



# City of Bellevue | Proclamation

- Whereas:** the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 legally recognized the role of service animals - individually trained dogs that perform specific tasks for individuals with disabilities -ensuring their civil rights and access in public accommodations; and
- Whereas:** despite the growing demand, there are only approximately 16,000 service dogs trained through accredited programs nationwide; and
- Whereas:** service dogs bring proven benefits to people with disabilities, offering greater independence, safety and confidence, and enabling full participation in education, careers, volunteerism and community life; and
- Whereas:** in Bellevue and throughout the region, service dogs help adults, children, veterans and seniors lead fuller lives by assisting with daily tasks, providing companionship, and fostering inclusion; and
- Whereas:** public understanding and respect for service dog etiquette - including recognizing their working role and supporting the rights of handlers in every space - strengthens community awareness and accessibility; and
- Whereas:** National Service Dog Month offers an opportunity to educate our community about the invaluable contributions of service dogs and to honor the partnerships that allow individuals with disabilities to thrive.

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

## **National Service Dog Month**

in Bellevue, Washington, and encourage all residents and organizations to celebrate the essential role of service dogs in promoting independence, well-being and dignity for individuals with disabilities, including adults, children, veterans and seniors alike.

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Lynne Robinson, Mayor  
City of Bellevue