A RESOLUTION adopting the recommendations of the
King County Board of Health injury prevention committee.

WHEREAS, chronic disease places a burden on King County residents in the
form of fewer healthy years lived, but can be prevented or improved with physical
activity, and

WHEREAS, walking is a highly functional form of transportation and source of
physical activity, and though there have been design improvements and retrofitting for
roads to increase pedestrian use and safety, serious challenges remain, and

WHEREAS, motor vehicle crashes pose a serious threat to pedestrians and
throughout the United States a pedestrian is killed every one hundred thirteen minutes or
injured every eight minutes by a motor vehicle, and in King County an average of
twenty-five pedestrians are killed and one hundred seventy are hospitalized as a result of
motor vehicle crashes every year, and

WHEREAS, certain populations of pedestrians, including young people, elderly
people and people of color, are disproportionately affected by motor vehicle crashes, and
WHEREAS, a comprehensive pedestrian injury data monitoring system that can be used throughout King County and by local jurisdictions does not exist, and

WHEREAS, through Resolutions 08-01 and 08-02, and consistent with the principles established in the Public Health Operational Master Plan, the King County Board of Health created an injury prevention committee to focus on pedestrian safety and promote pedestrian master plans for all King County jurisdictions, and

WHEREAS, the injury prevention committee has accomplished its scope of work and provided recommendations for Board of Health action, which is Attachment A to this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of King County:

A. The board urges King County, the city of Seattle, and the suburban cities to:

1. Develop or update pedestrian master plans that incorporate engineering, education, enforcement and encouragement methods known to improve pedestrian safety and promote walking;

2. Collect and analyze currently available local pedestrian crash data;

3. Implement educational outreach programs targeting those drivers and pedestrians in most at-risk groups by age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, language and gender; and

4. Incorporate "complete street" designs in planning and rebuilds to create streets that are comfortable and safe for all users.

B. The board requests that the injury prevention committee:
1. Propose a feasibility study for a comprehensive and adequately resourced ongoing monitoring system for all local pedestrian injury data;
2. Identify a regional group to coordinate and promote pedestrian safety efforts;
3. Distribute and promote the Pedestrian Safety Packet to all King County jurisdictions and educate the public on pedestrian safety, as outlined in Attachment A to this resolution; and
4. Improve the existing Public Health Seattle-King County Injury & Violence Prevention Pedestrian Safety website, which is at http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/injury/pedestriansafety.aspx on the effective date of this resolution, to assist government leaders with the development of engineering, education, enforcement and encouragement methods known to improve pedestrian safety.

C. The board requests that the health department conduct a follow-up survey in 2010 to determine if King County, the city of Seattle and suburban cities have developed pedestrian master plans, collected and analyzed currently available pedestrian crash data or initiated other methods of pedestrian safety improvements.
D. The injury prevention committee's proposed recommendations and activities, Attachment A to this resolution, are hereby adopted.

Resolution was introduced on and passed as amended by the Board of Health on 4/16/2009, by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Ms. Lambert, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Clark, Mr. Rasmussen, Dr. Sherman, Mr. Hutchinson, Dr. Nicola, Dr. Counts, Mr. Gossett and Mr. Licata
No: 0
Excused: 2 - Ms. Frisinger and Ms. Manning

BOARD OF HEALTH
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Julia Patterson, Chair

ATTEST:

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Board

Attachments None