

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE OAK PARK VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN WITH A GOAL TO ACHIEVE ZERO TRAFFIC-RELATED DEATHS OR SERIOUS INJURIES IN OAK PARK BY 2035

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

WHEREAS, everyone in Oak Park should be able to walk, bike, take public transit, and drive on streets that are safe, regardless of who they are or where they live; 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, the Federal Highway Administration has established the Safe System approach to traffic safety, which is based on the principles that humans make mistakes and that human bodies have limited ability to tolerate crash impacts; and,

WHEREAS, Vision Zero and the Safe System approach recognize 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, engineers, and policymakers are expected to improve the roadway environment, policies, and other related systems to lessen the severity of crashes; and,

WHEREAS, people of color are disproportionately impacted by traffic crashes across the United States and within Oak Park; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park has adopted racial equity as a Village policy goal to guide action across municipal functions; 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, as well as drivers and passengers of motor vehicles; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park's transportation infrastructure serves an increasing number of vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and bicyclists; 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, the Village of Oak Park has declared a climate emergency and adopted the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations and community activities by 60% by 2030, relative to 2019 emissions levels, and net zero by 2050; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park has adopted a Complete Streets Policy to create a comprehensive, integrated, and connected transportation network where every roadway user can travel safely and comfortably and where sustainable transportation options are available to

everyone by planning, designing, operating, and maintaining a network of Complete Streets;
and,

WHEREAS, Vision Zero resolutions and the Safe Systems approach have been adopted and endorsed by many jurisdictions across the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero Oak Park Action Plan was developed with the input of community members, citizen commissions, staff from different Village departments, and input from groups most impacted by traffic crashes, including people of color, older adults, and students; and,

WHEREAS, the Vision Zero Oak Park Action Plan incorporates a comprehensive and holistic set of strategies and actions aimed at reducing severe traffic crashes and improving safety for all road users,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Park, Cook County, State of Illinois (“Village”), in the exercise of their home rule powers, that the Village hereby adopts a goal of eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2035 and approves the Oak Park Vision Zero Action Plan as a comprehensive and holistic approach to achieving this goal.

THIS RESOLUTION shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and approval as provided by law.

ADOPTED this 18th day of February, 2025, pursuant to a roll call vote as follows:

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
President Scaman				
Trustee Buchanan				
Trustee Enyia				
Trustee Parakkat				
Trustee Robinson				
Trustee Straw				
Trustee Wesley				

APPROVED this 18th day of February, 2024

Vicki Scaman, Village President

ATTEST

Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk