January 20, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

Congratulations on your inauguration as the 46th President of the United States! You are taking office at a time in American history when our country is facing many challenges.

We are writing to bring your attention to one of the immense, but solvable, challenges facing the United States, and one with which you, sadly, have personal experience — roadway fatalities. Our country loses almost 40,000 community members each year as a result of crashes. You know all too well the pain and devastation that comes when someone is killed in a crash. These are not just numbers — each life is someone’s family, friend and neighbor.

We are asking that you commit to reduce roadway fatalities to zero by 2050. As a nation, it is time to take decisive and collective action to address roadway safety and save tens of thousands of lives and millions injured in preventable crashes.

For decades, we have known the solutions in this country and watched other countries make incredible progress towards this goal, while we have lacked the leadership to make roadway safety a national priority in the United States. We look to you, as a leader with lived experience, to prioritize a goal of zero fatalities and advance accompanying policies across your administration. We encourage you to engage and lead on this topic globally, joining other nations as they share efforts in road safety.

We are committed to roadway safety and know what it takes to achieve zero deaths. It will take action at the local, state and federal levels. A commitment by you and your Administration to prioritize safety, including adopting the Safe System approach, will provide the leadership needed to save lives. By making a public commitment early in your Administration to end roadway fatalities by 2050, you will demonstrate the importance of safe mobility for all and set the tone at the Federal level to prioritize safety in planning and policy.

We look forward to working with you and your Administration to ensure people in this country can move about their communities safely.

Signed,

AAA
Alpha Technologies
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
American Property Casualty Insurance Association
American Public Transportation Association
American Traffic Safety Services Association
American Trucking Associations
Arizona Chapter, National Safety Council
Bike Cleveland
Bike JC
BikeWalkKC
Capitol Motor Carrier Compliance
Central TX Families for Safe Streets
Charlene Hill
Christopher Osterhout
Claire Roth
Conor Lynch Foundation
Consumer Reports
D.E. GEMMILL, INC
David Kelly, Former Acting Administrator/Chief of Staff, NHTSA
Deborah A.P. Hersman, Former Chair of the Road to Zero Coalition, Former President and CEO of the National Safety Council and Former Chair of the NTSB
Denver Streets Partnership
Families for Safe Streets
Farm&City
FIA Foundation
Friends and Families for Safe Streets Columbus
Governors Highway Safety Association
Institute of Transportation Engineers
Intelligent Car Coalition
Intelligent Transportation Society of America
Katie Watson
League of American Bicyclists
Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition
Los Angeles Department of Transportation
Marisa Rodriguez-McGill
Matthew Camden
Mayor Steven M. Fulop, Jersey City, NJ
Minnesota Safety Council
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association
NAFA Fleet Management Association
National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)
National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials
National Complete Streets Coalition
National Safety Council
National Sheriffs’ Association
National Waste and Recycling Association
cc: The Honorable Pete Buttigieg