International Walk to School Day, iWalk

WHEREAS, Moscow is proud to be bicycle-pedestrian-friendly, recognized by the White House and the National League of Cities as a Let’s Move! City; and

WHEREAS, Nationwide, only 35% of students in grades K-8 who live within a mile of school walk or cycle, compared to 89% in 1969; and

WHEREAS, Sedentary lifestyles contribute to rising rates of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, and other health problems; and

WHEREAS, Driving students to school, particularly by private vehicles, contributes to traffic congestion, greenhouse gas emissions, and air pollution; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable to teach children about pedestrian navigation and safety, physical fitness, and environmental health; and

WHEREAS, Land use planning can enable healthy lifestyles, mobility options, social connectivity, and other measures of livability that attract residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, The City of Moscow has productive partnerships with University of Idaho Movement Sciences, Safe Routes to School, Idaho Transportation Department, and others to secure funding, improve infrastructure, and develop programs that support walking or biking to school; and

WHEREAS, In 2000, the U.S., Canada, and Great Britain created International Walk to School Day; and

WHEREAS, On that day this year, about 1,500 Moscow students, parents, community leaders, school teachers and staff will join their counterparts from 36 countries around the world in walking and bicycling to school;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Nancy Chaney, Mayor for the City of Moscow, Idaho USA do hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 9, 2013 as

International Walk to School Day

in our community, and I encourage everyone to consider the safety and health of children and the vulnerability of pedestrians and bicyclists on that day and every day.

DATED this 7th day of October, 2013

Nancy Chaney, Mayor