**Sample Pedestrian Safety Proclamation**

**[City or county name] Takes Steps for Pedestrian Safety**

In a crash between a vehicle or pedestrian it’s the pedestrian who is more likely to be injured or killed. In Washington, 89 pedestrians were killed in 2016, up from 75 in 2012. At a time when our children are returning to school, it is important to note that children 10-14 are more likely to be killed or injured in a pedestrian collision. This year our state’s new distracted driver law took full effect, which is also good for pedestrian safety, with 32% of pedestrian deaths in Washington involving a distracted driver. Pedestrians are also not immune from the dangers of being impaired – 43% of pedestrian deaths involved an impaired pedestrian.

These numbers make us stop in our tracks. Fortunately, there are steps we can all take to improve pedestrian safety:

**Remember what our mothers taught us**: cross at the crosswalk. 72% of pedestrian fatalities occurred at non-intersections.

**Plan before you party:** If you plan to party, plan to find a sober ride, spend the night, take a taxi, but don’t walk drunk or high.

**See and be seen:** Make eye contact with drivers, wear bright clothing, use a light at night.

**Bring back the buddy system:** help a friend who can’t walk safely.

**Show your kids:** teach your kids how to walk safely with your own behavior, dress them in bright colors or reflective clothing and remind them, look both ways, and use the crosswalk.

**Drive safe for pedestrians:** slow down near intersections, stop for pedestrians in a crosswalk; and park responsibly.

These are all steps everyone can take to make [community name] a safer place and help Washington eliminate pedestrian deaths or serious injuries on our roads.

Now therefore, I [name and title], do hereby proclaim [insert dates], as a focus period for pedestrian safety in [community]. I urge everyone to help reduce injuries and the tragic loss of life by focusing on taking steps for pedestrian safety. Remember – everyone is a pedestrian.