

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, access to mobility is a fundamental part of health, safety, and community connection, allowing City of Olympia residents to reach employment and education opportunities, medical services, shopping, recreation, and visit friends and family; and

WHEREAS, many community members cannot afford or are financially stretched to pay for car ownership and maintenance. The American Automobile Association (AAA) estimates that it costs \$12,297 a year (\$1,025 a month) to own a vehicle, and recommends spending no more than 10% of income on transportation. This means drivers would need to earn \$120,000 a year to afford the average cost of car ownership, while the U.S. median household income is approximately \$77,000; and

WHEREAS, nearly one-third of people in the United States do not have a driver's license, due to age, disability, or other barriers to driving; and

WHEREAS, in many places transportation options such as public transit, safe sidewalks, and connected bike infrastructure are limited or still under development, making it more difficult for people who do not drive to access essential services, social connections, and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia is committed to improving multimodal transportation through planning and investments in its Transportation Master Plan, including projects such as expanded and repaired sidewalks, enhanced crosswalks and bike lanes, support for Intercity Transit, and development of streets that make walking, rolling and biking safer and more accessible; and

WHEREAS, participating in Week Without Driving is a valuable way for city leaders, staff, and residents to experience what it's like to navigate Olympia without relying on a personal vehicle, and helps identify opportunities to build a more inclusive and accessible transportation system for all; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of Olympia, does hereby proclaim September 29 – October 5, 2025 as

WEEK WITHOUT DRIVING

in Olympia, and encourage all residents, city officials, and community partners to join in this observance, if they can, and to consider how we can work together to create a more connected, inclusive, and sustainable transportation future for our city.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, THIS 30th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

Dontae Payne

Mayor