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844-2023

Proclamation

Proclaim October 15, 2023 to be White Cane Awareness Day

Placed on File

Whereas, blindness or low vision affects individuals of all ages, all income levels, all genders, and all cultures; and

Whereas, there are different degrees of visual diversity, meaning someone can be legally blind but still see colors, shapes, movement, and varying degrees of light; and

Whereas, white canes and guide dogs are tools that people who are blind or visually diverse use to identify themselves and to navigate their environment with greater independence; and

Whereas, white cane and guide dog users have the right to travel safely while enjoying all of the rights, benefits and privileges of living, working, and playing in this great city of Portland; and

Whereas, every citizen should be aware that Oregon law requires that drivers stop and remain stopped until a person carrying a white cane or using a guide dog has crossed the street; and

Whereas, October 15th was designated by the US Congress in 1964 as a day of education and celebration of the advent of white canes and guide dogs for independent and safe travel.

Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses" do hereby proclaim October 15, 2023, to be

White Cane Awareness Day

In Portland and call upon public officials, members of civic organizations, and all people in the city of Portland to join as we work to ensure the benefits and privileges of life in our great city are available to persons who are blind or visually diverse.

Introduced by

[Mayor Ted Wheeler;](#)
[Commissioner Mingus Mapps](#)

Contact

Megan Lehman
City Council & Process Policy
Advisor

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Date and Time Information

Requested Council Date
October 11, 2023

Documents and Exhibits

 [Proclamation](#)

54.53 KB

(<https://www.portland.gov/sites/default/files/council-documents/2023/white-cane-awareness-day-proclamation-2023.docx>).

Agenda Items

844 Time Certain in [October 11, 2023 Council Agenda](#)
(<https://www.portland.gov/council/agenda/2023/10/11>)

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