Whereas: The City of Bellevue celebrates the rich cultural diversity that strengthens our

community and recognizes the important contributions of Sikh Americans to the

fabric of our city and nation; and

Whereas: Sikhism, founded over 550 years ago, is one of the world's major religions and is

rooted in the values of equality, selfless service, justice and faith; and

Whereas: April marks Sikh Heritage Month, a time to honor the vibrant traditions, spiritual

heritage and significant achievements of the Sikh community, as well as to acknowledge their resilience in the face of adversity and their ongoing efforts to

foster equity and inclusion; and

Whereas: Sikh Heritage Month offers an opportunity to reflect on the core principles of

Sikhism, including the pursuit of truth, service to others and the protection of human rights, which align with Bellevue's vision for a compassionate and welcoming city;

and

Whereas: King County is home to the seventh largest Sikh community in any United States

county; and

Whereas: Bellevue is proud to be home to Sikh residents, families and community leaders who

contribute to the city's cultural vitality, economic development and civic life.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim **April 2025**, as

Sikh Heritage Month

in Bellevue, and encourage all residents to join in celebrating the history, faith and contributions of the Sikh community and recognizing the importance of learning from one another to build a more inclusive and just society.

> Lynne Robinson, Mayor City of Bellevue