Whereas: Hispanic Heritage Month, first established in 1968 under President Lyndon

Johnson and expanded in 1988 by President Ronald Reagan, honors the culture, history and contributions of Latinos tracing their roots to Mexico, Central and South America, Spain and the Spanish-speaking nations of the Caribbean; and

**Whereas:** September 15 is a significant date marking the anniversaries of independence for

Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, followed by Mexico

on September 16 and Chile on September 18; and

**Whereas:** Bellevue is proud to celebrate the diversity of identities within the Latino

community, including those who identify as Hispanic, Latino and Latine, recognizing the intersections with Black/African, Asian, Indigenous and Queer

communities; and

Whereas: Latino residents represent Bellevue's third-largest population group, comprising

over eight percent of the city's population, and Latinos are also the largest

population group in Washington state; and

Whereas: The cultural, educational, familial and economic contributions of Latino

community members enrich all aspects of life in Bellevue and beyond, and their

resilience and leadership continue to strengthen our collective future; and

Whereas: The City of Bellevue celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month in partnership with

community organizations, including the Bellevue Fiesta Latina on October 4 at Spring District Park and Fiesta del Maíz on September 27 at Crossroads Park.

**Now, therefore, I,** Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim **September 15 - October 15, 2025,** as:

## **National Hispanic Heritage Month**

in Bellevue, Washington, and call upon all residents to honor this month by celebrating the traditions, stories and contributions of our Hispanic neighbors through programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor City of Bellevue