MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Lynn Zwaagstra, Director of Parks and Community Services
       Linda Murphy, Recreation Manager

Date: June 20, 2019

Subject: Park and Recreation Month Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION
That the Mayor proclaim the month of July “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.” We know that parks and recreation isn't always all fun and games, but this July, we want to celebrate everything that makes our field fun, joyful and full of excitement! This year's theme for Park and Recreation Month is Game On! So, start lacing up your fun shoes and get ready to get in the game this July.

As part of this month’s celebration, Kirkland Parks and Community Services has “tied” into the National Park and Recreation Association’s campaign “Game On!” promoting July as national “Park and Recreation Month”. Joyful fun displays at both Community Centers and City Hall will be present during the month of July.

Recreation Staff will be throughout the community during the month of July, celebrating Parks and Recreation Month with the fun theme of “Game On!” To celebrate, the staff will be facilitating activities, distributing FUN shoelaces, encouraging health and wellness, while generating excitement about Kirkland’s Parks and Recreation programs. Staff will be debuting equipment purchased using funds secured through the King County “Get Active, Stay Active” grant on Friday, July 12 at the Juanita Friday Market from 3 PM - 7 PM for GAME ON Family Night! Come enjoy the Juanita Friday Market with yard games, food, music, and FUN! Visit the Kirkland Parks and Community Services booth to pick-up some laces, play yard games and learn what’s happening in Kirkland this summer!

Rosalie Wessels and Susan Baird-Joshi, Chair & Vice Chair of the Kirkland Park Board will accept the proclamation, while Recreation staff will be distributing FUN shoelaces.
Designating July 2019 as “Park and Recreation Month” in Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the City of Kirkland; and

WHEREAS, our parks and recreation programs are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all residents, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of the community and region; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all residents; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs increase a community’s economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation are key components of a livable, sustainable community, this July, the City of Kirkland joins the nation in the celebration of everything that makes Parks and Recreation fun, joyful, and full of excitement!

NOW THEREFORE, I, Penny Sweet, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim that July is “Park and Recreation Month” in the City of Kirkland.

Signed this 2nd day of July, 2019

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Penny Sweet, Mayor