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STEUART PITTMAN County Executive

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 58

TO ADOPT THE VISION ZERO PLAN - A STRATEGY TO PREVENT DEATH AND SERIOUS INJURY CAUSED BY CRASHES ON OUR ROADWAYS AND REQUIRING THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS Anne Arundel County endorses the development, adoption, and implementation of Vision Zero strategies and principles aimed at preventing traffic fatalities and serious injuries on public and private roads in Anne Arundel County, while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, traffic crashes are among the leading causes of deaths and injuries in the world, the United States, and the County, and Anne Arundel County wishes to ensure that all users of our transportation network are safe from bodily harm and inequity; and

WHEREAS, crashes resulting in death or serious injury are not inevitable but can be prevented through changes in human behavior, technology, and designs that accommodate multimodal uses; and

WHEREAS, transportation is an integral part of the built environment and significantly influences physical activity and well-being, safety, and the ability of community members to access destinations that are essential to healthy living; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is an internationally recognized successful framework for reducing traffic deaths and serious injuries by making roadways safer for drivers and passengers of motor-vehicles, bicyclists, pedestrians, and other non-vehicular roadway users; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maryland adopted Vision Zero in 2019, implemented through the Strategic Highway Safety Plan, a five year action plan the foundational elements of which include the "four Es": Engineering, Enforcement, Education, and Emergency Management Services, and has issued a call urging local jurisdictions to do the same; and

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WHEREAS, a Vision Zero Action Plan ensures that the design of community roads creates a safer road network for motorists and their passengers, transit users, pedestrians and bicyclists and reduces the potential for serious traffic incidents; and

WHEREAS, while Anne Arundel County promotes a focus on reducing single-occupancy vehicle rides and encouraging walking, bicycling, transit, and carsharing/carpooling, a Vision Zero Action Plan would add public health benefits by encouraging physical activity, improving air quality and providing other opportunities for safe and smart travel for those who cannot or choose not to drive motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Anne Arundel County citizens have witnessed an increase in pedestrian, bicyclist and motorist injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, a Vision Zero Action Plan would provide for greater safety for pedestrians, especially school children and senior citizens, as well as bicyclists and create a greater sense of community by encouraging walkable neighborhoods and streets; and

WHEREAS, the County's General Development Plan (Plan2040) and the County's Transportation Master Plan (Move Anne Arundel!) both call for the adoption of Vision Zero; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive recommends adopting a Vision Zero Action Plan for Anne Arundel County to be implemented during the review of future development plans, both public and private, to help ensure safe and efficient transport for all users of Anne Arundel County's transportation network; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive recognizes that preventing crashes requires collaboration across all agencies that affect change on roadway planning, design, policy, enforcement, education, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, Anne Arundel County will join other leading government entities around the nation and the world in a commitment to preventing traffic deaths and serious injuries, which has demonstrated success when coupled with adequate funding, staffing and staff resources, and top-down support for implementation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steuart Pittman, County Executive, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter and laws of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, hereby order and direct on this 5th day of July, 2022, as follows:

- 1. Anne Arundel County adopts the Vision Zero strategies and principles to prevent traffic related fatalities and serious injuries on our Roadways.
- 2. All county agencies that affect changes to the roadways or affect behavior of the road users shall participate on a steering committee to develop and implement a Vision Zero Action Plan.

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3. The Vision Zero Action Plan shall be evaluated utilizing performance measures established in the implementation plan every five years. At such time, the plan shall be updated as needed based on the outcome of the evaluation.

This Executive Order shall be archived at the Office of Law and remain in existence until altered or terminated by a subsequent Executive Order.

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County Executive

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

DocuSigned by:

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Gregory J. Swain County Attorney