Subject/Topic: Target Zero Goal Resolution

For Council Meeting Agenda of: April 28, 2014

Department: City Manager

Prepared by: Kris Overleese, PE

To Be Presented By: Rob Karlinsey

Proposed Council Action/Motion:
Adopt Resolution No. 14-235 which sets a goal of Target Zero pedestrian and bicycle deaths within the City.

Approved by Department Head: NA

Approved by City Attorney: NA

Approved by Finance Director: NA

Approved by City Manager: NA

Exhibits/Attachments:
A: Resolution No. 14-235

Expenditure Required NA

Amount Budgeted NA

Appropriation Required NA

INFORMATION/BACKGROUND:

Kenmore City Council requested that staff bring forward a Target Zero Resolution for Council consideration. The document was drafted by Councilman Herbig with staff assistance. The intent of the Target Zero goal is to achieve zero pedestrian and bicycle fatalities and serious injuries within our community.

Other government organizations have adopted a Target Zero goal and specifically the State of Washington has adopted a Target Zero program that meets federal requirements for state government road safety. The State of Washington’s program states that between 2009 and 2011, an average of 469 people were killed and 2,421 people were seriously injured on Washington’s roadways. In Kenmore, there have been four pedestrians killed in the last two years. These accidents and deaths are devastating and our community is grieving and pulling together to take on this vital issue. Adoption of a Target Zero goal shares a message with the community that we are responsible for each other and that the City takes seriously its role of positively influencing the outcome of roadway safety for all users.

The City alone cannot control the outcome of safety. Our community collectively must do its part to meet this Target Zero goal. The City, each citizen, guest, commuter, driver, bicyclist and pedestrian have a role in meeting the goal.

Over the next several months, the City will take concrete steps to positively influence the outcome of safety for our roadway users including: rectangular rapid flashing beacons at non-stop controlled crosswalks on arterials, evaluation of lighting and location of arterial non-stop controlled crosswalks,
speed review of all arterials, rechannelization of 61st Avenue NE and Simonds Road, education to increase awareness and positively influence road use behaviors, and volunteer coordination. The City has asked for community volunteers to serve on an ad hoc committee to amend the existing Bicycle Strategy to include a pedestrian strategy component. This committee will begin as soon as City resources are in place to manage the committee, likely late May.

Staff recommends that Council adopt the Target Zero resolution which is consistent with the City’s short and long term strategies to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety and also the City’s Comprehensive Plan.

FISCAL CONSIDERATION:

The adoption of the Target Zero resolution itself has no financial commitment. Council recently took action to provide resources for the short and longer term activities outlined above. During the 2014 budget process, other programs and tasks that could further the Target Zero goal could be identified and programmed within the budget for 2015-2016.

COUNCIL GOAL/BUDGET OBJECTIVE BEING ADDRESSED:

Community Safety
CITY OF KENMORE
WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION NO. 14-235

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF KENMORE, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING TARGET ZERO AS A CITY GOAL.

WHEREAS, bicycling and walking improve people’s health, save money in household budgets, and improve people’s general well-being and expressed happiness;

WHEREAS, all people deserve to be able to get where they are going safely, whether by driving, riding transit, walking, or bicycling;

WHEREAS, from 2004 through March 2014, six people have lost their lives, and another seven people were seriously injured, in collisions with motorized vehicles in the City of Kenmore while bicycling or walking;

WHEREAS, the City of Kenmore Comprehensive Plan calls for coordinating transportation funding and policies toward a more urban land use pattern and increasing the mode share of walking, bicycling, and transit;

WHEREAS, the Washington Traffic Safety Commission and King County have “Target Zero” programs to provide a comprehensive, data-driven framework of specific goals, objectives, and strategies for reducing traffic fatalities and serious injuries;

WHEREAS, national best practices for street design have been significantly advanced in recent years, such as multimodal level of service analysis, “complete streets” policies, and the Urban Street Design Guide and Urban Bikeway Design Guide of the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO);

WHEREAS, the Kenmore City Council approved the citizen-created Bicycle Strategy in 2013 and is currently assembling a committee to add a pedestrian component to the document.

WHEREAS, the active involvement of pedestrian and bicycling enthusiasts in advising municipal authorities is vital to ensure proper development of the pedestrian and bicycle environment; and

WHEREAS, promoting the safety and well-being of those who walk and bicycle is an objective of the City,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENMORE, WASHINGTON, DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council adopts “Target Zero” as a goal by 2025 to have no
pedestrian or bicycle deaths or serious injuries as the result of a collision with a motorized vehicle.

Section 2. The combined citizen-created bicycle and pedestrian strategy shall be used by the City Manager, City Council, and staff to inform the City’s work.


CITY OF KENMORE

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David Baker, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

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Patty Safrin, City Clerk