



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Parks & Community Services
505 Market Street, Suite A, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3300
www.kirklandwa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Linda Murphy, Recreation Manager
Jennifer Schroder, CPRP, Parks & Community Services Director

Date: June 16, 2014

Subject: Park and Recreation Month Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor proclaims the month of July as "Park and Recreation Month" in Kirkland.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

Since 1985, the National Recreation and Park Association has designated the month of July as "Park and Recreation Month." Each year Recreation facilities and parks across the country use July to celebrate the kick-off of summer programming

Kirkland's diverse park system includes more than 588 acres of parkland and open spaces, including community and neighborhood parks and natural areas. The City's 12.8 miles of trails and park paths connect people to parks, neighborhoods and other community destinations.

As part of this year's celebration, Kirkland Parks and Community Services has tied into the national campaign and is prominently promoting July as national "Park and Recreation Month" in the display cases at both community centers and at City Hall. The department has also planned many activities to keep the community active and involved including the Kirkland Steppers, beach volleyball at Juanita Beach, Friday Night Market, learn-to-swim classes, fitness opportunities, a variety of youth day camps, sports leagues and many more programs and classes.

Kirkland's parks and recreation activities are an essential component of Kirkland's identity and quality of life. It is fitting that the Council will be adopting the Park Levy Accountability Report at the same meeting the Mayor will proclaim July as Park and Recreation Month. Together the two actions demonstrate the importance of parks and recreation programs to our citizens who voted to tax themselves for parks, as well as how seriously the City Council and staff are committed to providing an outstanding parks and recreation system that serves the needs of, and is accountable to, the residents of Kirkland.

Adam White, Chair of the Kirkland Park Board, will accept the proclamation.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Designating July, 2014 as "Park and Recreation Month" in the City of Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, since 1985, the National Recreation & Park Association has designated the month of July as "Park and Recreation Month;" and

WHEREAS, local park and recreation agencies are leaders in protecting our open space, connecting children to nature, and providing education and programs that engage communities in conservation; and

WHEREAS, park and recreation departments lead the nation in improving the overall health and wellness of citizens and fighting obesity; and

WHEREAS, public parks and recreation agencies fundamentally ensure that all people have access to resources and programs that connect citizens and make our communities more livable and desirable; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland's Parks and Community Services Department's 2800 programs serve over 25,000 enrolled participants annually, touch the lives of individuals, families, and groups and positively impact the social, economic, health, and environmental quality of the community; and

WHEREAS, parks, recreation activities, and leisure experiences provide opportunities for young people to live, grow and develop into contributing members of society and creates lifelines and continued life experiences for older members of our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland's 48 parks, 588 acres of parks and open space, 12.8 miles of trails, playgrounds, playfields, outdoor pool, recreation programs and community centers make Kirkland, Washington an attractive and desirable place to live, work, play, and visit; and

WHEREAS, the Kirkland City Council recognizes the vital contributions of the City of Kirkland's dedicated parks and recreation employees and volunteers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Amy Walen, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim July as "Park and Recreation Month" and encourage all citizens to celebrate by participating in their choice of recreation and leisure activities with family, friends and neighbors.

Signed this 1st day of July, 2014

Amy Walen, Mayor