Whereas: More than 19% of Bellevue's population is of Chinese descent, which is the

largest percentage of any community in Washington State; and

**Whereas:** Members of the Chinese diaspora throughout the United States have varied

perspectives, experiences, and approaches in how they preserve their identity as

Chinese Americans and Americans of Chinese descent; and

Whereas: In May 2023, Governor Jay Inslee signed a bill designating January as a time for

people in Washington to commemorate the contributions of Chinese Americans and Americans of Chinese descent to the history and heritage of our state; and

Whereas: Washington is the only state with a month-long recognition of its Chinese

American community; and

**Whereas:** Recognizing the experience of this community in America must also acknowledge

and reflect upon the somber history of mistreatment and abuse that Chinese

Americans have historically endured; and

**Whereas:** The City of Bellevue, in seeing its diversity as its strength, embraces and honors

the rich cultural heritage and important presence of Chinese Americans in our

community's past, present and future.

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

## **AMERICANS OF CHINESE DESCENT HISTORY MONTH**

in Bellevue, and encourage all residents to recognize the hard work, accomplishments and influences of generations of Chinese Americans, including new immigrants, in our community.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor City of Bellevue