

PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL WALK, BIKE AND ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY

WHEREAS: Children are safer when communities prioritize pedestrian and bicycle safety; and

WHEREAS: A lack of physical activity can play a role in health problems among children, and being able to walk or bike to school offers an opportunity to build physical activity into daily routines; and

WHEREAS: Increasing the number of children safely walking and biking to school can reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, and reduce asthma attacks; and

WHEREAS: Safe Routes to School interventions have been shown to reduce the rate of pedestrian injury by 44 percent; and

WHEREAS: Not every parent or caregiver can drive their student to school, and busing shortages have schools reimagining their transportation plans; and

WHEREAS: Safe Routes to School programs may help encourage more parents and children consider walking or biking to school instead of using a bus or a car; and

WHEREAS: Active kids learn better, and Safe Routes to School programs help students better focus in the classroom; and

WHEREAS: Studies have shown that after 20 minutes of physical activity, students tested better in reading, spelling, and math, and were more likely to read above their grade level; and

WHEREAS: More than 500 schools across Minnesota have been awarded funding through MnDOT planning, infrastructure, or non-infrastructure grants to implement Safe Routes to School programs; and

WHEREAS: Walk and Bike to School Days are special events to make walking and biking more visible, fun, and rewarding for children; encourage parents and students to make walking and biking to school a habit; and allow decision-makers to witness the value of walkable and bikeable communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tasha Connelly, Mayor of the City of Grand Rapids do hereby proclaim Wednesday, May 7, 2025, as **NATIONAL WALK, BIKE AND ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY** in the City of Grand Rapids.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto
subscribed my name and the seal of
the City of Grand Rapids, Minnesota,
this 14th Day of April, Two Thousand
twenty-five.

Tasha Connelly, Mayor
City of Grand Rapids