



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Public Works
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Ellen Miller-Wolfe, Economic Development Manager

Date: September 4, 2015

Subject: PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2, 2015 AS MANUFACTURING DAY IN KIRKLAND, WASHINGTON

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Mayor proclaim October 2, 2015 as Manufacturing Day in Kirkland, Washington.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Manufacturing Day is a national celebration that showcases manufacturers and employees, highlighting their work and energizing the future pipeline of skilled workers. This annual event sheds light on 21st century manufacturing with proclamations like this one and many other events and media coverage that underline this important sector and its contribution to the national economy.

It also is a time to consider the City's role in sustaining and growing the manufacturing sector and the challenges that this region faces in keeping manufacturing economically vital. In Kirkland, the City has maintained a level playing field, with zoning that balances the needs of manufacturers with those of technology companies. Kirkland works to make investments and advocate for improvements to infrastructure such as the 132nd ramps that were funded by the Legislature in the 2015 session, and also, including transit stops at NE 116th Street and 85th Street in the ST3 Potential Project List, to provide employees with improved transit access to Kirkland's largest manufacturing companies. Kirkland also has acknowledged concerns by manufacturers that there be more affordable housing options for their employees, and the City has responded by requiring affordable units in many areas of Kirkland and adopting a comprehensive list of affordable housing policies and incentives.

Terry Byington, Executive Director of Government and Industry Relations for the Lake Washington Institute of Technology, will attend the September 15, 2015 meeting of the City Council to accept the Manufacturing Day Proclamation on behalf of Kirkland manufacturing companies and Lake Washington Institute of Technology.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Proclaiming October 2, 2015 as "Manufacturing Day" in Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, manufacturing makes a significant contribution to the national, state and local economy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland is proud to be home to many world-class manufacturing companies that support regional business clusters, add to our local diverse economy and provide jobs for our residents; and

WHEREAS, Kirkland's Lake Washington Institute of Technology provides manufacturers region-wide with exceptionally skilled graduates; and

WHEREAS, Kirkland accounts for 18 percent of the property on the Eastside that is in industrial use for a total of 3,400,000 square feet of space; and

WHEREAS, over 1,200 employees or four percent of Kirkland's workforce is engaged in manufacturing jobs; and

WHEREAS, many of Kirkland's companies, such as Astronics Advanced Electronic Systems, DeYoung Manufacturing Inc., Nytec and Western Pneumatic Tube Company, are representative of the innovative manufacturing businesses in Kirkland that are major participants in our regional economy; and

WHEREAS, these companies exist side-by-side with newer, technology companies and have complementary areas of expertise; and

WHEREAS, it is in Kirkland's interest to cultivate this diverse economy and assist manufacturing companies in their efforts to attract employees by maintaining infrastructure and also supporting a variety of housing types to accommodate employees and their families;

WHEREAS, Manufacturing Day is designated as the first Friday of October and is an opportunity for manufacturers to showcase the potential of modern manufacturing and to foster interest in manufacturing careers,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Amy Walen, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim October 2, 2015 as Manufacturing Day in Kirkland and recognize the importance of the manufacturing community in Kirkland.

Signed this 15th day of September, 2015

Amy Walen, Mayor