



Official International Walk to School Day Proclamation For Town of Davidson

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the lives of hundreds of children could be saved each year if communities take steps to make pedestrian and bicycle safety a priority;

WHEREAS, a lack of physical activity plays a leading role in rising rates of obesity, diabetes and other health problems among children and being able to walk or bicycle to school offers an opportunity to build activity into daily routine;

WHEREAS, driving students to school by private vehicle contributes to traffic congestion and air pollution; and

WHEREAS, an important role for parents and caregivers is to teach children about pedestrian and bicycle safety and become aware of the difficulties and dangers that children face on their trip to school each day and the health and environmental risks related to physical inactivity and air pollution;

WHEREAS, community leaders and parents can determine the "walkability" of their community by using a walkability checklist; and

WHEREAS, community members and leaders should make a plan to make immediate changes to enable children to safely walk and bicycle in our communities and develop a list of suggestions for improvements that can be done over time;

WHEREAS, children, parents and community leaders around the world are joining together to walk and bike to school and evaluate walking and bicycling conditions in their communities;

NOW THEREFORE, I, John Woods, Mayor of the Town of Davidson, North Carolina, joining with Davidson area schools, parents, PTOs, businesses and community members, do hereby proclaim October 5, 2016, "International Walk to School Day" in Town of Davidson, NC and encourage everyone to consider the safety and health of children today and every day.

Attest:

Heather B. James, Town Clerk

John M. Woods, Mayor