

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, access to mobility is a fundamental component of health, safety and community connection, enabling Washington state residents to reach educational and employment opportunities, medical services, shopping and recreation, and to visit friends and family; and

WHEREAS, many community members cannot afford, or are financially burdened by, the costs of car ownership and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Automobile Association (AAA), the average annual cost to own a vehicle is \$12,297, or \$1,025 per month, and AAA recommends that drivers spend no more than ten percent of their income on transportation, which would require an annual income of \$120,000 to afford average car costs, while the median household income in the United States is \$77,000; and

WHEREAS, nearly one-third of U.S. residents do not hold a driver's license, often due to age, disability or other circumstances that prevent them from driving; and

WHEREAS, public transportation, sidewalks and bike paths are not universally available across all communities, making it significantly more difficult for non-drivers to travel, connect with loved ones and manage daily responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, spending a week without driving can offer valuable insight into how we can improve transportation connectivity and access to better serve the diverse needs of our community members;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Ferguson, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 29-October 5, 2025, as

Week Without Driving

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 25th day of September, 2025

Governor Bob Ferguson

