Health Commission City and County of San Francisco Resolution No. 16-6

IN SUPPORT OF VISION ZERO AND AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Health Commission adopted Vision Zero in 2014, an City initiative to eliminate traffic-related fatalities by 2024;

WHEREAS, the SFDPH has co-chaired the Citywide Vision Zero Task Force since 2014; and

WHEREAS, pedestrians and cyclists are the most vulnerable road users and account for over half of the traffic deaths in San Francisco and San Francisco having the highest per capita rate of pedestrian injury of all counties in the state of California; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) has found that pedestrian and cyclist injuries and deaths are highly concentrated on a subset of city streets, and these streets are disproportionately concentrated in low-income, non-English speaking communities with high densities of seniors, disabled residents, and populations reliant on walking and public transit; and

WHEREAS, seniors are five times more likely to be fatally injured as pedestrians compared to younger adults, and children are more vulnerable to pedestrian injury as they are still developing cognitively and behaviorally; and

WHEREAS, unsafe speed is the leading factor in collisions that result in serious injury or death in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, vehicle speeds are highly predictive of injury severity for all road users, with a person five hit by a car traveling at 20 mph has a 9 in 10 chance of surviving compared to a person hit by a car traveling at 40 mph only has a 1 in 10 chance of surviving; and

WHEREAS, automated speed enforcement (ASE) cameras have been proven repeatedly to reduce speeding and save lives, and over 140 American cities have installed speed cameras with proven results, including a reduction in drivers traveling more than 10 mph over the speed limit, a reduction in citations issued, and a reduction in crashes resulting in serious injury or death; and

WHEREAS, automated speed enforcement (ASE) cameras are currently illegal in California and state legislation is required to authorize San Francisco and other cities to implement ASE.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Health Commission strongly supports State legislation to allow cities like San Francisco to use Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Health Commission supports SFDPH's continued leadership to help the City achieve this goal through work with State partners, the Citywide Vision Zero Task Force and engineering, enforcement, education, encouragement and evaluation initiatives; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Health Commission requests that SFDPH staff report back to the Commission regarding progress and barriers to the achievement of Vision Zero and specifically on automated speed enforcement on an annual basis.

I hereby certify that at the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of May 3, 2016 adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz, MSW Health Commission Executive Secretary