



A Proclamation of the Pierce County Council Proclaiming the Week of September 30 through October 6, 2024, as “Week Without Driving” in Pierce County, Washington.

Whereas, access to mobility is one of Washington States’s six transportation system policy goals, including investing public dollars to improve the movement of people throughout Washington State; and

Whereas, in 2021, the Disability Mobility Initiative launched the #WeekWithoutDriving campaign to challenge our leaders to better understand the barriers nondrivers experience in accessing our communities; and

Whereas, transportation is a fundamental part of health and community connection, allowing Pierce County community members to reach education and employment opportunities, medical services, shopping, recreational activities, and visit friends and family; and

Whereas, about 25 percent of the population cannot or do not drive, which means one in four people depend on public transit and people they know to get around; and

Whereas, public transportation and a strong network of sidewalks and bike paths aren’t available in every community here in Pierce County, making it much more difficult to get around, visit family and friends, and take care of everyday tasks for those who cannot or do not drive; and

Whereas, improvements in walking and bike paths can improve alternate forms of mobility in communities across Pierce County and our state, and public driver education initiatives can help educate drivers to have patience and understanding for those traveling by means other than a vehicle; and

Whereas, participating in the #WeekWithoutDriving challenge will bring more awareness and understanding to leaders and the community about how the lack of adequate transportation can impact people's ability to work, see doctors and make it to appointments, access education and childcare, and procure goods, services, recreation, and entertainment in their own communities; **Now, Therefore**

BE IT PROCLAIMED on this 1st day of October 2024 by the Pierce County Council that September 30 through October 6, 2024, is recognized as “Week Without Driving” in Pierce County, Washington. Community members are encouraged to use public transportation, walk, ride a bike, or use ridesharing options to include carpooling for their everyday travel needs.

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