

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-74

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RICHLAND, WASHINGTON,
ADOPTING THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PLAN AND
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION
TO THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION'S SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2023, Richland City Council approved Resolution No. 2023-158, authorizing a consultant agreement with PBS Engineering and Environmental Inc. to perform a Safe Routes to School Study (the "Study") in cooperation with the Richland School District; and

WHEREAS, the Study produced a Safe Routes to School Plan (the "Plan") that includes a thorough analysis of historical crashes, equity evaluation of disadvantaged areas, evaluation of school zones and gaps in school walk routes, public outreach to the schools and students, and validation of strategies to reduce crashes within school walk routes; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) issued a \$25.5 million call for projects for the 2024 Safe Routes to School Program (the "Program"); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Program is to enable and encourage children to walk, roll and bicycle to school, as well as facilitate planning, development and implementation of projects that will improve safety in the vicinity of schools; and

WHEREAS, the Plan identifies and recommends projects for grant applications to this Program that, if funded, will improve school walk route safety within the City; and

WHEREAS, projects identified for Marcus Whitman Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Jason Lee Elementary and Orchard Elementary, as well as systemic improvements, meet the selection and funding criteria for the Program; and

WHEREAS, completing the projects identified in the Plan is a crucial component in meeting the goals of the City's Vision Zero commitment; and

WHEREAS, the City's best interests are served by seeking grant funding for projects recommended in the Study to contribute toward successfully achieving the City's fundamental objectives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Richland as follows:

1. The 2024 Safe Routes to School Plan is hereby adopted.
2. Staff is hereby authorized to submit grant applications to the Washington State Department of Transportation's 2024 Safe Routes to School Program for Marcus Whitman Elementary,

Jefferson Elementary, Jason Lee Elementary and Orchard Elementary, and for the systemic improvements identified in the Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Richland, Washington, at a regular meeting on the 4th day of June, 2024.

Theresa A Richardson
Theresa Richardson, Mayor

Attest:

Jennifer Rogers
Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Heather Kintzley
Heather Kintzley, City Attorney