

County of Santa Rosa

PROCLAMATION

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

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; and

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 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; and

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; and

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

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Rosa County proclaim the month of October as

INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

in Santa Rosa County, Florida and encourage everyone to consider the safety and health of children this month and throughout the year.



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

BY: _____
John Broxson, Chairman