



City of Bellevue | Commendation

- Whereas:** Former Bellevue City Councilmember Jean Carpenter passed away on October 26, 2022. Jean served as a Bellevue City Councilmember from 1988-1991, in addition to serving in various community volunteer roles in Bellevue both before and after that time; and
- Whereas:** Terry Lukens, who was a fellow councilmember and mayor at that time, called Jean the “conscience of the council” in raising awareness that council decisions had the power to meaningfully change people’s lives. Jean recognized the burgeoning areas of need in our city and actively pursued such priorities as affordable housing and human services before they were widely recognized as top issues in the community; and
- Whereas:** A true community servant, Jean held leadership roles at many non-profits, including executive director for the Washington State PTA, director at Seattle Human Services Coalition, and communications director for Food Lifeline; and
- Whereas:** She also served on the city’s Park Board and Human Services Advisory committee, was Chair of the city’s Housing Committee, and held positions as a Bellevue representative to the Metropolitan Council, the Regional Human Services Roundtable and the Suburban Cities Association, in addition to many other service roles in the region; and
- Whereas:** As a leader who held a deep commitment to making life better for those in need, Jean championed diversity, equity, and inclusion, and was a strong proponent for women’s advancement, being named a Soroptimist Woman of Distinction in Community Service in 1991 and Best Diversity Advocate for Bellevue in 2002; and
- Whereas:** In addition to being a valued colleague and city leader, Jean recognized the importance of deep connections with family and friends, instructing her children in her will to “have a party to celebrate life and love, with emphasis on good memories.” In lieu of flowers, Jean’s family asked that people tell and show someone you love them.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, and on behalf of the Bellevue City Council, do, this 6th day of March, in the year 2023, hereby commend:

JEAN CARPENTER

for her professionalism, dedication, and long-standing service to the Bellevue community that will be remembered by all those whom she touched or influenced through her work.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue