

City of Eureka

Proclamation



In recognition of

Week Without Driving October 2nd-8th, 2023

Whereas, access to mobility is a fundamental part of health and community connection, allowing Eureka residents to reach education and employment opportunities, medical services, shopping, recreation, and visit friends and family; *and*

Whereas, as the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the cost of owning a car is approximately 72 cents a mile, with average household spending on transportation reaching \$10,961 a year in 2021, 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; *and*

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

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 a great way to understand how we can improve our current transportation system to better meet the needs of Eureka residents and improve and enhance transportation options such as transit, biking, and walking pathways as key strategies in our decarbonization efforts;

Now therefore, I Mayor Kim Bergel, on behalf of the Eureka City Council, do hereby proclaim October 2-8, 2023 as Week Without Driving, and I encourage all people in our city and region to join me in this special observance.

Kim Bergel
Mayor
September 5, 2023