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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	11/2/2011
Sponsor(s):	Brookins, Howard (21)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Call for hearings on prevention of pedestrian fatalities
Committee(s) Assignment:	Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR HEARINGS TO PREVENT FURTHER PEDESTRIAN FATALITIES

WHEREAS, According to the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), almost 3,000 vehicular accidents involving pedestrians, with 32 pedestrian fatalities, occurred in 2010. National Highway Traffic Safety Administrator David Strickland states that, throughout the United States, nearly 4,100 pedestrians were killed in 2009; and


WHEREAS, CDOT has installed 32 mannequins along the Chicago River sidewalk parkway of West Wacker Drive to give mute testimony to those pedestrians who, according to CDOT Commissioner Gabe Klein, were among the most vulnerable users of the public way. This installation along with safety messages stenciled on sidewalks in areas with high foot traffic, small orange crossing flags at neighborhood intersections, and interaction with students, senior citizens and taxi drivers by CDOT personnel who have been trained to be Safe Route Ambassadors; and

WHEREAS, More than half of pedestrian accidents in this city involve vehicles that are turning a corner. Close to 80% of the pedestrians were hit in the crosswalks of an intersection. Many of these fatal accidents involve bicyclists like 25 year old Jacqueline Michon who was killed by a truck as she rode home from a music festival this past summer; and

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon this legislative body to engage in public discourse to facilitate the change in behaviors of drivers, cyclists and pedestrians that lead to fatalities; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council, gathered together this 2nd Day of November, 2011 AD, do hereby call upon the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Committee to hold public hearings soliciting testimony from experts and concerned citizens regarding action to be taken and legislation needed to ameliorate and prevent these tragic and avoidable pedestrian fatalities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the Honorable Margaret Laurino, Chair of the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Committee.


HOWARD BROOKINS, JR.
Alderman – 21st Ward