

City of Vancouver, Washington **Proclamation**

- WHEREAS, in 2023, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated the average household cost to own and maintain a vehicle was \$12,182 annually; and,
- WHEREAS, many people cannot afford the cost of a car, and nearly a third of the people residing in the US do not have a driver's license, either because of their age or a condition that does not allow them to drive, including elders and people with disabilities; and
- WHEREAS, access to mobility is a fundamental part of health and community connection, allowing people 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 Washington; and
- WHEREAS, transportation represents the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, in our region, and in Vancouver, and to meet our City's climate and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals of net carbon neutrality by 2040 we must reduce emissions in our transportation sector; and
- WHEREAS, in addition to greenhouse gas emissions, vehicle travel increases dust and pollutants that enter the air and local watersheds, negatively impacting health outcomes for community members and representing a critical equity and environmental justice concern; and
- WHEREAS, We encourage those who are able to participate in the Week Without Driving by taking some or all of their trips via a non-driving mode, to build an understanding of the needs of our neighbors who cannot or do not drive, and increasing awareness of the ways we can continue to improve our transportation system so travel options like transit, biking, walking, and rolling are safe and accessible, and contribute to our decarbonization and equity efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, Washington, do hereby proclaim the week of September 30 to October 6 as:

“ Week Without Driving ”

in the City of Vancouver and encourages the Federal Government, States, local governments, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and all Vancouver community members to observe the Week Without Driving with appropriate events and activities to understand how we can improve our current transportation system to better meet the needs of all Vancouver residents and improve and enhance transportation options such as transit, biking, walking, and rolling as key strategies in our decarbonization efforts.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 3rd day of June 2024.

ANNE McENERNY-OGLE, MAYOR