

CITY OF KIRKLAND PLANNING AND BUILDING 123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425-587-3000

#### MEMORANDUM

- To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
- From: Kurt D Aldworth, Building Official Adam H Weinstein, AICP, Planning & Building Director

Date: May 6, 2025

### Subject: Building Safety Month Proclamation

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that Mayor Curtis, on behalf of the City Council, proclaims the month of May 2025 as "Building Safety Month" in Kirkland, Washington.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

- Staff recommends that Mayor Curtis proclaims the month of May 2025 as "Building Safety Month" in Kirkland, Washington.
- This proclamation is part of the City Council's adopted 2025-2026 Proclamation Schedule.
- Building Safety Month raises awareness about building safety, encourages community members to learn more about the need for the adoption of modern, regularly updated building codes, and helps individuals, families, and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Building Safety Month is an international campaign that takes place in May to raise awareness about building safety. This campaign reinforces the need for the adoption of modern, regularly updated building codes and it helps individuals, families, and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures. The International Code Council (ICC), its members, and a diverse partnership of professionals from the building construction, design, and safety communities come together with corporations, government agencies, professional associations, and nonprofits to promote building safety because of the need for safe and sustainable structures where community members live, work, visit, and play. All communities need building codes to protect their community members from disasters like fires, weather-related events, and structural collapse. Building codes are society's best way of protecting homes, offices, schools, manufacturing facilities, stores, and entertainment venues. Code officials work day in and day out to keep the public safe.

# DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

During Building Safety Month, staff will be highlighting the importance of building safety through social media posts throughout the month. The theme of this year's Building Safety Month is "Game On." Each week will focus on a different topic: The Warm Up, Build Your Offense, Build Your Defense, The Starting Lineup, and Going Into Overtime.

## **NEXT STEPS:**

None.

## ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – Building Safety Month Proclamation



# Proclaiming May as "Building Safety Month" in Kirkland

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kirkland is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and essential role our homes, buildings, and infrastructure play, both in everyday life and when disasters strike; and

**WHEREAS**, our confidence in the resilience of the buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers, and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these guardians are dedicated members of the International Code Council, a nonprofit that brings together local, state, territorial, tribal, and federal officials who are experts in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes and standards to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work, worship, and play; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these guardians are dedicated members of the Washington State Association of Building Officials (WABO) and Washington State Association of Permit Technicians (WSAPT), nonprofit organizations committed to the technical knowledge of their respective members and the development, enforcement, and administration of building codes and ordinances in Washington State; and

**WHEREAS**, these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from hazards such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods, and earthquakes; and

**WHEREAS**, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown protectors of public safety—our local code officials—who work diligently to assure us of safe, sustainable, and affordable buildings that are essential to our prosperity; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for Building Safety Month 2025 is "Game On," which encourages us all to get involved and raise awareness about building safety on a personal, local, and global scale; and

**WHEREAS**, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, people all over the world are asked to reflect on the many public and private systems needed to improve building safety and resilience, to protect the economic investment of structures in our community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local, state, tribal, territorial, and federal building safety and fire prevention departments in protecting lives and property.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** Mayor Kelli Curtis, on behalf of the City Council, proclaims May 2025 as Building Safety Month and encourages Kirkland community members to join the City in Building Safety Month activities through the City's social media.

Signed this 20th day of May, 2025

Kelli Curtis, Mayor