RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR EXPEDITING DELIVERY OF VISION ZERO SAFETY PROJECTS AND PRIORITIZING SAFETY OVER TRAFFIC FLOW AND PARKING WHEN DESIGNING FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is San Francisco’s policy and commitment to build better and safer streets, educate the public on traffic safety, enforce traffic laws and adopt policy changes that save lives, with the goal of zero traffic deaths in the city by 2024; and

WHEREAS, Every year in San Francisco, about thirty people lose their lives and over 500 people are severely injured while traveling on city streets; and

WHEREAS, Ten people have been killed in traffic deaths in San Francisco in the first three months of 2019, including six pedestrians, one bicyclist, one person riding in a motor vehicle, and two motorists; and

WHEREAS, Recent fatal crashes underscore the need for quick action; and

WHEREAS, Achieving Vision Zero requires a commitment to expedite all safety projects in San Francisco, both on and off the High Injury Network, which is the thirteen percent of San Francisco’s streets that account for 75 percent of the city’s severe traffic injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, City Charter Section 8A includes the Transit-First Policy, which states that decisions regarding the use of limited public street and sidewalk space shall encourage the use of public rights of way by pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit, and shall strive to reduce traffic and improve public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco agencies with responsibility for implementing street safety projects, including the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), should enable expedited project delivery on the High Injury Network through:
• Efficient planning, design and piloting implementation of project concepts to support timely completion of safety improvements;

• Robust and timely community outreach and engagement, as part of the planning, design and piloting processes;

• Streamlined project approval processes as necessary (e.g., Transportation Code amendments or other modifications to the legislative process);

• Identifying necessary resources for staffing and funding; and

WHEREAS, To meet the Vision Zero goal, the SFMTA must prioritize traffic safety over traffic flow and parking when designing for street improvements; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Transportation Authority hereby urges the SFMTA to expedite delivery of Vision Zero safety projects to eliminate traffic deaths and severe injuries on San Francisco streets; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Transportation Authority hereby urges the SFMTA to prioritize traffic safety over traffic flow and parking when designing for street improvements; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Transportation Authority will work with the SFMTA to identify funding, if determined to be necessary, to ensure that the necessary resources for expedited project delivery are available; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Vision Zero Committee shall request that the SFMTA provide quarterly reports to track the delivery of top priority safety projects; and to report on the identification, implementation and effectiveness of strategies to facilitate faster implementation of Vision Zero projects.