When Driving Isn’t An Option

#WeekWithoutDriving 2022

Abby Griffith
and not in the area where they forget to put any transportation because they forget people, poor
Organizing Nondrivers

TRANSPORTATION ACCESS FOR EVERYONE: WASHINGTON STATE
A quarter of our population doesn't have a driver's license, and we know that with the current economic crisis, there are even more people in our communities who can't afford to own or drive a vehicle.

Who are we, and how do we get around? Disability Mobility Initiative wants to raise awareness about how people without access to cars navigate to essential services in our communities. We've interviewed people from every legislative district in our state who rely on transit, paratransit, walking, biking, rolling or community rides to get where we need to go.

Questions or press inquiries? Contact Anna
Disability Mobility Initiative

HARRY
Disability Mobility Initiative Director

AMANDEEP
Disability Mobility Initiative Director

Using a wheelchair since birth, Amandeep has lived in Seattle and worked in the tech industry as a software engineer. He is committed to creating accessible and inclusive transportation options for all.

DISABILITY MOBILITY INITIATIVE
What if you couldn’t drive?

What if taking the bus, riding your bike or walking to work, carpooling, or paying for ride-hail weren’t a choice you could make, but a necessity?

What would it be like getting around without driving yourself?

If you can drive, and can afford a car, this isn’t something you think about. But for nearly a quarter of the people in our country – people with disabilities, young people, seniors and people who can’t afford cars or gas, this is our every day.
How does the Week Without Driving work?

You can get around however you want, but you can’t drive yourself in any car. This applies to all your activities — not just your work commute. And if you normally transport other family members or friends, it applies to those trips too. You can ask someone else to drive you, but make a note of how much you “owe” this person in their time, and if you felt obligated to support them in other ways (i.e., doing all the dishes). You can use ride-hail or taxis, but note how much it costs you.
Throughout the week, we will encourage you to post about your experience on social media using #WeekWithoutDriving.
Hi, everyone.
Proclamation

WHEREAS, access to mobility is a fundamental part of health and community connection, allowing Washingtonians to reach education and employment opportunities, medical services, shopping, recreation, and visit friends and family, and is one of the state's six transportation system policy goals, including investing public dollars to improve the movement of people throughout Washington state; and

WHEREAS, as the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the cost of owning a car is approximately 60 cents a mile, with average household spending on transportation reaching $9,465 a year in 2021, many Washingtonians cannot afford the cost of a car, and nearly a quarter of the people residing in Washington state 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 Washington, 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 toxic 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, the recently passed transformative transportation package, Move Ahead Washington, invests over $5.0 billion to support reliable, safe, and clean energy mobility options throughout the state; 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 Washingtonians and improve and enhance transportation options such as transit, light rail, biking, and walking pathways as key strategies in our decarbonization efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 19–25, 2022, as

Week Without Driving

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 11th day of July, 2022

[Signature]
Governor of Washington
This isn’t a disability simulation or a test of how easily you can find alternatives. We know that it is far easier to give up your keys if you can afford to live in a walkable area well served by transit, or can outsource your driving and other transport and delivery needs to other people.

We want you to have this experience so you can start to understand the barriers non-drivers experience in accessing your (and our) communities. To get ready, read our stories collected in the Transportation Access for Everyone Storymap.
The #WeekWithoutDriving is September 19-25, 2022

Sign up to participate using this QR code or visit weekwithoutdriving.org