



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Fire & Building Department
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: Grace Steuart, Fire Marshal
Date: September 22, 2011
Subject: Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION:

Council proclaims that October 9th through the 15th, 2011 is Fire Prevention Week.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Each year, the nation observes "National Fire Prevention Week" during the second week of October. This week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, in which more than 250 persons were killed, 100,000 were left homeless, and more than 17,400 buildings were destroyed.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation, and since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls. According to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The President of the United States has signed a proclamation proclaiming a national observance during that week every year since 1925.

Proclamations creating Fire Prevention Week at the local level support the efforts of professionals across the country to reduce injuries, deaths, and property loss, resulting from preventable fires.

The non-profit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has been the official sponsor of National Fire Prevention Week for over 80 years. This year's theme, "**IT'S FIRE PREVENTION WEEK - PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FROM FIRE**" is designed to encourage citizens to take personal responsibility for their family's safety.

Based on this year's theme, families are encouraged to practice a home fire escape plan, to check their homes for and eliminate safety hazards, and to make sure they have working smoke detectors.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Proclaiming October 9-15, 2011 as "Fire Prevention Week" in Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, since 1925, the President of the United States has signed a proclamation each year pronouncing a week of observance for fire prevention; and

WHEREAS, the National Fire Protection Agency, the world's leading advocate in fire prevention, encourages communities to participate in its annual "Fire Prevention Week" campaign; and

WHEREAS; the educational theme being promoted by the National Fire Protection Agency for Fire Prevention Week 2011 is "**Protect Your Family Fire;**" and

WHEREAS, fire losses in the United States have improved but still remain unacceptably high thereby necessitating citizens to take action; and

WHEREAS, most fires are both predictable and preventable; and

WHEREAS, Kirkland citizens are capable of taking personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland is committed to ensuring the safety and security of those living in and visiting our City;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joan McBride, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim October 9-15, 2011 to be "**Fire Prevention Week**" in the City of Kirkland, to encourage residents to protect their homes and families from fire by practicing a home escape plan, by making sure they have working smoke detectors, and by eliminating fire hazards that can cause the loss of life and property.

Signed this 4th Day of October, 2011

Joan McBride, Mayor