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RESOLUTION 24- 29

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SAWYER COUNTY AND SAWYER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ENDORSING
THE SAFE STREETS FOR ALL INITIATIVE, AN ASPIRATIONAL INITIATIVE TO ACHIEVE ZERO TRAFFIC-
RELATED DEATHS OR SERIOUS INJURIES IN THE COUNTY OF SAWYER**

WHEREAS, the life and health of all persons living and traveling within the County are our utmost priority, and no one should die or be seriously injured while traveling on our county roads; and

WHEREAS, the County has a goal to achieve and maintain zero deaths or serious injuries from traffic related incidents in the County of Sawyer; and

WHEREAS, fatal and severe crashes are not inevitable but largely preventable through proper engineering design, enforcement, encouragement, evaluation, and constant education; and

WHEREAS, death or severe injury are not an acceptable cost for using our public roadway system; and

WHEREAS, the number of people dying and suffering serious injuries on our roads is a serious public health problem which necessitates public action; and

WHEREAS, traffic safety is a social equity issues, and low-income and minority populations are disproportionately impacted by fatal and severe injury crashes; and

WHEREAS, people will sometimes make mistakes, so the road system and related policies should be designed to ensure that those inevitable mistakes do not result in severe injuries or fatalities; and

WHEREAS, streets and transportation systems have traditionally been designed primarily for vehicular capacity rather than safe accommodation of all modes of transportation; and

WHEREAS, the County's transportation infrastructure serves an increasing number of vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, speed is recognized as a major determining factor of survival in a crash; and

WHEREAS, crashes on County roads necessitate a comprehensive and specific approach to planning, design, policy, enforcement, legal processes, education and communication in order to provide the most powerful solution to the problem; and

WHEREAS, a data-driven safe systems approach is proven to be effective at reducing traffic fatalities and injuries, including through taking into account all aspects of the transportation environment and recognizing there are vulnerable roadway users; and

WHEREAS, the Sawyer County Highway Department will continue to work collaboratively to identify, prioritize, and fund projects toward eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisor of the Sawyer County Highway Department:

- 49 1. Commits to a goal of zero deaths and serious injuries that are a result of crashes on County
50 roads by 2030.
- 51
- 52 2. Acknowledges that achieving this goal requires significant effort and resources and will develop
53 a Safety Action Plan following the passage of this resolution.
- 54
- 55 3. The Safety Action Plan will put equity at its forefront, striving to impact the most vulnerable and
56 dependent users of the most dangerous parts of the transportation system to improve the
57 health and well-being of those traveling the roads in the County of Sawyer, and the plan will use
58 data and community outreach to develop strategies that aim to end death and serious injuries
59 on County roads in the effort to ensure outcomes will be experienced equitably throughout the
60 County.
- 61
- 62 4. The Safety Action Plan will use data and best practices to outline steps in planning, engineering,
63 policy, enforcement, and education to reach interim steps toward zero deaths.
- 64
- 65 5. Will work with partners in the region to influence the street planning, design, maintenance,
66 operations, and law enforcement to combine similar efforts and leverage individual work efforts
67 to contribute to improvements in safety region-wide.
- 68
- 69 6. Acknowledges and accepts that the Safety Action Plan may result in changes to the County's
70 approach to planning and design of roads, as well as education and communication techniques.
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- 72 7. Is dedicated to measuring the progress, challenges, and success of the Safe Streets for All
73 commitment and will do so with tangible, reportable metrics that will be reported upon on an
74 annual basis.
- 75
- 76


77 Recommended for adoption by the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors at its meeting on August
78 15, 2024, by the Public Works Committee at their August 7, 2024 meeting.

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81 Ron Kinsley, Chair


Marc Helwig, Vice-Chair


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Brian Bisonette, Member


Chuck Van Etten, Member

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Randy Neumann, Member

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88 This Resolution is hereby adopted by the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of August,
89 2024.

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91 
92 Ron Kinsley
93 Sawyer County Board of Supervisors


Lynn Fitch
Sawyer County Clerk