Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of Maryland was the first state in the country to designate walking as the official exercise in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Governor Wes Moore designated the month of October as **"Walktober"** in Maryland by recognizing the state's official exercise – walking – for its health benefits and well-being for all Marylanders; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville supports **"Walktober"** and walking as beneficial to Rockville residents and Marylanders of all ages; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Department of Health identified that there are more than 1200 miles of trails on the State of Maryland public land alone; and the City of Rockville has many walking trails, in addition to biking and hiking trails; and

WHEREAS, pedestrian access to good walking trails and pedestrian safety measures are important to the residents of Rockville and its surrounding communities, and Rockville supports these infrastructures and initiatives to increase them across the state and the region; and

WHEREAS, Maryland observed a month-long celebration of walking by kicking off the annual **"Walk Maryland Day"** on **October 7, 2026.**

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council hereby proclaim **October 2026** as **"Walktober"** in the City of Rockville, Maryland, and invite all residents to take advantage of walking for its health, recreation, and transportation benefits, as well as **"Walktober Walkinars"** focused on pedestrian safety. The City encourages everyone to find time to walk every day and to make it a priority for residents of all ages.

Monique Ashton, Mayor

Kate Fulton, Councilmember

Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember

Barry Jackson, Councilmember

Marissa Valeri, Councilmember

David Myles, Councilmember

Adam Van Grack Councilmember

October 5, 2026