



Proclamation

WHEREAS, safe, accessible streets are essential for the well-being of all residents, including children, older adults, and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Wisconsinites, including over 100,000 with vision loss, rely on sidewalks, curb ramps, accessible pedestrian signals, white canes, and service animals to navigate public spaces safely; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's White Cane Law requires drivers to stop at least 10 feet from pedestrians using a white cane or service animal, reinforcing the need for driver awareness and pedestrian respect; and

WHEREAS, communities can reduce injuries and save lives by investing in proven pedestrian safety infrastructure such as high-visibility crosswalks, traffic calming, and accessible design; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness of pedestrian rights and responsibilities promotes a culture of safety and inclusion for all road users;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, I, City Manager, John Weidl, on behalf of the residents of City of Whitewater, do hereby proclaim October as **PEDESTRIAN SAFETY MONTH** and Wednesday, October 15, 2025 as **WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY** in the City of Whitewater and call on all residents, leaders, and lawmakers to prioritize safe, accessible streets year-round.

Dated this 7th day of October, 2025.

John Weidl, City Manager