town of Windermere and makes this part of this Resolution effective immediately.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Town of Windermere will develop a Vision Zero Action Plan following the passage of this resolution.

Resolved this 14th day of NOVEMBER, 2023

TOWNOF WINDERMERE, FLORIDA

By: Town Council

Jim O'Brien, Mayor

Attest:

Dorothy Burkhalter, MMC, FCRM

Town Clerk