

[Date]

City of Phoenix
200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Dear Councilperson,

I, [First and Last Name], thank you for passing Vision Zero. This is a powerful statement by the City of Phoenix that demonstrates its commitment to safety for all road users. Vision Zero is especially important for bicyclists and pedestrians, the people most vulnerable to injury and death on Phoenix roadways.

Approving Vision Zero is a step in the right direction, but it will be a meaningless gesture without investment and enforcement starting July 1. To that end, we ask that the final approved budget invests **\$5 investment per city resident to ensure the safety of citizens who use alternative transportation, approximately \$9 million.**

That funding is amply available. **The most recent Five-Year General Fund Forecast 2022-23 indicates a surplus of \$76 million with \$32 million for ongoing expenses.** The budget specifically suggests that \$32 million be “used to provide new... programs and services in Council and community priority areas.” What greater priority does this Council have than to ensure the safety of its citizens?

The people this investment protects come from every segment of society and every income bracket. Bicyclists and pedestrians include people with disabilities unable to drive a car, dedicated athletes training for elite competitions, friends bonding during social rides and families enjoying leisurely neighborhood rides. **Each and every one are Phoenicians who deserve to be safe on our city streets.**

The \$5 per resident will save the city tens of thousands of dollars. Less money would be needed for emergency response, lawsuits tied to city negligence, out of court settlements, and police response to accidents.

Human life is not cheap. And protecting life is not expensive relative to other city expenditures. Five dollars per resident empowers you to meet your responsibility to your constituents.

Thank you for your service to our great city.

Sincerely,

First & Last Name