Resolution No. 2005-M-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHILDREN'S SAFETY INITIATIVE TO IMPLEMENT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROGRAMS, EDUCATE PARENTS, STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY ON PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ISSUES AND INCREASE ENFORCEMENT OF PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC LAWS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY TRAFFIC SAFETY TEAM TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF PEDESTRIAN RELATED FATALITIES AND INJURIES.

WHEREAS, the latest statistics from the National Highway Safety and Traffic Administration (NHTSA) from the 2003 Traffic Safety Facts state, on average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 111 minutes and on average, a pedestrian is injured in a traffic crash every 8 minutes; and

WHEREAS, almost one-fourth of all children between the ages of 5 and 9 who were killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida in 2003 ranked second in the nation for the highest number of pedestrian fatalities; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, 476 pedestrians were injured in traffic crashes and 40 were killed in pedestrian traffic crashes in Orange County; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, 5 children (18 years and younger) were killed in pedestrian traffic crashes in Orange County; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of pedestrians could be saved each year, if communities take steps to make pedestrian safety a top priority by involving engineering, education, enforcement and emergency services efforts to reduce pedestrian injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, more children are walking to school, and motorists should be aware of pedestrians and obey the traffic safety laws; and

WHEREAS, Orange County is committed to reducing the number of pedestrian fatalities and injuries by creating a public awareness campaign on pedestrian safety laws; and
WHEREAS, Orange County will work with the local school system to promote pedestrian education and stronger driver education focusing on pedestrian safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved that the Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, Florida supports the establishment of the Children’s Safety Initiative to implement pedestrian safety programs, educate parents, students and the community on pedestrian safety issues and increase enforcement of pedestrian traffic laws in partnership with the Orange County Community Traffic Safety Team to reduce the incidence of pedestrian related fatalities and injuries and strive to reduce the pedestrian fatality rate to the national average over the next two years upon implementation of the pedestrian safety program.

ADOPTED THIS 15th DAY OF March, 2005.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
Board of County Commissioners

By: Richard T. Crotty
Orange County Mayor

ATTEST: Martha O. Haynie, County Comptroller
As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

By: Deputy Clerk