

OCTOBER 2-8, 2023



SNHPC TAC 08-17-23







Doug Wennerberg boards the Everett Transit paratransit bus on Sept. 1 in Everett. Snohomish County elected leaders and transit officials took part in the Week Without Driving to better understand the transportation needs for those who can't and don't drive. (Olivia Vanni / Herald file)

STREET SMARTS

What Snohomish County officials learned from not driving

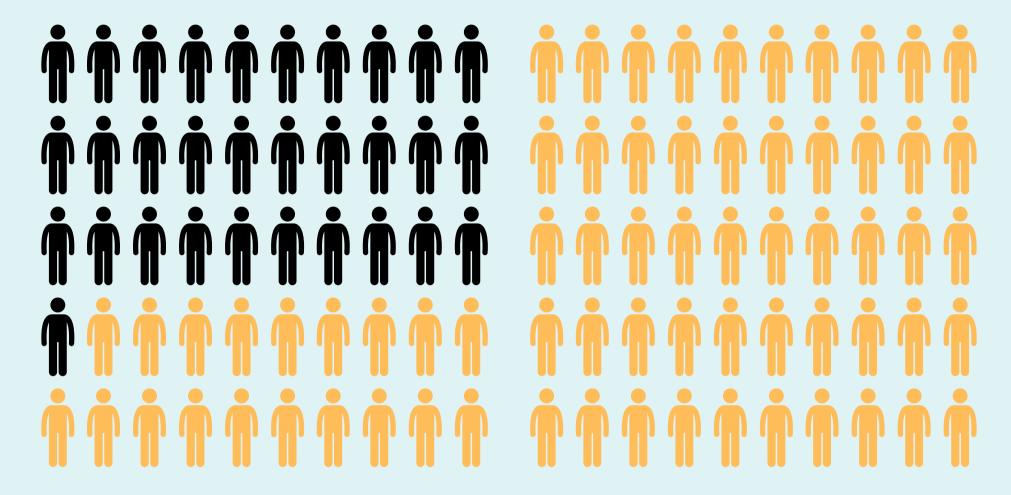
Several city, county and state lawmakers and transit officials participated in the Week Without Driving challenge.



WHAT IF YOU
COULDN'T DRIVE?



NONDRIVERS



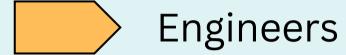
31 out of every 100 residents in the US lack a driver license (USDOT, 2020)





YOURE INVITED!







Land Use Administrators

Planning Board Members

Highway Agents

Town Administrators

Economic Development/ C of C





CHALLENGE RULES:



Participants can get around however they want, but can't drive themselves.

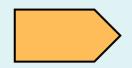


This applies to all activities. You can ask someone else to drive you or pay for rides, but note how much this costs you, both financially or in favors.





SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCE



Email prompts during the week

What unanticipated challenges have you encountered so far?

What, if anything, has been a pleasant surprise?



#WeekWithoutDriving on social media





"I plan to be even more vocal about changes to the built environment to make sure that everybody can get around: better street lighting, more sidewalks and sidewalks in underserved neighborhoods so that folks don't have to walk directly along a busy street."



Everett City Council Member Paula Rhyne

"It changed my whole life. I had to think about how do I pick up dog food for my very large dog that eats a lot? How do I get to work every day and make sure that I can move around safely? I had to think about when I can leave, how I get there, what I'm going to wear."



Pierce County Councilmember Jani Hitchen

"It reinforces the holes in our ped/bike transportation system. If you're not out there walking and biking and experiencing it, you have no idea how important it is to fill those holes."



Mayor of Bellevue Lynne Robinson

"Going through a week as if I was unable to ever drive myself or my family, and had to rely entirely on other means of transportation taught me a lot about how our system works and doesn't work, especially for people with disabilities."



King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci

"I did end up driving every day of my
#WeekWithoutDriving. I had some emergency
medical stuff come up that required impromptu
doctor visits. Which led to a lot of deeper reflection:
if I didn't have access to a vehicle, how would I
have scheduled this doctor's appointment? How
would have I gotten here? How long would it have
taken? Or could I even reach the destination?"



Pierce County
Councilmember
Marty Cambpell

"I'm an avid bus rider. I love to walk and bike, but really forcing myself to do it for a full week was so valuable and so important, especially for those of us who are making decisions about our transportation system."



