



# City of Bellevue | Proclamation

- Whereas:** We celebrate our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our economy and community – according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are 650,000 small businesses in Washington representing more than 1.4 million workers; and
- Whereas:** 97% of all firms located in Bellevue are small businesses with fewer than 100 employees; and
- Whereas:** Small businesses were particularly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic effects, including workforce and supply chain challenges; and
- Whereas:** Nearly half (46%) of small businesses in Washington are women-owned and 15% are minority-owned; according to the Brookings Institution, these businesses face unique challenges that were exacerbated by the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- Whereas:** The City of Bellevue collaborates with the Bellevue Downtown Association, Visit Bellevue, and many more local partners to support our local businesses as they create jobs, boost our local economy, and define our neighborhoods, and many city programs are designed to specifically benefit small businesses and community members; and
- Whereas:** Advocacy groups and public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving in the U.S. as Small Business Saturday.

**Now, therefore, I,** Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim November 26, 2022, as:

## **Small Business Saturday**

in Bellevue and urge all residents of our community to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

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Lynne Robinson, Mayor  
City of Bellevue