



TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF KURE BEACH, NC

PROCLAMATION P24-04

PROCLAIMING THAT THE MONTH OF OCTOBER IS
PEDESTRIAN AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Pedestrians are among the most vulnerable road users, as they lack the protection afforded by vehicles in the event of a collision; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, pedestrian fatalities account for approximately 17% of all traffic deaths in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Each year more than 3,000 pedestrians are hit by vehicles in North Carolina, making North Carolina one of the least safe states in the US for walking. On average, about 160 pedestrians are killed each year in the State, representing about 15% of all traffic fatalities that occur on North Carolina roads; and

WHEREAS, Walking is a healthy mode of travel that is environmentally friendly, Kure Beach has embraced the principle that people should be able to safely circulate throughout the community without cars; and

WHEREAS, Walkability is a positive attribute of our community, and the Town is committed to realizing streets designed to facilitate safe and convenient mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, During this era of economic hardship, walking in our neighborhoods is a valuable option for a healthy and family-friendly activity, and a safe pedestrian environment can support economic development and local businesses, and


WHEREAS, We are all pedestrians from time to time, it is important to pay attention to what is going on around us, and drivers must remember that crosswalks exist at every intersection--whether painted or not--and be vigilant to ensure the safety of pedestrians consistent with the Town's Safety Awareness Approach; and

WHEREAS, Walktober is observed by communities throughout the United States during the month of October to promote walking safety as well as the health, wellness, and community benefits of walking.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Kure Beach Town Council, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2024 in Kure Beach as "Walktober" and Pedestrian Safety Month and urge that we all rededicate ourselves to enjoying the benefits of walking and ensuring the safety of pedestrians in our community by abiding by the following Pedestrian Laws:

- Pedestrians have the right of way at marked crossings, meaning cars must yield to pedestrians. (§20-155 and §20-173)
- State law requires pedestrians to use marked crosswalks when they are provided, and it is unlawful to cross a street outside a marked crosswalk if the pedestrian is between two signalized intersections. (§20-174)
- When NOT at an intersection or marked crosswalk, pedestrians must yield the right of way to all vehicles. (§20-174)
- At crosswalks with pedestrian signals, state law requires that pedestrians obey the “Walk” and “Don’t Walk” signs in the same way a driver must obey Red or Green lights. (§20-172)
- State law requires pedestrians walking along the road to use sidewalks when available. (§20-174)
- When sidewalks are not available, pedestrians are to walk to the far left edge of the road facing traffic. Walking in this direction gives pedestrians the best view of traffic. (§20-174)

Proclaimed this 16th day of September 2024.



ATTEST: Beth Chase, Town Clerk



Allen Oliver, Mayor