



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, which employ 1.4 million people; and

Whereas: 97% of all firms in Bellevue are small businesses with fewer than 100 employees; and

Whereas: Nearly half of small businesses in Washington are women-owned, and 15% are minority-owned; and

Whereas: The City of Bellevue supports its small business community by providing free one-on-one business advising, education and networking through Startup 425 and other services; and

Whereas: Many city programs are designed to specifically benefit small businesses and community members; and

Whereas: The city collaborates with the Bellevue Downtown Association, Visit Bellevue, the Bellevue Chamber and many more partners to support our local businesses as they create jobs, boost our local economy and define our neighborhoods; 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 Bellevue, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim the 25th day of **November 2023** as:

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

in Bellevue, and urge all community members to support small businesses and merchants that day and throughout the year.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue