Whereas: The Americans with Disabilities Act allows public

accommodations for service animals, which include individually trained dogs doing work or performing tasks for the benefit of

people with a disability; and

Whereas: In the United States, only 16,000 service dogs from accredited

training programs exist nationwide, and the need is growing;

and

Whereas: Canine Companions is a nonprofit organization that enhances the

lives of people with disabilities by providing expertly trained service dogs, ongoing services, and a committed community of

support; and

Whereas: National Service Dog Month aims to educate our community

about the benefits of service dogs and the laws protecting them;

and

Whereas: The City of Bellevue recognizes an inclusive community where all

community members and their service dogs are embraced and

welcomed.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, mayor of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim September 2024 as:

National Service Dog Month

in Bellevue, and encourage community members to celebrate these tasktrained service animals and respect the rights of adults, children and veterans who lead more independent lives because of their assistance.

> Lynne Robinson, Mayor City of Bellevue