



NVCOG Resolution 2023-04

Commitment to the Goal of Zero Traffic Deaths Following the
Principles of Vision Zero

WHEREAS, crashes resulting in roadway deaths and serious injuries are preventable and not an inevitable result of the transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the NVCOG and its member municipalities strive to create a region that provides safe mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, a commitment to Vision Zero is a commitment to the value and life of the residents of and visitors to the Naugatuck Valley Planning Region; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut has created a cross-agency Vision Zero Council to examine ways to improve roadway safety throughout the State, tasked with developing a statewide Vision Zero implementation plan and presenting data and targets to the Legislature for their consideration; and

WHEREAS, within the 19 town NVCOG region, 177 people have died on our roadways between the years 2019 and 2021; and

WHEREAS, an additional 553 people within our region have been severely injured in traffic crashes within the same three-year period; and

WHEREAS, the number of fatalities and serious injuries in the region is a public health issue that must and can be addressed to ensure the wellbeing and benefit of our communities; and

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 uses a safe systems approach to traffic engineering that recognizes that humans make mistakes, and that transportation infrastructure should account for those mistakes; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero road safety goals are accomplished through a combination of engineering, education, emergency response, and enforcement measures; and

WHEREAS, preventing crashes within the region requires a comprehensive response from all municipalities, the NVCOG, and the CTDOT, that looks at transportation planning, design, policy, enforcement, education, and communication in order to most greatly impact the flaws within our transportation system; and

WHEREAS, improvements to roadway safety, especially for non-motorized users, aligns with the various Metropolitan Transportation Plans, Regional Safety Action Plan, and governing policies of the CT DOT;

WHEREAS, the NVCOG, in adoption of this resolution, joins a fast-growing list of Vision Zero Communities across the United States and worldwide that have committed to ending traffic deaths and serious injuries, work which has proven the tenants of a safe system approach as successful in this goal with the proper focus, collaboration, and funding;

BE IT RESOLVED, The NVCOG and Member Municipalities commit to zero traffic deaths and serious fatalities by or before 2060, and

BE IT FUTURE RESOLVED, a bi-annual report will be produced showing progress toward this goal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a serious, continued, and well-coordinated effort between all parties is required to implement the solutions and improvements identified in the 2022 update of the Regional Safety Action Plan, leading to the creation of governing committees to oversee this work; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the region's Vision Zero efforts will take into account equity and ensure that the most vulnerable roadway users receive the necessary attention to ensure their safety and mobility; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ongoing public engagement will be a critical component of development and implementation of this plan, gathering input from residents, users of the roadway system, safety advocates, and municipal staff.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut, on September 9, 2022

Agency: Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments

Signed



N. Warren Hess, III, Secretary