



PROCLAMATION

Declaring October 15 as White Cane Safety Day

WHEREAS, the White Cane has become a symbol of mobility and independence for the Blind Walker; and

WHEREAS, the White Cane is an extension of the Blind Walker; and

WHEREAS, the White Cane provides assurance to the Blind Walker that the path forward is clear and safe; and

WHEREAS, the White Cane provides greater independence and societal inclusion to the Blind Walker; and

WHEREAS, to all those with sight, the white cane serves as a reminder of their responsibility to yield to and protect the safety of the Blind Walker; and

WHEREAS, the White Cane identifies the Blind Walker for the sighted to take action to ensure safe passage of the Blind Walker at designated road crosswalks; and

WHEREAS, once a White Cane walker has extended their White Cane into the crosswalk, all drivers shall come to a complete stop and remain fully stopped in all directions until the White Cane walker has fully completed their crossing; and

WHEREAS, the Guide Dog Walker and/or harnessed Guide Dog are stated as being equivalent to the extension of the White Cane, thus shall be granted all the rights bestowed upon the White Cane Walker under the NC White Cane Law; and

WHEREAS, drivers shall not block designated crosswalks in a manner that impedes straight line travel of the White Cane and/or Guide Dog Walker across full travel of crosswalk; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the NC White Cane Law is a citable unlawful offense; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sharon Harker, Mayor of the Town of Beaufort of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2022 as White Cane Safety Day within the Town of Beaufort NC, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

Duly adopted this 15th day of October 2022.

Sharon Harker, Mayor