

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS, seat belts have been shown to cut in half the risk of being killed or seriously injured in a traffic crash; and**

**WHEREAS, in 2009, 314 people were killed in car crashes on Colorado roadways and 175 of those people were not buckled in a seat belt; and**

**WHEREAS, unbelted occupants accounted for 56% of all motor vehicle-related fatalities; and**

**WHEREAS, in Mesa County, 7 unbuckled drivers and passengers were killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2009, representing 63% of motor vehicle fatalities in Mesa County; and**

**WHEREAS, 81% of drivers and passengers in Colorado use their seat belts, but increasing that usage to 90% could save 32 lives each year and save the state \$111 million annually; and**

**WHEREAS, it is state law for adults and children to use seat belts; and**

**WHEREAS, law enforcement will be working overtime May 24 – June 6 to issue citations to drivers and passengers not complying with seat belt laws; and**

**WHEREAS, it takes just two seconds to buckle a seat belt.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Teresa Coons, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, do hereby officially proclaim the**

### **“2-WEEK, 2-SECOND START THE HABIT CHALLENGE”**

**and for the next two weeks, May 24 – June 6, I challenge the citizens of Grand Junction to take two seconds to buckle their seat belts every time they get in a vehicle. After two weeks, I hope the habit has started, and continues. The habit of buckling your seat belt will save lives.**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010.**

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**Mayor**