



CITY OF KIRKLAND
City Manager's Office
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: Marilynne Beard, Deputy City Manager
Date: December 16, 2016
Subject: INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY PROCLAMATION

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Mayor proclaim Kirkland as a safe, inclusive and welcoming city for all people.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

At the December 13, 2016 City Council meeting the Council discussed the recent efforts of local communities to reinforce their commitment to acceptance, equal treatment and safety for everyone in their community. The Council requested that staff prepare a proclamation for the January 3, 2017 Council meeting declaring the City's values around inclusion and committing to the development of a program to promote a community conversation about those values. It was suggested that the February 2017 City Council retreat would be an appropriate venue for discussion of program components. Staff has added this item as one topic in the draft retreat agenda to be discussed by the Council at the January 3, 2017 Council meeting.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Proclaiming Kirkland as a Safe, Inclusive and Welcoming City for All People

WHEREAS, Kirkland’s vision statement describes the City as being a welcoming place to live, work and play, that highly values diversity and is respectful, fair, and inclusive, committed to providing neighborhoods and businesses that meet the needs of a variety of incomes, ages and lifestyles, with community engagement that creates a sense of belonging through shared values; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland is committed to protecting and serving everyone who resides in, works in, or visits Kirkland without discrimination based on race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, income or economic status, political affiliation, military status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental or sensory ability; and,

WHEREAS, Kirkland believes in the dignity, equality and constitutional and civil rights of all people, and will not tolerate hate, intolerance, discrimination, harassment or any behavior that creates fear, isolation or intimidation; and,

WHEREAS, Kirkland’s vibrancy and sense of community are stronger for our diversity and shared values of acceptance and respect; and,

WHEREAS, the Kirkland City Council supports these principles and strives to reflect them in their actions as Kirkland’s elected leaders; and,

WHEREAS, Kirkland city employees also support these principles and strive to embody these ideals every day as they provide critical services such as police, fire, parks, public

works and much more in an inclusive and equitable manner to all residents, visitors and businesses in Kirkland;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Amy Walen, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim that the City of Kirkland is deeply committed to promoting a just society that respects and welcomes all people, direct City staff to assist the City Council in developing and implementing a program to communicate the City's values, and invite the community to come together to discuss and support the shared values of diversity and inclusion.

Signed this 3rd day of January, 2017

Amy Walen, Mayor