Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

PROCLAMATION

in honor of

WEEK WITHOUT DRIVING

WHEREAS, access to mobility is a fundamental part of health, safety, economic development, environmental responsibility and community connection, allowing Humboldt County residents and visitors to reach education and employment opportunities, medical services, shopping, recreation and visit friends and family; and

WHEREAS, as the AAA Insurance Agency estimates the cost of owning a car is approximately $1.00 a mile for the first ten thousand miles, with average household spending on transportation reaching $11,577 a year in 2025, 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, public transportation and a strong network of sidewalks and bike paths aren't available in every community, making it much more difficult to get around, visit family and friends, and take care of everyday tasks for those who cannot or do not drive; and

WHEREAS, improvements in walking and bike paths can improve alternate forms of mobility in communities across Humboldt County and our state, and public driver education initiatives can help educate drivers to have patience and understanding for those traveling by means other than a vehicle; 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, 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 Humboldt County residents and improve and enhance transportation options such as transit, light rail, biking and walking pathways as key strategies in our decarbonization efforts; and

NOW, **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors proclaims October 1-8, 2026, as Week Without Driving, and encourage all people in Humboldt County to join them in this special observance.

October 6, 2026

Mike Wilson, Chair