

# Grand Junction

State of Colorado

## PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** *the lives of 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 to become aware of the difficulties and dangers that children face on their trip to school each day including the health and environmental risks related to physical inactivity and air pollution; and*
- WHEREAS,** *the City of Grand Junction is an active participant in the local Safe Routes to School programs to assess walkability and educate students on safely walking and biking to school and is funding infrastructure improvements to extend walking and biking routes to schools; and*
- WHEREAS,** *community members are participating in the 2040 Regional Transportation Planning process to ensure all modes of transportation are considered; and*
- WHEREAS,** *communities that accommodate and promote active transportation result in improved citizens' health, well-being, and quality of life, increased sense of community, improved traffic safety, and reduced pollution and congestion, all of which contribute to Grand Junction "Becoming the Most Livable Community West of the Rockies"; and*
- WHEREAS,** *School District 51 elementary schools will join schools around the world to celebrate International Walk to School Month throughout October with approximately 1,500 students from Rocky Mountain, Lincoln Orchard Mesa, and Tope Elementary walking and rolling to school on Wednesday October 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, along with parents, teachers, and community leaders.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phyllis Norris, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2014 as**

### **"WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH"**

*in the City of Grand Junction and call upon all citizens to participate in the activities and to consider the safety and health of children this month and throughout the year.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 2014.**



*Phyllis Norris*  
Mayor

