

PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPT. 30-OCT. 6, 2024 AS WEEK WITHOUT DRIVING IN KITSAP COUNTY

WHEREAS, access to mobility is a fundamental part of health and community connection, allowing residents of Kitsap County to reach education and employment opportunities, medical services, shopping, recreation, and visit friends and family, and is one of Washington state's six transportation system policy goals, including investing public dollars to improve the movement of people throughout Kitsap County; and

WHEREAS, Disability Rights Washington created the Week Without Driving challenge so that people - including elected leaders and policy makers - can begin to understand the barriers nondrivers experience in accessing our communities; and

WHEREAS, as the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the cost of owning a car is approximately 72 cents a mile, with average household spending on transportation reaching \$10,961 a year in 2021, many people cannot afford the cost of a car, and nearly a third of the people residing in the U.S. do not have a driver's license, either because of their age or a condition that does not allow them to drive; and

WHEREAS, transportation represents the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, and in order to meet our state's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, we must reduce emissions in our transportation sector; and

WHEREAS, vehicles also create tire dust that can enter watersheds; have necessitated freeway expansions that have been detrimental to neighborhoods historically home to communities of color; and require impervious surfaces for parking, with an estimated 3.4 parking spaces for every car in the United States, all of which have contributed to transportation being an important environmental justice concern; and

WHEREAS, going a week without driving is a great way to understand how we can improve our current transportation system to better meet the needs of Kitsap County residents and enhance transportation options such as transit, ferries, biking, and walking pathways as key strategies in our decarbonization efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim September 30-October 6, 2024 as **Week Without Driving**, and encourages all people to join in observing this by finding other modes of transportation to get where they need to go.

ADOPTED this 9th day of September 2024



ATTES: *Dana Daniels*
Dana Daniels, Clerk of the Board

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KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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