



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 6, 2014

CONTACT:

Nicole Schneider, Executive Director, 415-431-9255 ext. 1, nicole@walksf.org

City support for Vision Zero grows as Two Critical Commissions Consider Vision Zero Resolutions this Week

San Francisco's Health and Police Commissions will both consider Vision Zero resolutions for adoption—the [Health Commission on Tuesday, May 6](#), and the [Police Commission on Wednesday, May 7](#). These resolutions come on the heels of resolutions passed unanimously by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's Board of Directors.

Vision Zero—zero traffic fatalities in 10 years—was originally developed in Sweden and has recently been adopted by San Francisco and New York—two cities working to define how Vision Zero can be achieved in the U.S. Zero traffic fatalities is an ambitious but achievable goal, as demonstrated by Sweden's ongoing decline in traffic fatalities.

In San Francisco, the Department of Public Health (DPH) has been critical in building the case for collision prevention and Vision Zero. The department has analyzed city data to monitor progress towards Vision Zero and inform solutions. The department identified that just 6% of city streets account for 60% of pedestrian fatalities and severe injuries, helping to target limited resources to the streets the city's most dangerous streets. Their ongoing data analysis is critical for monitoring the City's progress towards Vision Zero.

“With more people killed from traffic collisions than homicides and three people hit by cars every day in San Francisco, Walk SF commends the Department of Public Health for addressing the root causes of a serious health crisis,” said Nicole Schneider, executive director of Walk SF.

Recognizing the preventable nature of collisions, the San Francisco Police Department has also stepped up to put an end to traffic fatalities. A couple of weeks ago, SFPD launched a joint enforcement campaign with California Highway Patrol, citing over 125 traffic infractions on Van Ness Street from Market to Geary—one of the City's most dangerous streets where four of the seven people killed so far this year while walking lost their lives.

The Police Commission will hear an update on the Vision Zero commitments made by Chief Suhr in January, and will consider a resolution that includes a quarterly update from the Department on specific metrics towards Vision Zero.

“Walk San Francisco and our members are thrilled that the City has made this preventable issue a priority, and we're hopeful that agencies will have the funding necessary to implement their essential Vision Zero commitments through this year's city budget,” said Schneider.

###

Walk San Francisco (WalkSF.org) and its members are making San Francisco a more welcoming place for everyone to walk. Walk SF speaks up for the safety and priority of pedestrians, and works to reclaim streets as shared public space for everyone to enjoy.

Vision Zero – Zero traffic fatalities in 10 years. No loss of life on city roadways is acceptable, when serious and fatal traffic collisions can be prevented. By engineering inherently safer streets, enforcing traffic laws more effectively, and targeting traffic-safety education, cities that adopt Vision Zero policies can eliminate ALL serious and fatal traffic-related injuries, including motorist, bicyclist, and pedestrian collisions.