

November 22, 2021

2:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.

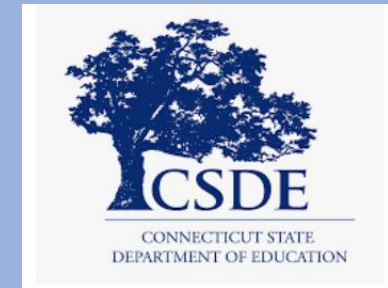
Vision Zero Council



Vision Zero Council - Agenda

- I. Committee Chair Welcome and Introductions
- II. Adoption of 10.7.21 meeting minutes
- III. Mission Statement – final review and adoption
- IV. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
 - a) Future transportation initiatives
- V. Vision Zero Website
- VI. Committee Organization
 - a) Recruitment – ways to join a VZC subcommittee
- VII. Interagency Policy
 - a) Discussion of draft policy and schedule
 - b) Highlights of existing VZC community policies
- VIII. Administrative Items
 - a) Next Meeting – date and topics
- IX. Public Comment
- X. Adjourn

Welcome and Introductions



Adoption of 10.7.21
meeting minutes

Adoption of Proposed Mission Statement

The Vision Zero Council (VZC) believes even one life lost in a traffic crash is unacceptable, traffic deaths are preventable, and commits to using all available tools to eliminate conditions and behaviors that lead to serious injuries and deaths. The goal of the VZC is to bring together stakeholders to introduce policies, establish partnerships, and leverage available technologies to prevent death and serious injuries. Working together, we will eliminate traffic deaths and life-altering injuries.

The VZC will build new and strengthen existing partnerships between state agencies and safety advocates who are committed to eliminating traffic crashes that cause death and serious injuries. Through policies that make roadways safer and through inclusive community engagement, VZC will achieve the goal of zero deaths from traffic fatalities.



Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

- New Federal Programs focused on decarbonization and Vision Zero investments
- Return of Safe Routes to School program
- Modifications to HSIP to allow up to 10% for non-infrastructure uses, other vulnerable user focus
- Changes to Open Container Penalty to allow use for ALL forms of impairment
- Allows NHTSA Section 402 funds to be used for school or work-zone automated enforcement
- Establishes new Move Over Law safety program
- Requires NHTSA to update crash data systems to account for different vehicles
- Requires NHTSA to advance passive alcohol impairment detection technology in vehicles
- New Railroad Crossing Elimination Program
- New Heavy Duty Vehicle safety provisions (automated braking, underride prevention)

Vision Zero Council – Website

- Documentation of all VZC activity
- Past meetings and minutes
- Although the content here is currently administrative, this site will serve as a resource for all things CT Vision Zero in the future
- [CT Vision Zero Website](https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/VisionZeroCouncil)
 - (<https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/VisionZeroCouncil>)

The screenshot shows the website for the Vision Zero Council of Connecticut. At the top, there is a red banner with a warning icon and text: "COVID-19: Get the latest updates on COVID-19 at [ct.gov/coronavirus](https://portal.ct.gov/coronavirus). Find a vaccination site near you at [ct.gov/covidvaccine](https://portal.ct.gov/covidvaccine)." Below this is a blue header with the "ct.gov" logo, "Connecticut's Official State Website", a search bar, and a "Language + Settings" button. The main header features the Connecticut Department of Transportation logo and a background image of a train and a bus. Below the header, the breadcrumb trail reads "CT.gov Home / Department of Transportation / Vision Zero Council".

The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with the following items:

- A to Z Index
- About CTDOT
- CTDOT Fast Facts
- Highways and Bridges
- Transit – Bus, Train, Ferry
- Bicycles and Pedestrians
- Road Signs, Pavement Markings, Signals
- Environmental Planning
- Major Projects
- Traffic Count Data
- Traveling in Connecticut
- CTDOT COVID-19
- Contact Us

The main content area features a banner for the "VISION ZERO COUNCIL OF CONNECTICUT" with the tagline "A STATEWIDE PARTNERSHIP WORKING TO REDUCE PEDESTRIAN DEATHS". Below the banner is a grid of navigation buttons: "WHAT IS VISION ZERO", "WHY IS IT NEEDED", "WHO WE ARE", "HOW TO CONTACT US", "MEETING SCHEDULES", "MEETING MINUTES", "RESOURCES AND NEWS", and "HOME PAGE".

What is the Vision Zero Council?

The **Vision Zero Council** is an interagency work group tasked with developing statewide policy to eliminate transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries involving pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, and passengers.

The Council was established in 2021 by the Connecticut General Assembly as part of [Public Act 21-28](#), a landmark transportation safety bill.