Tacoma Council Member Kristina Walker

"The Week Without Driving was a really great reality check to think about the decisions that I make as a school board director. Even though we may say 'You're Welcome,' the actions that we take convey a really different message to our families and our community."



Olympia School Board Member Hilary Seidel

"Trying to depend entirely on our public transportation system makes it all the more clear that investments in transit should be a top priority. So many communities across our state depend on this vital resource, and they each deserve reliable and accessible options for their commutes!"



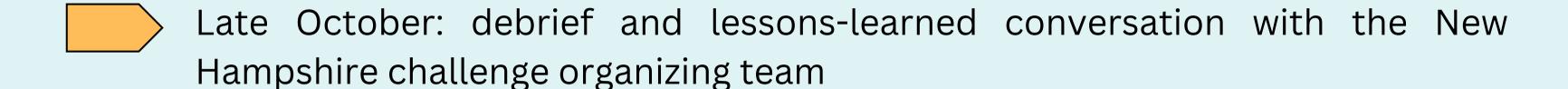
State Senator Rebecca Saldaña

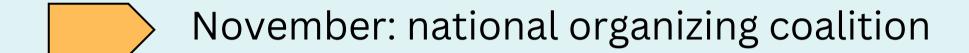
"This week is a reminder that mobility is a human right. And it's also a reminder that so many people in our region are excluded from this right, simply because driving for them is not an option."



King County
Councilmember
Girmay Zahilay

SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCE









NOT POSSIBLE TO NOT DRIVE?

Walk, bike, or scoot to the nearest school to see how students might get there independently. Participate in Walk & Roll to School Day October 4th.

Take public transit or ride sharing to grocery shop. (MTA/ CART serves 7/14 SNHPC towns!)

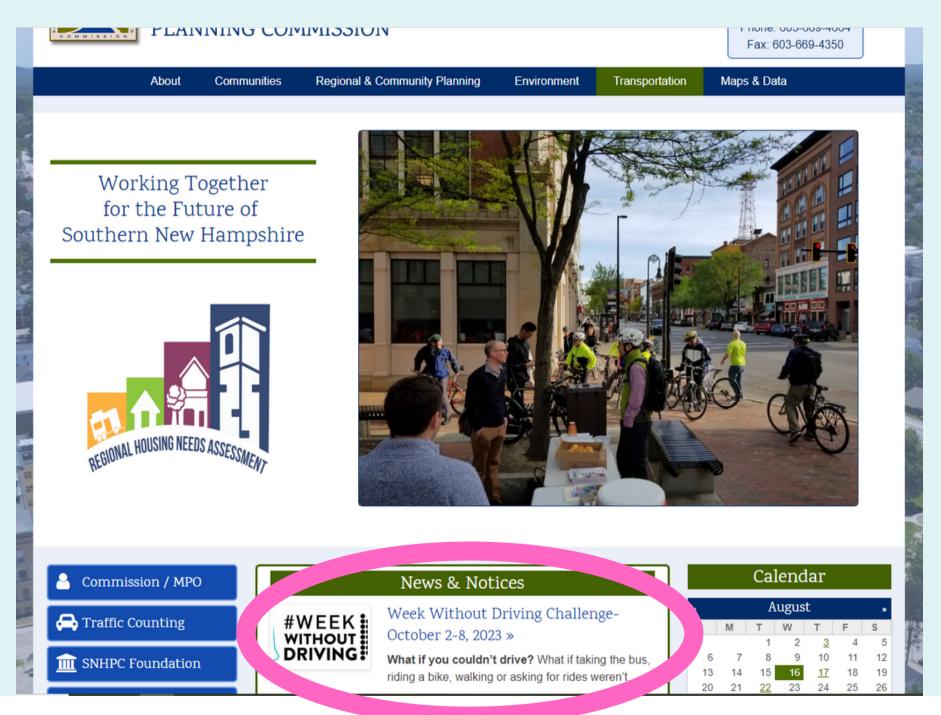
Walk or bike around your neighborhood or office to get some exercise. What do you notice?

How can we as planners/engineers/town staff level the playing field for non-drivers?





SIGN UP!





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QUESTIONS OR IDEAS?

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