



Proclamation

of the
**Humboldt County Association of Governments
Board of Directors
Recognizing September 30 – October 6, 2024, as
the Week Without Driving**

WHEREAS, access to mobility is a fundamental part of health and community connection, allowing Humboldt County Residents to reach education and employment opportunities, medical services, shopping, recreation, and visit friends and family; and

WHEREAS, every day, Americans who can't drive – approximately a third of the population that includes people with disabilities, young people, seniors and people who can't afford cars or gas—face significant barriers to mobility such as inadequate sidewalks, lack of access to transit, lack of connectivity, and dangerous roads; and

WHEREAS, 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 that are 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, the Week Without Driving is an educational campaign that invites elected officials and other decision makers and community members to experience their community without relying on a car; 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 the citizens in our region and improve and enhance transportation options such as transit, biking, and walking pathways as key strategies in our decarbonization efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that HCAOG Board hereby proclaims September 30- October 6, 2024, as the Week Without Driving, and encourages all people in our region to join in this special observance.

Attest:

Beth Burks, HCAOG Executive Director

Mike Johnson, HCAOG Chair