

**CITY OF WALNUT CREEK  
RESOLUTION NO. 23-51**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WALNUT CREEK  
ADOPTING THE CITY OF WALNUT CREEK “LOCAL ROADWAY SAFETY PLAN: A  
PATH TO VISION ZERO”**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Walnut Creek is committed to prioritizing safety and eliminating transportation-related deaths and serious injuries on City streets;

**WHEREAS**, no transportation-related deaths or severe injuries on the road network are acceptable within our community;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Walnut Creek’s General Plan 2025 includes the following goals regarding traffic safety:

- Goal 5 to provide a safe and attractive environment for bicycle travel throughout the community;
- Goal 6 to provide a safe and attractive walking environment accessible to all;
- Goal 10 to promote safe bicycling to and through downtown;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Walnut Creek’s Pedestrian Master Plan (2016) includes the following goals regarding traffic safety:

- 2.1 - Promote the safety of bicyclists, pedestrians, and equestrians;
- 2.2 - Provide safe and attractive pedestrian routes along arterials and collectors leading to schools, along arterials or collectors that carry high traffic volumes, on all Downtown streets, along major streets leading to the Downtown, and on all streets leading to facilities;
- 2.3 - Incorporate pedestrian improvements to meet the safety and accessibility needs of seniors and people with disabilities;
- 2.4 - Improve lighting and reduce overgrown vegetation along pedestrian corridors to address pedestrians’ needs and concerns related to personal security particularly at night and on trails;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Walnut Creek’s Bicycle Master Plan (2011) includes the following goals and policies regarding traffic safety:

- Goal to enhance bicycle safety through education and safety programs aimed at reducing bicycle crashes and eliminating barriers to bicycle use;
- Policy 3 to expand education and interaction opportunities between the City and the general public on bicycle related issues;
- Policy 4 to enforce safe shared use of roadways across modes;
- Goal to enhance bicycle security through education, regulation, and enforcement;
- Goal to provide a safe and attractive environment for bicycle travel throughout the community;
- Policy 8 to improve existing roadways to accommodate new or existing facilities;
- Policy 10 to develop a continuous bikeway network that closes gaps in the existing system and serves important destinations;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Walnut Creek’s Rethinking Mobility: Transportation Strategic Plan (2020) includes the following strategies that relate to traffic safety:

- **First/Last Mile Programs:** Enhance pedestrian and bicycle connectivity from the Walnut Creek BART station to downtown. Traveling between BART and downtown is a challenging experience due to large, high-volume roadways and the relative distance between BART and downtown;
- **Infrastructure Improvements:** Identify areas where trail lighting is lacking or could be improved to enhance safety and visibility, examine trail access points and connectivity to City facilities to ensure that roadway crossings can be made safely and with the goal of continuous access to low-stress bicycle facilities;

**WHEREAS,** the State of California has adopted several climate change adaptation goals, mandates, and policies including Assembly Bill (AB) 32 (2006), Senate Bill (SB) 375, SB 743 (reduction of vehicle miles traveled; 2013), SB 1, and SB 1000, encouraging a reduction in transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions;

**WHEREAS,** the City of Walnut Creek’s Sustainability Action Plan (2023) includes the following goal and strategies to advance access to safe alternative modes of transportation, which encourages a reduction in transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions:

- **Goal:** reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions to five percent below Year 2005 levels by Year 2045;
- **Action Plan Strategy 9:** Ensure safe, efficient, and reliable mobility options throughout the community;
- **Action Plan Strategy 10:** Support reduction of school-related emissions and vehicle miles traveled;

**WHEREAS,** the City Council adopted Resolution No. 15-54 adopting a Complete Streets Policy that commits the City to implement a comprehensive, integrated transportation network with infrastructure and design that allows safe and convenient travel along and across streets for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, users and operators of public transportation, seniors, children, youth, and families;

**WHEREAS,** the City can design, construct, repair, and maintain a roads and trails network that is safer, especially for more vulnerable users, such as people walking and bicycling, that encourages meaningful community interaction and the reduction of vehicle miles traveled;

**WHEREAS,** the City values the people of our community first because human life and health are paramount and should be prioritized before speed, vehicle throughput, convenience for drivers, mobility, and other objectives for the transportation and circulation system;

**WHEREAS,** in each project delivery, in each capital improvements program, and in each budget, the City values first providing and maintaining Complete Streets;

**WHEREAS,** roadways traditionally had been designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prioritize minimizing vehicle delay and increasing vehicle speed before first maximizing the potential for medically manageable traffic injuries that prioritize human life and health;

**WHEREAS**, the speeds of people driving and the adequacy of on-street facilities (and provision of off-street facilities with physical protection away from vehicles) for the safety of people walking and bicycling have been identified as contributing factors affecting transportation-related fatalities in our community;

**WHEREAS**, Caltrans Strategic Highway Safety Plan, which guides safety funding and strategy for the state of California, has included a Safe System approach in support of Vision Zero;

**WHEREAS**, actions that increase the rates of walking, transit ridership, carpooling, and bicycling help to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals;

**WHEREAS**, actions to make the City's 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, roll, and ride transit;

**WHEREAS**, Vision Zero is a data-informed strategy to eliminate all transportation-related deaths and severe injuries, while increasing safer, healthier, and more 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, policies, and projects should be designed and implemented to protect people and the "greater good" in maximizing public benefit in the public right-of-way first through redundancies and shared responsibilities before private interests such as on-street vehicle parking.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Walnut Creek, California, does resolve as follows:

Section 1. The City Council adopts the Vision Zero goal of working toward eliminating all transportation-related deaths and severe injuries by December 31, 2034.

Section 2. The City Council adopts the City of Walnut Creek Local Roadway Safety Plan: A Path to Vision Zero.

Section 3. The City Council establishes a Traffic Safety Working Group that will meet regularly to implement the Local Roadway Safety Plan, monitor progress towards the City's goal of eliminating traffic deaths and severe injuries, and communicate outcomes to the public in a transparent and accountable way.

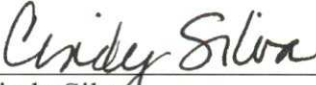
Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Walnut Creek at a regular meeting thereof held on the 1st day of August 2023 by the following called vote:

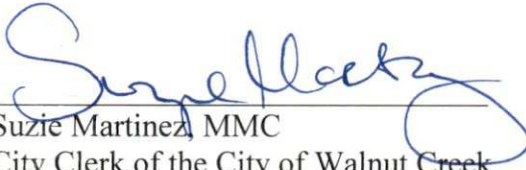
AYES: Councilmembers: Darling, Francois, Haskew, Wilk, Mayor Silva

NOES: Councilmembers: None

ABSENT: Councilmembers: None

  
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Cindy Silva  
Mayor of the City of Walnut Creek

Attest:

  
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Suzie Martinez MMC  
City Clerk of the City of Walnut Creek