- Whereas: On August 15, 1947, India declared its sovereignty after two centuries of British rule; and
- Whereas: Bellevue celebrates and recognizes the historical significance of India's Independence Day and the indomitable spirit, resilience and sacrifices of its people through their journey to independence; and
- Whereas: Washington state and Bellevue have many cultural and economic ties to India, with hundreds of thousands of Indian American community members contributing achievements in education, healthcare, technology, economic development and more; and
- Whereas: Indian Americans are small business owners, entrepreneurs, and CEOs of many Washington companies, including Bellevue-based tech companies. These businesses provide valuable services, resources, and jobs to the people of this state; and
- Whereas: Indian Americans reflect a multitude of diverse thoughts, cultures and religious identities while seeking to build bridges across all communities; and
- Whereas: The U.S. Indian Consulate in Bellevue and Seattle will celebrate the 78th Independence Day of India on Thursday, August 15, 2024, with a public event where all are welcome at the event at City Hall Plaza in Bellevue.

*Now, therefore, I,* Lynne Robinson, mayor of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim **August 15, 2024,** as:

## **India Day**

in Bellevue as a symbol of the shared values of democracy, diversity, and inclusion.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor City of Bellevue