




# City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road  
Bowie, Maryland 20716

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** David J. Deutsch  
City Manager 

**SUBJECT:** Proclamation P-14-12  
Car Free Day

**DATE:** September 13, 2012

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The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, through the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) of the National Capital Region, is promoting Car Free Day on September 22, 2012. Car Free Day is a designated day in which Washington region citizens are encouraged to try alternative forms of transportation, such as transit, bicycling and walking, as well as "car lite" methods such as carpools, vanpools and teleworking.

Car Free Day first took place in Europe in 1995 and went global in 2000. The event corresponds with Europe's international mobility week occurring September 16-22, celebrating sustainable transportation. For at least one day during mobility week, cities set aside an area solely for pedestrians, cyclists and public transit that is ordinarily used by cars. Today, Car Free Day is celebrated in 1,500 cities in 40 countries.

Locally, Car Free Day was recognized by the District of Columbia in 2007. A regional rollout of the concept occurred in 2008, with TPB support. The Council of Governments' Commuter Connections program promotes and organizes the annual Car Free Day event along with its network members. Primary targets are individuals who ordinarily travel alone by car for work, errands and classes. Secondary groups are those already in Car Free travel modes. In 2011, more than 11,800 people in the Washington region pledged to park their cars and take transit, bike, walk, or carpool to work and other destinations, exceeding a goal of 10,000 pledges. This year, organizers are hoping to surpass 10,000 pledges once again, and to receive pledges from the elected officials who sit on the TPB. The official Pledge Form can be found on the COG website ([www.mwcog.org](http://www.mwcog.org)).

### Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve Proclamation P-14-12 designating Wednesday, September 22, 2012 as Car Free Day in Bowie.

Attachment

**MAYOR** G. Frederick Robinson    **MAYOR PRO TEM** Diane M. Polangin

**COUNCIL** Dennis Brady ♦ Henri Gardner ♦ James L. Marcos ♦ Isaac C. Trough ♦ Todd M. Turner    **CITY MANAGER** David J. Deutsch  
City Hall (301) 262-6200    FAX (301) 809-2302    TDD (301) 262-5013    WEB [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org)

**PROCLAMATION**  
**OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND**  
**ESTABLISHING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2012**  
**AS CAR FREE DAY**

**WHEREAS**, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region; and

**WHEREAS**, the TPB through its Commuter Connections program promotes and organizes the annual Car Free Day event along with its network members throughout the Washington area; and

**WHEREAS**, Car Free Day invites Washington region citizens to try alternative forms of transportation such as transit, bicycling and walking, "car lite" methods such as carpools and vanpools, and teleworking; and

**WHEREAS**, Car Free Day benefits the National Capital region through improved air quality, reduced traffic congestion and parking demands, and the conservation of energy; and

**WHEREAS**, Car Free Day corresponds with international mobility week, occurring September 16-22, celebrating sustainable mobility;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland:

1. Proclaims Saturday, September 22, 2012 as Car Free Day throughout the City of Bowie; and
2. Encourages citizens to pledge to be Car Free or Car Lite by visiting [www.carfreemetrodc.com](http://www.carfreemetrodc.com).

**INTRODUCED AND PASSED** by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland at a Regular Meeting on the Eighteenth Day of September, 2012.

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Bowie City Council  
G. Frederick Robinson  
Mayor

Attest:

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Awilda Hernandez, City Clerk