

REGIONAL VISION ZERO POLICY

Summary

The Houston–Galveston region (eight-county Metropolitan Planning area) suffers over 600 traffic fatalities annually. This loss of human life is unacceptable and preventable. The State of Texas has adopted a policy to eliminate traffic fatalities state-wide, and cities and counties in Texas are taking similar positions.

One of the primary goals of the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan is to improve transportation safety. Accordingly, supporting safety projects and programs through the MPO and other regional entities will further this goal.

Current Situation

On May 19, 2019, the Texas Transportation Commission formally adopted the Road to Zero policy and instructed the Texas Department of Transportation to devise strategies for eliminating all traffic fatalities in Texas by 2050.

On August 13, 2019 the City of Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner issued an executive order for the creation of a City Vision Zero Action Plan. On June 9, 2020 the City of Houston officially launched its vision zero campaign with the goal of eliminating traffic fatalities in the City by 2030.

On October 8, 2019, Harris County Commissioners Court adopted a Vision Zero order. On August 11, 2020, Harris County launched its Vision Zero campaign in coordinated with the City of Houston's campaign covering the unincorporated areas of Harris County.

A resolution on the elimination of traffic fatalities throughout the eight-county region by 2050 is in the attachment. This resolution was recommended by the Transportation Safety Committee at the meeting in September

Action Requested

Approval of Resolution No. 2020-36.



Resolution

No. 2020-36

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ELIMINATION OF REGIONAL TRAFFIC FATALITIES

Whereas, the safety of all roadway users is the most important consideration in transportation planning and engineering. The transportation projects and programs should not only improve mobility but also enhance safety.

Whereas, all traffic fatalities are preventative. The elimination of traffic fatalities is achievable and should be the primary focus of all transportation planning and implementation activities.

Whereas, our region's transportation systems expand and mature the elimination of traffic fatalities will bring greater community well-being and prosperity because the social, emotional, and financial burdens associated with traffic fatalities will be removed.

Whereas, the existence and efforts of the Transportation Policy Council are to improve the quality of life for those who live in or pass through this region, and,

Whereas, the region suffered more than 600 traffic fatalities in 2019, and,

Whereas, the Transportation Policy Council finds that the continued loss of lives on the region's streets and highways is unacceptable; and,

Whereas, the State of Texas, and local jurisdictions have adopted policies to eliminate traffic fatalities, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL COMMITS TO SUPPORT TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS TO ELIMINATE TRAFFIC FATALITIES IN THE REGION BY THE YEAR 2050.

Passed and approved, this 23rd day of October 2020, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council of the Houston–Galveston Transportation Management Area.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Hon. Kenneth Clark, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

Hon. Tom Reid, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council