



CITY OF KIRKLAND

City Manager's Office

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MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay, City Manager

From: Tracy Burrows, Intergovernmental Relations Manager

Date: October 26, 2007

Subject: World Diabetes Day Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Mayor James L. Lauinger proclaim November 14, 2007 *"World Diabetes Day"*.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Alyssa Olsen, Program Coordinator of the American Diabetes Association Seattle Office has requested a proclamation in support of the UN Resolution on Diabetes, which designates the observance of November 14th as World Diabetes Day.

Diabetes is disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin, a hormone that is needed to convert sugar, starches and other food into energy needed for daily life. The cause of diabetes is a mystery, although both genetics and environmental factors appear to play roles. There has been a 61% increase of Americans with diabetes since 1990 with an estimated number of annual deaths at over 200,000. The American Diabetes Association was founded in 1940 and has been funding innovative diabetes research since 1955. They provide the public with information and education as well as serving as advocates for the diabetes community.

Alyssa Olsen, Program Coordinator for the American Diabetes Association and a type 1 diabetic herself, will be attending the November 7th Council meeting to accept the World Diabetes Day proclamation on their behalf. Alyssa and her husband, Kirkland Police Officer Kyle Olsen are extremely passionate about helping their community combat this sweeping epidemic.

A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Designating November 14, 2007, As “World Diabetes Day”

WHEREAS, nearly twenty-one million American children and adults – including 425,000 people living in Washington state – have diabetes, a serious disease that has no cure; and

WHEREAS, the cost of diabetes to Washington state has been estimated at more than 5.6 billion dollars annually (and more than 1 billion dollars in King County); and

WHEREAS, another 54 million Americans have pre-diabetes, a condition that puts them at the highest risk for developing type 2 diabetes; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is the fifth-leading cause of death by disease in the United States and more than one third of the people with diabetes (6.2 million Americans) don't know that they have the disease; and

WHEREAS, millions of Americans lack access to the care, treatment, and education needed to manage the disease and prevent its serious and costly complications, including heart disease, stroke, kidney failure, blindness, and lower-limb amputation; and

WHEREAS, an increase in community awareness of risk factors and symptoms related to diabetes can improve the likelihood that people with diabetes will get the attention they need before developing the disease and its devastating complications; and

WHEREAS, worldwide, more than 246 million people suffer from diabetes and the total will increase to 350 million by 2020; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly has designated the current World Diabetes Day, November 14, as a United Nations Day, to be observed every year beginning in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations invites governmental and non-governmental organizations to observe World Diabetes Day in order to raise public awareness of diabetes and its related complications; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations encourages supporters of the UN Resolution on Diabetes to fight the worldwide epidemic by helping to ensure that individuals with diabetes have access to care, treatment, and education;

NOW THEREFORE, I, James L. Lauinger, do hereby proclaim November 14th as World Diabetes Day in support of the UN Resolution. I encourage all Kirkland help fight this disease and its life-threatening complications by increasing awareness of the risk factors for diabetes, making healthy lifestyle choices, and by providing care and treatment to those suffering from diabetes.

Signed this 7th day of November, 2007

James L. Lauinger, Mayor