Vision Zero Council – Committee Organization

- **Proposed focus areas for subcommittee organization to be framed around the five “E’s” of traffic Safety**

- Engineering
- Enforcement
- Education
- Emergency Medical Services
- Equity

Vision Zero Council – Committee Organization

- **Subcommittees will be staffed in two ways:**
 - VZC council members will designate members of their organizations to participate
 - Interested safety stakeholders and members of the public can navigate to the VZC webpage and find the survey form for submission. You can also request a link to the form by emailing ctvisionzero@ct.gov
 - State agencies will provide support to subcommittee chairs in managing staffing and outreach to subcommittee members

Vision Zero Council - Interagency Policy

PA 21-28 requires:

- On or before February 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the council shall submit the state-wide policy and interagency approach and any other recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Draft policy:

- Schedule, timeline and workflow
 - Broad outline will be shared from DOT
 - Council members will comment and add to the outline to create draft policy
 - Draft complete for public review and comment early in January (posted to VZC website)
 - Incorporate comments
 - Final discussion and adoption of policy at 1/19/22 meeting

Vision Zero Council - Interagency Policy

- Surveyed various Vision Zero communities, their policies, frameworks and action plans
- Identified common themes shared across Vision Zero communities for best practices
- The Vision Zero Network provides a good outline for a policy framework CT VZC may want to follow and expand upon



If road users fail to comply
System designers take new steps to

Road Users
Responsible for following rules

Communities that want to succeed at Vision Zero need to acknowledge that business as usual is not enough and that systemic changes are needed to make meaningful progress.

Committing to Vision Zero will take the following strategies:

- » Building and sustaining leadership, collaboration, and accountability – especially among a diverse group of stakeholders to include transportation professionals, policymakers, public health officials, police, and community members;
- » Collecting, analyzing, and using data to understand trends and potential disproportionate impacts of traffic deaths on certain populations;
- » Prioritizing equity and community engagement;
- » Managing speed to safe levels; and
- » Setting a timeline to achieve zero traffic deaths and serious injuries, which brings urgency and accountability, and ensuring transparency on progress and challenges.

For more information, download a [Vision Zero Fact Sheet](#), or [9 Components of an Effective Vision Zero Strategy](#)

Vision Zero Council – Interagency Policy

• The Vision Zero Network recommends 9 components of a strong Vision Zero Commitment:

- Political Commitment
- Multi-Disciplinary Leadership
- Action Plan
- Equity
- Cooperation & Collaboration
- Systems-Based Approach (Safe Systems)
- Data-Driven
- Community Engagement
- Transparency

9 Components of a Strong Vision Zero Commitment

Based on the experiences of early-adopter cities in the United States, these nine components have proven to be an effective high-level framework for communities considering a Vision Zero commitment. While these are not the only factors to consider, they are critical aspects to ensure a strong and lasting commitment to Vision Zero.

POLITICAL COMMITMENT

The highest-ranking local officials (Mayor, City Council, City Manager) make an official and public commitment to a Vision Zero goal to achieve zero traffic fatalities and severe injuries among all road users (including people walking, biking, using transit, and driving) within a set timeframe. This should include passage of a local policy laying out goals, timeline, stakeholders, and a commitment to community engagement, transparency, & equitable outcomes.



MULTI-DISCIPLINARY LEADERSHIP

An official city Vision Zero Taskforce (or Leadership Committee) is created and charged with leading the planning effort for Vision Zero. The Taskforce should include, at a minimum, high-ranking representatives from the Office of the Mayor, Police, Transportation (or equivalent), and Public Health. Other departments to involve include Planning, Fire, Emergency Services, Public Works, District Attorney, Office of Senior Services, Disability, and the School District.



ACTION PLAN

Vision Zero Action Plan (or Strategy) is created within 1 year of initial commitment and is implemented with clear strategies, owners of each strategy, interim targets, timelines, & performance measures.



EQUITY

City stakeholders commit to both an equitable approach to Vision Zero by establishing inclusive and representative processes, as well as equitable outcomes by ensuring measurable benchmarks to provide safe transportation options for all road users in all parts of the city.



COOPERATION & COLLABORATION

A commitment is made to encourage meaningful cooperation and collaboration among relevant governmental agencies & community stakeholders to establish a framework for multiple stakeholders to set shared goals and focus on coordination and accountability.



SYSTEMS-BASED APPROACH

City leaders commit to and prioritize a systems-based approach to Vision Zero — focusing on the built environment, systems, and policies that influence behavior — as well as adopting messaging that emphasizes that these traffic losses are preventable.



DATA-DRIVEN

City stakeholders commit to gather, analyze, utilize, and share reliable data to understand traffic safety issues and prioritize resources based on evidence of the greatest needs and impact.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Opportunities are created to invite meaningful community engagement, such as select community representation on the Taskforce, broader community input through public meetings or workshops, online surveys, and other feedback opportunities.



TRANSPARENCY

The city's process is transparent to city stakeholders and the community, including regular updates on the progress on the Action Plan and performance measures, and a yearly report (at minimum) to the local governing board (e.g., City Council).



Vision Zero Council – Interagency Policy

- Reviewed action plans from a dozen Vision Zero communities (NYC, Philadelphia, Austin, Portland etc.)
- Common high-level themes across action plans that may be conscripted to CT Vision Zero interagency policy:
 - Focusing the transportation system on people/improved overall system performance
 - Data-driven approaches to decision making and setting time-framed goals
 - Accountability, equitability and transparency
 - Interagency partnerships and community engagement

Vision Zero Council – Administrative Items

Subcommittee formation

- Council members submit individuals from their agencies for subcommittee participation
- Interested safety stakeholders and members of the public submit subcommittee survey forms

Next meeting 1.19.22

- FHWA/NHTSA presentation
- Will invite TRA Committee leadership
- Safe systems approach to zero deaths
- Finalize work on interagency policy



Vision Zero Council – Public Comment

- Please raise hand or use Q&A box