



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Public Works
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To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: Phyllis Blower, Administrative Assistant
Pam Bissonnette, Interim Public Works Director
Date: September 19, 2013
Subject: Walk Your Child to School Week Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Mayor proclaims October 7-11, 2013, as Walk Your Child to School Week in Kirkland.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

The City of Kirkland has been active in partnering with Lake Washington School District to develop safe routes to school in the past several years. In addition to sidewalk improvements, thanks to the Streets levy, as many as ten crosswalks will be upgraded with Rapid Flashing Beacons (RFBs). RFBs are attached to the pedestrian crossing sign and emit an amber-colored flashing light when activated by pedestrians. The light warns approaching drivers to yield to pedestrians (and bicyclists) entering the crosswalk. Some of these upgrades will affect walking and biking routes to Kirkland elementary schools this year.

October 9 is International Walk to School Day, an event celebrated by more than 4,200 schools in the United States in 2012. The City Council has presented Walk Your Child to School Week proclamations in the past several years, and it is time again to designate the annual Walk Your Child to School Week in Kirkland from October 7-11. City staff are coordinating Fire and Police appearances and the use of Ped Bee costumes at each participating school. Council members are invited to participate by dropping in at the participating schools during the Feature Day festivities. There are no more than two school events on the same day, and they are held in the morning at the beginning of the school day. Staff will be happy to coordinate Council appearances at each school to try to have representation for each one. Here is the schedule with the nine participating schools so far, and changes or updates will be emailed to the Council.

Day	Date	School	Time
Monday	Oct 7	Franklin (Police only)	8:30-9am
Monday	Oct 7	Bell	8:30-9am
Tuesday	Oct 8	Muir	8:15-8:45am

Day	Date	School	Time
Wednesday	Oct 9	Peter Kirk	8:15-8:45am
Wednesday	Oct 9	Juanita	8:30-9am
Thursday	Oct 10	Franklin (Fire only)	8:30-9am
Friday	Oct 11	Sandburg	8:30-9am
Friday	Oct 11	Mark Twain	8-8:30am
Wednesday	Oct 16	Rose Hill	8-8:30am
Friday	Sep 20	Lakeview	8:30-9am

Representatives from the individual elementary schools coordinate activities at each school and publicize the event to their students and parents. A joint planning meeting was conducted by the City with the representatives to share ideas and coordinate schedules.

Parents and students from each elementary school have been encouraged to attend the City Council meeting to accept the proclamation on behalf of all the Kirkland elementary schools. Kelsey and Kameryn Weaver with mom, Monica Weaver, Sam and Jacob Schwartz with mom Cathy Schwartz, and Jamie LaBreck and Evan McKinney with dad Larry McKinney will be attending from Mark Twain Elementary. Lindsey and Hailey Pease with mom Marel Pease, and Jayden and Cooper Vincent with mom Sheryl Vincent will be there from Peter Kirk Elementary. Others may be attending as well, and the Mayor will be provided a list prior to the Council Meeting with the names of those we know will attend.

Attachment A: Proclamation

Day	Date	School	Time
Wednesday	Oct 9	Peter Kirk	8:15-8:45am
Wednesday	Oct 9	Juanita	8:30-9am
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Attachment A: Proclamation



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Proclaiming October 7-11, 2013, as "Walk Your Child to School Week" in Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, the National Center for Safe Routes to School, a group working to improve safety and health and walking conditions for children, encourages local communities to support International Walk to School Day and similar activities; and

WHEREAS, walking or biking to school encourages physical fitness through the most common and most enjoyable form of exercise and promotes safety by teaching children the skills to walk and bike safely and to identify safe routes to school; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland recognizes the importance of pedestrian safety and has constructed multiple improvements to school walk routes across the City, including plans to install as many as ten Rapid Flashing Beacons at strategic school and other crosswalk sites in 2013; and

WHEREAS, children and parents in Kirkland are encouraged to walk or bike to school every day but particularly during the week of October 7 through 11, 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joan McBride, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim the week of October 7 to 11, 2013, as "Walk Your Child to School Week" in the City of Kirkland, Washington and does encourage everyone to consider the safety of pedestrians and bikers today and every day.

Signed this 1st day of October, 2013

Joan McBride, Mayor