

RESOLUTION R-5445

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND ADOPTING THE SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL ACTION PLANS.

1 WHEREAS, the Lake Washington School District reports
2 that enrollments are up 26 percent over the last ten years,
3 projections suggest that this trend will continue, and an additional
4 2,000 students are expected by 2022; and

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6 WHEREAS, since 2012, the population of the city of
7 Kirkland has increased nearly 10 percent, and, because of this
8 growth, more traffic is converging on schools at arrival and pick-
9 up times, leading to poor traffic circulation, congestion,
10 inadequate parking, and often unsafe conditions; and

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12 WHEREAS, the City's vision, as expressed in its
13 Comprehensive Plan, includes a transportation system that
14 supports a livable, walkable, green, and connected community;
15 and

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17 WHEREAS, the City's adopted Transportation Master Plan
18 reflects this vision across a set of multimodal Goals and Policies
19 founded on the principles of moving people safely, linking to land
20 use, being sustainable, being an active partner, and measuring
21 progress; and

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23 WHEREAS, the first goal in the Transportation Master Plan
24 is Vision Zero, which is to eliminate all transportation related fatal
25 and serious injury crashes in Kirkland by 2035; and

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27 WHEREAS, the multimodal approach of the Transportation
28 Master Plan supports construction and operation of a
29 transportation network where walking, biking, and transit are
30 realistic modes of transportation for many trips, including going to
31 and from school; and

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33 WHEREAS, school walk route improvements have been a
34 significant focus of the Transportation Master Plan and
35 subsequent Capital Improvement Programs; and

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37 WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of
38 pedestrian and bicyclist safety and has constructed multiple

39 improvements to school walk routes across the City, including
40 rapid flashing beacons, sidewalks, and two school zone safety
41 cameras at strategic school sites; and

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43 WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution R-5356 on
44 February 19, 2019, which spells out the 2019-2020 Priority Goals
45 and City Work Program, which included the development of Safer
46 Routes to School Action Plans for each elementary, middle, and
47 high school in Kirkland in partnership with the Lake Washington
48 School District to further the City Council goals of Public Safety,
49 Balanced Transportation, and Neighborhoods; and

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51 WHEREAS, from April 2019 to August 2020, staff worked in
52 partnership with the Lake Washington School District, the Kirkland
53 Police Department, engineering professionals, students, parents,
54 administrators, and neighborhoods to develop the Safer Routes to
55 School Action Plans; and

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57 WHEREAS, at the April 21, 2020 City Council Study Session,
58 staff updated the Council on the progress of the Safer Routes to School
59 Action Plans initiative and provided methodologies, data, and findings
60 from the year-long effort and received direction from Council to move
61 forward with the Engineering element of the Action Plans and to use
62 online public engagement tools to obtain feedback on the project
63 recommendations; and

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65 WHEREAS, on August 4, 2020 staff returned to the City Council
66 Study Session with the draft Safer Routes to School Action Plans that
67 included the prioritized list of sidewalk and crosswalk improvements in
68 each neighborhood, and the City Council directed staff to return with a
69 funding mechanism for the implementation and adoption of the Action
70 Plans; and

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72 WHEREAS, at the September 1, 2020 City Council meeting,
73 staff proposed the rebranding of the existing Capital Improvement
74 Program Project series NMC 08700, to be called "Safer Routes to
75 School Action Plans Implementation"; and

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77 WHEREAS, the funding source(s) and amounts would be
78 identified in the 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Program
79 process; and

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81 WHEREAS, projects selected for the first two-year funding
82 cycle will be proposed to the City Council in the first quarter of
83 2021; and
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WHEREAS, Safer Routes to School Action Plans will be updated periodically and accomplishments will be reported annually in the Transportation Master Plan Progress Report and Street Levy Report.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:


Section 1. The Safer Routes to School Action Plans is adopted as shown in Attachment 1 of this Resolution.

Section 2. The Safer Routes to School Action Plans shall be referenced in identifying potential projects for funding through the Capital Improvement Program process.

Section 3. The Safer Routes to School Action Plans shall be posted to the City's website and will be updated periodically, and accomplishments will be reported annually in the Transportation Master Plan Progress Report and Street Levy Report.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 1 day of September, 2020.

Signed in authentication thereof this 1 day of September, 2020.



Penny Sweet, Mayor

Attest:



Kathi Anderson, City Clerk