

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-264

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

October 1, 2024

To declare September 30 to October 6, 2024, as Week Without Driving in the District of Columbia.

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

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

WHEREAS, nearly 36% of District residents do not drive because of age, disability, income, or preference;

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

WHEREAS, in addition to greenhouse gas emissions, cars 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 great way to understand how we can improve our current transportation system to better meet the needs of District residents and improve and enhance transportation options such as public transit, biking, and walking pathways as key strategies in our decarbonization efforts.

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Week Without Driving Recognition Resolution of 2024”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia declares September 30 to October 6, 2024, as Week Without Driving in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.