

## Merrimack Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Docket

September 25, 2024

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### Item 4: MV Vision Zero – Plan Endorsement

**Context:** Since 2017, 140 people have been killed and 1,080 people have sustained life-changing injuries in transportation-related crashes in the Merrimack Valley. All can agree that this is unacceptable and requires intervention. Vision Zero is a transportation planning policy approach that aims to eliminate roadway severe injuries and fatalities. Embracing Vision Zero requires all roadway users, managers, and designers to adhere to a safe systems approach—an approach that acknowledges that all humans are vulnerable, make mistakes, and share responsibility in preventing severe and fatal injuries. To do this, roadway managers and designers must be proactive in addressing unsafe roadway conditions and behaviors, and must also look to create multiple, redundant safety mechanisms to protect users if/when a particular other intervention fails.

**Discussion:** Over the past year, MVPC transportation program staff have worked with stakeholders, including municipal officials, members of the public, advocates, public safety officers, and state engineers to learn about safety perspectives and needs throughout the region, as well as provide education on the Vision Zero approach. This work was complemented by technical work, including the development of a crowd-sourced safety challenges map, a trends-based high injury network, and predictive risk-based network. Engagement and technical work informed MVPC's draft Vision Zero Plan, which was funded through the Safe Streets and Roads for all federal aid discretionary program. During the MVMPO meeting, staff will provide an overview of the plan. Should it be the board's pleasure, the board will take a vote to release the draft plan for public review.

**Action:** Endorse the MV Vision Zero Plan.

**Attachments:** Merrimack Valley Vision Zero Plan

## Item 4: MV Moves

**Context:** MV Moves – the active transportation plan – builds upon the work that has been completed by previous planning efforts and seeks to advance priority active transportation and place making projects – such as implementing pedestrian amenities (benches, lighting, public art) – that encourage mode shift, create pleasant recreational opportunities, and support economic development in our town and urban centers.

**Discussion:** Over the past year, MVPC transportation program staff have worked with stakeholders, including municipal officials, members of the public, advocates, public safety officers, and state engineers to collect data, create path profiles, conceptualize and prioritize projects and develop concept designs of selected projects. This work was complemented by technical work, including the development of a crowd-sourced safety challenges map, a trends-based high injury network, and predictive risk-based network. During the MVMPO meeting, staff will provide an overview of the plan. Should it be the board's pleasure, the board will take a vote to release the draft plan for public review.

**Action:** Release the draft MV Moves Plan for public comment.

**Attachments:** MV Moves Plan