PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, what began as a one-time event in 2003 to honor a fallen bicyclist is now an international phenomenon occurring around the globe; and

WHEREAS, The Ride of Silence is a silent, slow-paced bicycle ride to honor those who have been injured or killed while cycling on public roadways; and

WHEREAS, composed of many but riding as one, The Ride of Silence is a quiet call to the public announcing that bicycle safety is the responsibility of all users of public roads; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Rapids is committed to providing a safe bicycle environment and proudly supports the Ride of Silence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George K. Heartwell, Mayor of the City of Grand Rapids, do hereby recognize

THE RIDE OF SILENCE

as an event to remind all citizens to recognize that bicycles belong on public roadways and ask motorists to commit to safely sharing our roadways with cyclists.

George K. Heartwell