

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS KENDRA LARA, ED FLYNN, BAKER, BOK, BREADON, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FLAHERTY, LOUIJEUNE, COLETTA, MEJIA, MURPHY AND ARROYO



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS RELATED TO TRAFFIC SAFETY AND INJURIES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SOUND PREVENTION POLICIES

**WHEREAS,** In the United States, motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death, killing over 100 people every day; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among US children and adolescents, accounting for 20% of the deaths in this age group; *and*

**WHEREAS,** U.S. traffic deaths soared by 12% higher in the first nine months of 2021 from the same period a year earlier, representing the highest percentage increase over a nine-month period since the Transportation Department began recording fatal crash data in 1975; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The state of Massachusetts Department of Transportation's traffic-related fatality data shows that 408 people died on Massachusetts roads in 2021; *and*

**WHEREAS,** These 408 deaths are a 19% spike from the 2020 tally of 343 fatalities, and represent more crash fatalities than any year since 2009; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston's own EMS data show that in 2021 there were some 3,911 crashes and 15 fatalities in Boston involving drivers, passengers, motorcyclists, pedestrians, or bicyclists; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston EMS has already responded to 1,248 car crashes in 2022, 157 of which involved pedestrians; *and*

**WHEREAS,** the City of Boston and Boston City Council have a responsibility to prioritize safety for all road users, especially the most vulnerable, *and*

**WHEREAS,** There are proven strategies and infrastructure that can help prevent these road crash injuries and deaths; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council declare road crash injuries a public health crisis requiring urgent action.

Filed on: June 29, 2022